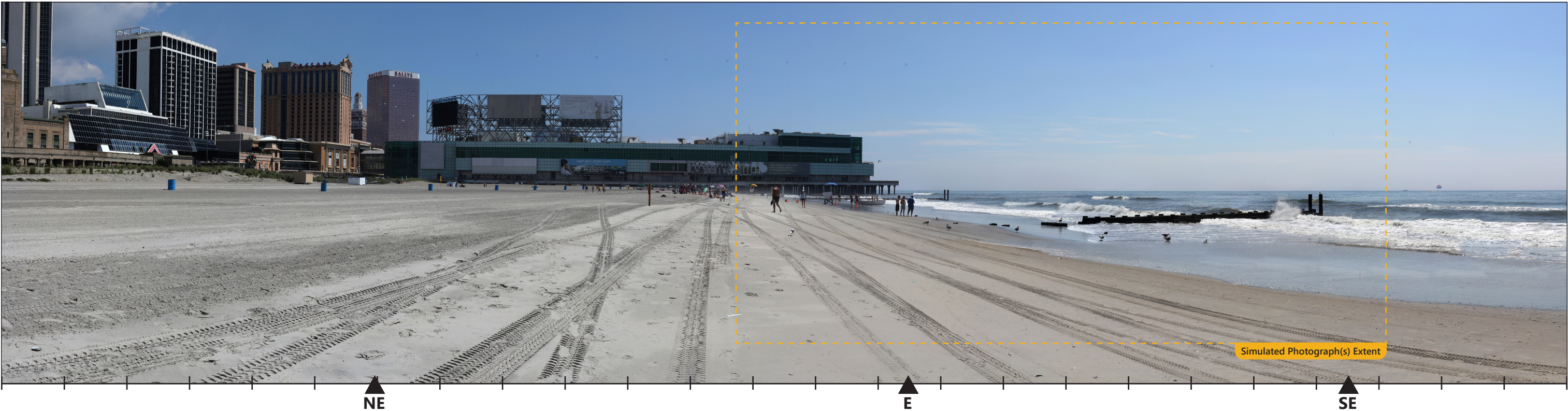


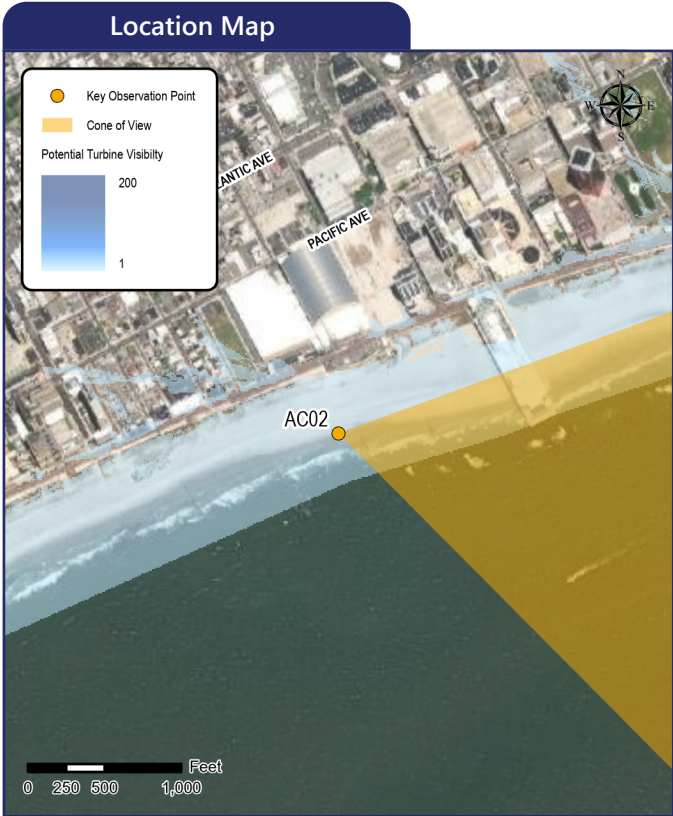
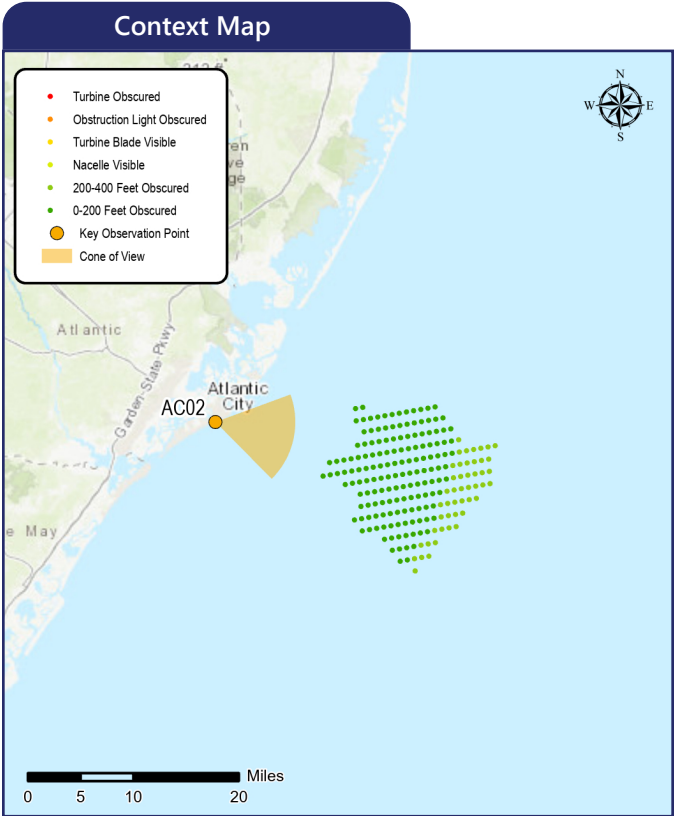
AC02 Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall (Atlantic City Convention Center NHL)

Atlantic City, Atlantic County, New Jersey

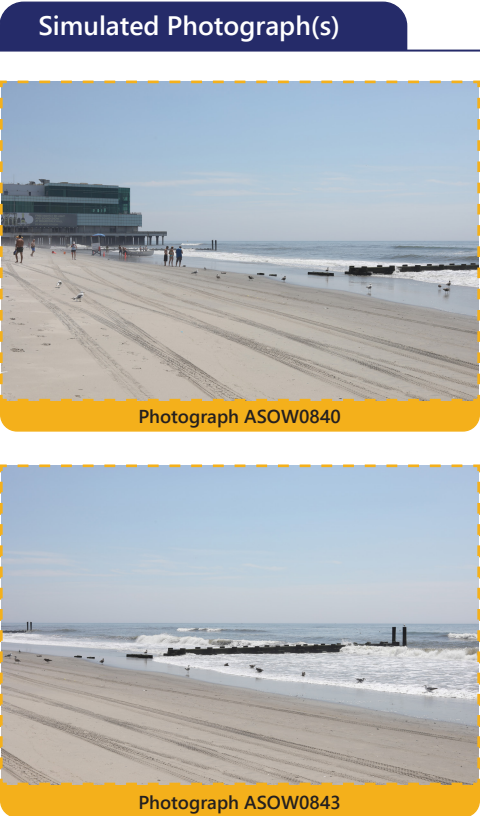


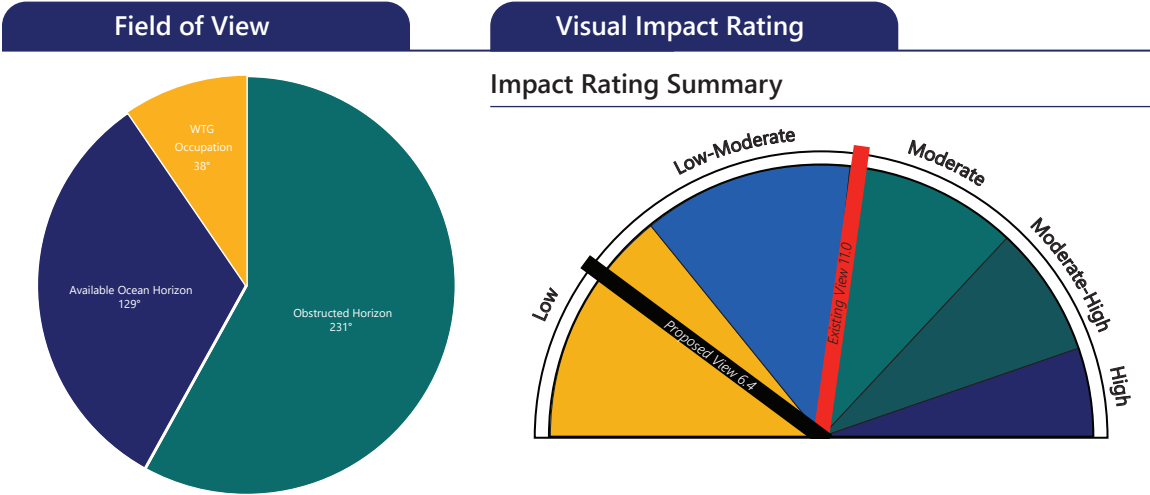
The image above is a +/- 124° panorama photograph from near the Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall (Atlantic City Convention Center National Historic Landmark), panning clockwise from north-northeast (left) to southeast (right). The yellow rectangle within the photo represents the extent of the photosimulation photo(s).

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.



Simulation Information	
Coordinates:	39.35245°N, 74.43817°W
Character Area:	Atlantic City, Seascapes (SCA)
User Group:	Resident/Tourist
Direction of View:	East-southeast
Distance to Nearest Visible Turbine:	11.42 miles
Visually Sensitive Resource:	Atlantic City Beach, Atlantic City Convention Hall
Environmental Information	
Date Taken:	07/29/2020
Time:	11:45 AM
Temperature:	90°F
Humidity:	48%
Visibility:	10 miles
Wind Direction:	West
Wind Speed:	6 mph
Conditions Observed:	Partly Cloudy
Photograph Information	
Camera:	Canon EOS 5D Mark IV
Resolution:	30.4 Megapixels
Focal Length:	50mm
Camera Height:	8.91 feet AMSL
Meteorological Visibility Model (2019)	
Visibility Conditions Represented in Photosimulation: 26 Miles	
Frequency of Visibility Condition in July, 2020: 1%	
Alternative Condition/Frequency #1: 18 miles/(9.7%)	
Alternative Condition/Frequency #2: 20 miles/(6.6%)	





Visual Threshold Level (VTL)

6

An object/phenomenon with strong visual contrasts that is so large that it occupies most of the visual field, and views of it cannot be avoided except by turning one’s head more than 45 degrees from a direct view of the object. The object/phenomenon is the major focus of visual attention, and its large apparent size is a major factor in its view dominance. In addition to size, contrasts in form, line, color, and texture, bright light sources and moving objects associated with the study subject may contribute substantially to drawing viewer attention. The visual prominence of the study subject detracts noticeably from views of other landscape/seascape elements.

Principles of Composition and Factors Affecting Visual Impact Summary	
Design Elements	Description
Focal Point	Shopping center, big screens, beach activities, piers, ocean and horizon.
Order/Visual Clutter	Clutter presented by the architectural elements in the view.
Movement	Abundant beach activity, waves, planes carrying banners, and wildlife all contribute to a highly dynamic scene.
Duration/Frequency of View	Structured visits will result in long duration/occasional views.
Atmospheric Conditions	Clearer conditions could reveal more WTG detail. However, hazy or overcast conditions would result in lower contrast.
Lighting Condition	Backlit
Scenic/Recreational Value	Swimming, boating, sunbathing, and a variety of other beach activity. The land has been developed to take specific use of this location and view.

SQC & Magnitude of Impact					
Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall					
	KAC	KAV	JMG	SMB	Average
Existing	9.5	9.2	11.8	13.5	11.0
Proposed	9.2	7.8	5.5	3.2	6.4
Change	0.3	1.4	6.3	10.3	4.6

Compatibility and Contrast Rating Average			
Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall			
Resource	Compatibility	Scale	Spatial Dominance
Water Resources	2.6	2.8	2.8
Landform	2.5	2.3	2.5
Vegetation	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land Use	2.0	2.0	2.3
User Activity	2.3	2.3	2.3
	1 – Compatible 2 – Somewhat Compatible 3 – Not Compatible	1 – Minimal 2 – Moderate 3 – Severe	1 – Subordinate 2 – Co-Dominant 3 – Dominant

Existing Conditions

Scenic Quality Classification: Moderate

Rating Panel Score Average: 11.0

Rating Panel Score Range: 9.2 - 13.5

This view is from the beach near the Jim Whalen Boardwalk Hall (formerly known as Historic Atlantic City Convention Hall) in Atlantic City, new Jersey. Built in 1926 in the Art Deco style, and designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1987, it is one of the only surviving buildings from the city's heyday as a popular seaside resort. The Hall has hosted a variety of significant concerts, political gatherings, and sporting events over the years, and is the original home of the Miss America pageant. The selected viewpoint is located on an area of open sand directly in front of the Hall and is representative of the Atlantic City CA. The existing view to the east-southeast from this location features an expanse of level, maintained beach in the foreground, bordered by a row of high-rise buildings on the left and interrupted by a low modern structure (the Playground Pier owned by Caesars) that projects onto the beach from the adjacent urban area. Breaking waves at the shoreline angle across the foreground and middle ground of the view and are interrupted in several places by the remnants of former piers or breakwaters. Beyond the surf, the silver blue ocean extends to the horizon line where it meets a hazy white sky. The beach includes some people but appears relatively unoccupied. Despite the broad expanse of open sand and water, tire tracks in the sand and the eclectic mix of nearby built structures give the view a highly modified developed character.

Rating panel members indicated that the view from the Jim Whelan Boardwalk is a highly developed and cluttered view, and the various colors, materials, forms, and scale of the man-made structures of the Playground Pier and on the beach capture the viewers’ attention. The existing structures on the Pier, which jut out into the ocean, interrupts the view and attracts attention away from the sandy beach, ocean, and sky, which become a secondary element in this view. Despite the visual clutter present, most rating panel members largely described the scene as containing a natural order from the ocean waves, wide sandy beach, and open sky. This KOP was noted as scenic/recreational value due to the proximity to a highly populated area, large hotel developments, and the historic Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall. During visits, beach-goers are likely to engage in recreational activities such as swimming, sun-bathing, and other beach activity. The view would be experienced by over a long term, repeated visits. Rating panel scores for the existing conditions photographs ranged from 9.2 to 13. The average SQC score is 11.0, which indicates that this KOP has moderate scenic quality.

Proposed Conditions

Scenic Quality Classification: Low

Rating Panel Score Average: 6.4

Rating Panel Score Range: 3.2 - 9.2

Impact Magnitude: 4.6

Viewshed analysis suggests that Project visibility from this general area will be largely limited to the open beach and boardwalk, and a few small parcels of open land that extend inland from there. Ground level views of the Project will be completely blocked by the first inland row of built structures as one moves into the City.

With the proposed Project in place, the large, highly organized array introduces an additional visually dominant feature into the view. Of the 129 degrees of relatively unobstructed ocean horizon, the Project occupies approximately 38 degrees, or 29 percent of the view (see Field of View Image, left). Project visibility is enhanced by the relative proximity of the WTGs (11.4 miles) and lighting conditions that make the WTGs appear relatively dark against the light blue sky, particularly near the center of the view where the WTGs line up/stack against one another and appear as larger, more visible forms. While the color and form of the WTGs are compatible with the existing structure on the Playground Pier that is present in this view, the increased complexity from the repeated, vertical forms of the WTG array visible above the ocean horizon alters the composition of the view. The scale and massing of the WTG from this viewpoint introduces a new focal point, and the new features draw the viewer’s attention away from the existing built features that currently serve as focal points. The movement of the rotor blades will also attract viewer attention. Rating panel members had a highly variable reaction to the impact resulting from the Project WTGs, with the VIA scores ranging from 3.2 to 9.2 (average score = 6.4). These scores indicate an average reduction of 4.6 points in comparison to the existing view, suggesting high magnitude impacts would result from the Project under the conditions presented. Individual rating panel members indicated reductions that ranged from 0.3 to 10.3. At the high end of this range, panel members indicated that the presence of the Project WTGs are visually dominant, would add additional visual clutter to the view, and the vertical form of the WTGs further distracts from the natural forms of the beach, ocean, and horizon. However, some panel members noted that the WTGs are in not out of character with the dominance and scale of other built forms within the view. The panel members that indicated a higher degree of visual change suggested that the proposed WTGs occupy a large portion of the field of view had a high degree of visual contrast with existing open water views that are available from this KOP. One panel member indicated that, due to the density, stacking, and spacing of the WTGs, they appear dark against the sky and become the collective focal point of the view. With the Project in place, rating panel scores suggest that this KOP has low scenic quality. However, the density of WTGs would be significantly reduced during most summer days due to atmospheric perspective. In fact, in 2019 (model year) the availability of views as presented in the photosimulations would only occur over approximately 1.6% of the month of July. Two other conditions are also presented herein. These photosimulations illustrate the appearance of the WTGs when visibility is limited to within a distance of 18 and 20 miles. These conditions occurred during 13% and 12% of the month of July, respectively. While the nearest WTGs are still visible on the horizon, under these conditions, the visual clutter associated with stacking and massing is absent, making the Project appear significantly less dominant.

The panel members assigned the Project visibility an average VTL of 6 from this KOP. The greatest influencing factor in this VTL score was a lack of compatibility, severe scale contrast, and spatial dominance over the ocean (water resources). The panel also felt that the WTGs are not compatible with and present strong spatial dominance relative to the landform presented in the view.

Existing Conditions



Photosimulation



Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project

Outer Continental Shelf - New Jersey
Key Observation Point: AC02 - Jim Whalen Boardwalk Hall (Atlantic City Convention Hall NHL)
Attachment E: Photosimulations: Page 61 of 89

Printed at 100% the resulting photosimulation size is 15 inches wide by 10 inches high. At this size and focal length, the photosimulation should be viewed from a distance of 21 inches.

0

1 in

2 in

This scale is designed to insure the photosimulation images are printed at the intended size.

Photosimulation - 18-mile Visibility



Photosimulation - 20-mile Visibility



Existing Conditions



Photosimulation



Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project

Outer Continental Shelf - New Jersey

Key Observation Point: AC02 - Jim Whalen Boardwalk Hall (Atlantic City Convention Hall NHL)

Attachment E: Photosimulations: Page 65 of 89

Printed at 100% the resulting photosimulation size is 15 inches wide by 10 inches high. At this size and focal length, the photosimulation should be viewed from a distance of 21 inches.

0

1 in

2 in

This scale is designed to insure the photosimulation images are printed at the intended size.

Photosimulation - 18-mile Visibility



Photosimulation - 20-mile Visibility

