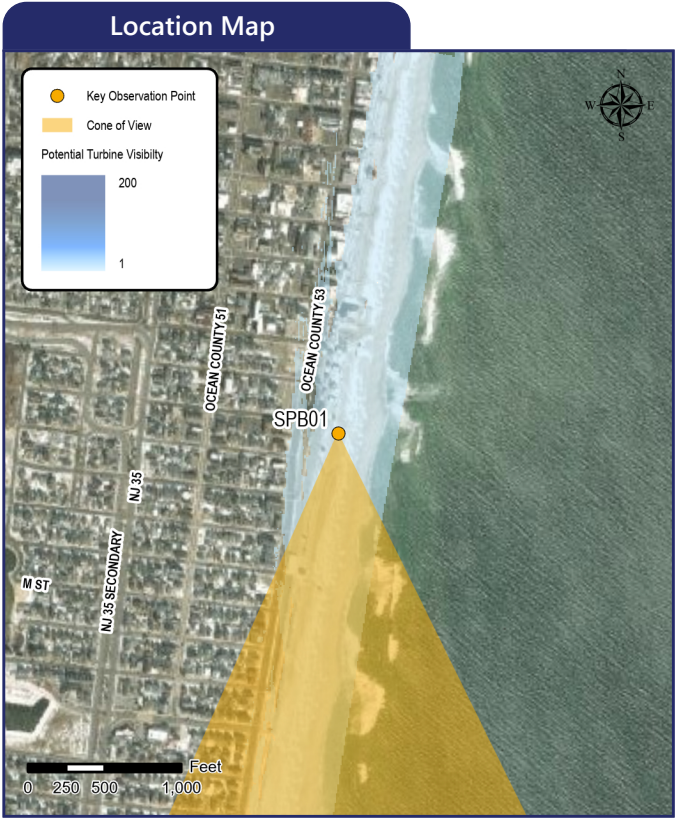
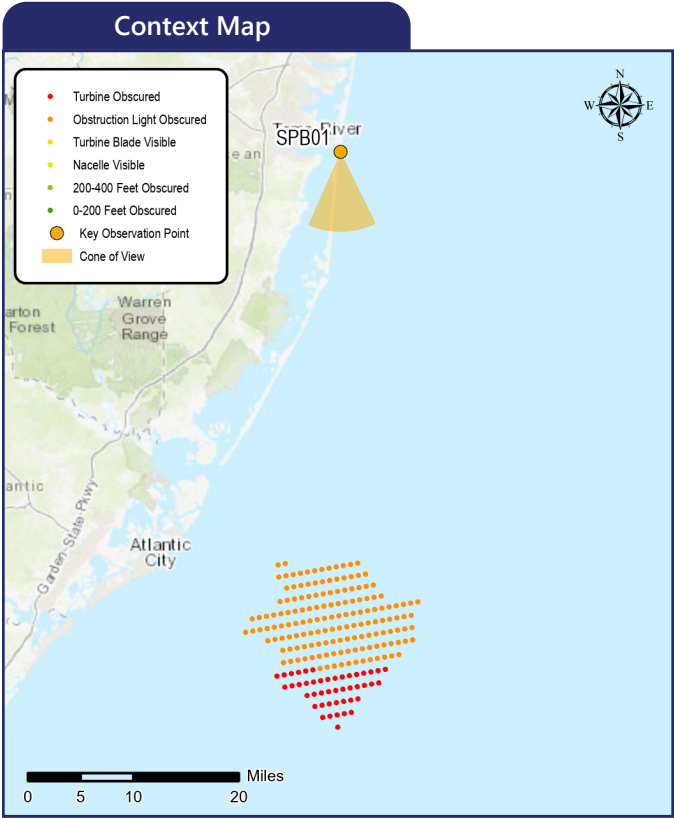


SPB01 Seaside Park Beach

Seaside Park Borough, Ocean County, New Jersey

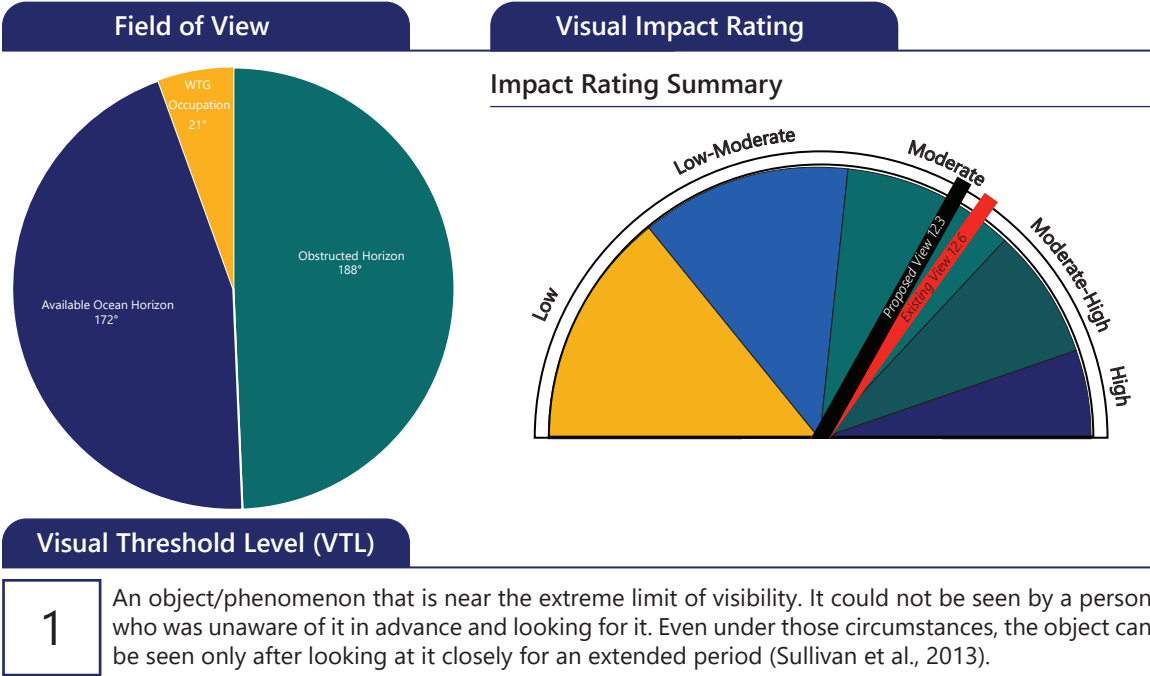


The image above is a +/- 124° panorama photograph from Seaside Park Beach, panning clockwise from east (left) to south-southwest (right). The yellow rectangle within the photo represents the extent of the photosimulation photo(s).



Simulation Information	
Coordinates:	39.93533°N, 74.07164°W
Character Area:	Commercial Beachfront, Seascape (SCA)
User Group:	Residents/Tourists, Fishermen
Direction of View:	South
Distance to Nearest Visible Turbine:	38.96 miles
Visually Sensitive Resource:	Seaside Park Beach and Boardwalk, U.S. Life Saving Station No. 13
Environmental Information	
Date Taken:	09/23/2020
Time:	5:35 PM
Temperature:	74°F
Humidity:	52%
Visibility:	10 miles
Wind Direction:	West-southwest
Wind Speed:	7 mph
Conditions Observed:	Fair
Photograph Information	
Camera:	Canon EOS 5D Mark IV
Resolution:	30.4 Megapixels
Focal Length:	50mm
Camera Height:	23.18 feet AMSL
Notes	
Printed at 100%, the photosimulations are 15 inches wide by 10 inches high. At this size, the photosimulation(s) should be viewed from a distance of 21 inches.	





Principles of Composition and Factors Affecting Visual Impact Summary	
Design Elements	Description
Focal Point	Restored beach grass planting in the foreground and Ocean horizon in the background.
Order	Pathway, split-rail fence, beach grass, sand, surf, ocean and horizon
Visual Clutter	Split-rail fencing, litter receptacles, miscellaneous walkway/ramp handrails, life guards stations, beach sheds, and long-arm light poles at the boardwalk
Movement	Present. Waves, watersports, people on beach.
Duration & Frequency of View	Short Term/ Fleeting Repeated
Atmospheric Conditions	The evening sky is clear, transitioning from a pale blue in the lower right to a deeper matte blue along the top.; Increased moisture in the air could impact visibility.
Lighting Direction	Side-Lit
Scenic or Recreational Value	Seaside Park Beach and Boardwalk, US Life Saving Station. Draws significant summer crowds.

SQC & Magnitude of Impact					
Seaside Park Beach					
	KAC	KAV	JMG	SMB	Average
Existing	12.0	11.3	14.0	13.0	12.6
Proposed	12.0	11.3	13.7	12.3	12.3
Change	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.3

Compatibility and Contrast Rating Average			
Seaside Park Beach			
Resource	Compatibility	Scale	Spatial Dominance
Water Resources	1.0	1.0	1.0
Landform	1.0	1.0	1.0
Vegetation	1.0	1.0	1.0
Land Use	1.0	1.0	1.0
User Activity	1.0	1.0	1.0
<div><div><div>1 – Compatible</div><div>2 – Somewhat Compatible</div><div>3 – Not Compatible</div></div><div><div>1 – Minimal</div><div>2 – Moderate</div><div>3 – Severe</div></div><div><div>1 – Subordinate</div><div>2 – Co-Dominant</div><div>3 – Dominant</div></div></div>			

Existing Conditions

Scenic Quality Classification: Moderate

Rating Panel Score Average: 12.6

Rating Panel Score Range: 11.3 - 14.0

This view is from Seaside Park Beach in the Borough of Seaside Park, located on the Barnegat Barrier Island in Ocean County, New Jersey. Seaside Park has almost two miles of shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean, the borough’s main industry is summer tourism. The beach is a popular swimming and sunbathing destination, and in-season access requires a beach badge. Lifeguard and beach patrol services are provided, and a variety of shops, accommodations, and restaurants, plus a boardwalk offering rides and games, are available nearby.

The selected location for this KOP is on an access path from the boardwalk down to the beach. The existing view to the south from this location looks down the beach, with the ocean on the left and vegetated (planted) low dunes and shoreline homes on the right. Within the frame of view of the selected photographs, the edge of the sand is bordered by an access path lined by a split rail fence that angles from the center of the view to the left in the foreground. The remainder of the foreground is dominated by the planted dunes with well-defined rows of green beach grass. The dunes are traversed by several fenced access ways and backed by an expanse of open beach that continues from the middle ground into the background. The beach includes scattered groups of people and man-made features such as trash cans, lifeguard chairs, and a small building. The beach is framed by the blue ocean on the left and a row of buildings beyond the dunes on the right. The viewer’s eye is drawn down the beach to a point in the distance where it appears to converge with the adjacent ocean and developed upland. The beach is clearly well used but appears well maintained and relatively uncrowded. It has a pleasant recreational character.

Rating panel members indicated that, although viewed from an oceanfront residential setting with built forms and man-made structures visible behind the open beach, the existing view is focused on the dune landscape and the expansive ocean landscape. The visitors to the Seaside Park Beach will experience the seascape at varying durations and frequencies depending upon their proposed use. The elevated view from the beach entry and the adjacent dune grass plantings initially hold the viewer’s attention until the light-colored sand and mix of beach amenities and visitors (scattered on the sand) occupies the viewer’s attention before moving on to the rich blue ocean and strong horizon line. Rating panel scores for the existing conditions photographs ranged from 11.3 to 14.0 (average SQC score = 12.6). The SQC Score for this KOP indicates that this KOP has moderate to high scenic quality.

Proposed Conditions

Scenic Quality Classification: Moderate

Rating Panel Score Average: 12.3

Rating Panel Score Range: 11.3 - 13.7

Impact Magnitude: 0.3 (Negligible)

Viewshed analysis suggests that Project visibility from this area will be available along the beach but would become quickly blocked by the first row of buildings in the adjacent residential properties. Potential views of the Project will generally be screened from inland portions along the street by intervening structures.

With the proposed Project in place, the southern view is not dominated by the introduction of the WTGs, as the WTG rotor tips are nearly indiscernible along the horizon. 172 degrees of relatively unobstructed ocean horizon is available at this location, and 188 degrees of horizon is obstructed by landward views. While the Project occupies approximately 21 degrees (primarily over ocean horizon), a portion of the Project is viewed over obstructed horizon (e.g., landforms). Project visibility is further limited by distance (38.96-miles from the nearest Project WTG) and the side lighting provided by the setting sun. The rating panel members reaction to the impact resulting from the Project WTGs was consistent with their original rating of the existing conditions, with the VIA scores ranging from 11.3 to 13.7 (average score = 12.3). These scores indicate an average reduction of 0.3 points in comparison to the existing view, with individual rating panel members indicating reductions that ranged from 0.3 to 0.7. Panel members indicated that the presence of the WTGs would be minimally noticeable to most beach visitors since the viewer’s attention is focused on the foreground dunes, middle ground beach, and rolling ocean surf. The movement of the rotor blades could attract viewer’s attention; however, the tips are so obscure on the horizon that it is unlikely that the casual observer would notice them. In addition, the visibility of the WTGs is likely to be reduced under more hazy or foggy sky conditions. With the Project in place, the viewpoint SQC remains Moderately-High. The impact magnitude score of 0.3 is considered low.

Considering the scale, compatibility, and spatial dominance factors that influenced the visual impact rating at this KOP, panel ratings indicated that the WTGs present no scale contrast, are compatible with the existing landscape, and are subordinate when compared to other features of the existing landscape (see Compatibility and Contrast Rating Average Table, left). Consistent with the anticipated compatibility, scale contrast, and spatial dominance impacts associated with the Project, panel members assigned the Project visibility an average VTL of 1 from this KOP.

Existing Conditions



Photosimulation

