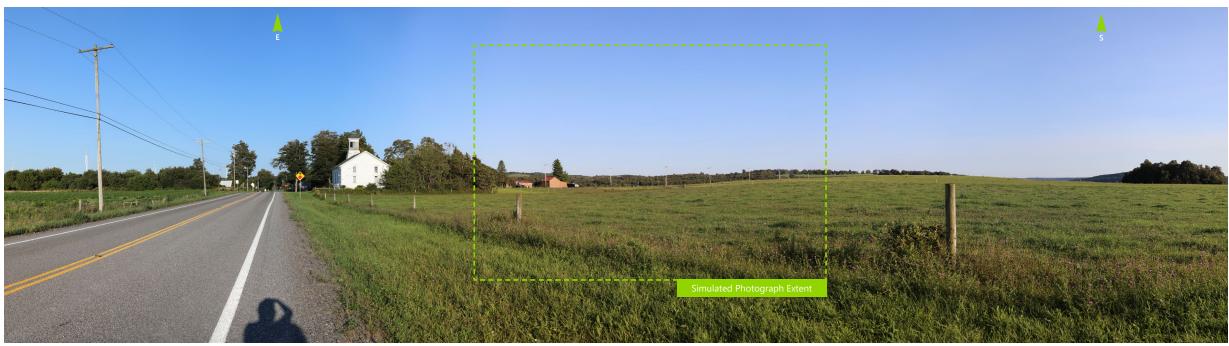
VIEWPOINT 63 Lorenzo State Historic Site

. 63

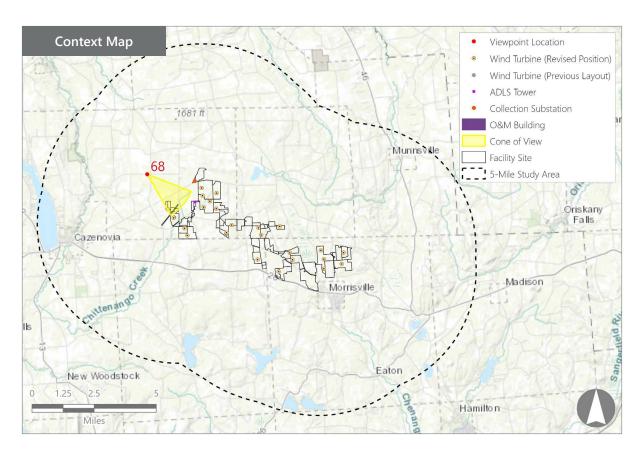
VIEWPOINT 63
Lorenzo State Historic Site

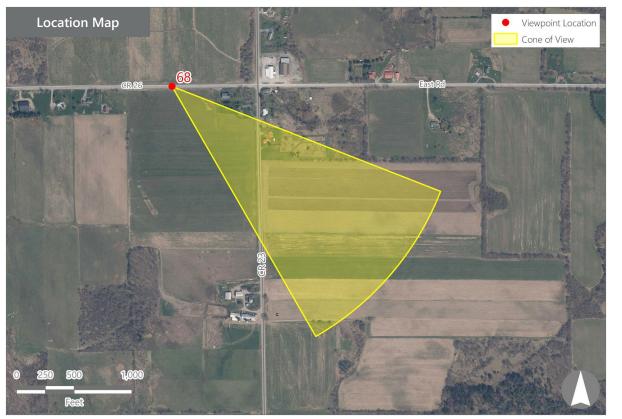
**Hoffman Falls Wind Project**Towns of Eaton, Fenner, Nelson, and Smithfield, Madison County, New York

FDR EATO



Note: The image above is a panorama photograph taken from Bingley Road in the Town of Fenner panning clockwise from northeast (left) to south (right). The green rectangle represents the extent of the simulated photograph.





Towns of Eaton, Fenner, Nelson, and Smithfield, Madison County, New York

Visual Impact Assessment Addendum Appendix 8-A

EDR

## **VIEWPOINT 68**

**Bingley Road** 

#### **VIEWPOINT INFORMATION**

Location: Bingley Road

Town: Fenner

County: Madison

**Latitude:** 42.96933° N

Longitude: 75.78953° W

#### **LOCATION INFORMATION**

**Distance Zone Represented in View:** Middle

Viewer Distance\*: 1.6 miles

Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural/Rural

Residential

Viewer/User Group(s): Local Residents, Through-

Travelers

Visually Sensitive Resource(s): Erie Canalway

National Heritage Corridor

#### PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

**Date:** August 31, 2023

Time: 6:22 PM

Camera: Canon EOS 5D Mark IV

Resolution: 24 Megapixels
Lens Focal Length (35mm equivalent): 50 mm

Camera Elevation: 1,547 feet

Field of View: 39 degrees

Direction of View: Southeast

Printed Size: 10" x 15"

Viewing Distance\*\*: 21"

### NOTES

\*Distance as measured from the viewpoint to the closest wind turbine generator within the simulated photograph's field of view

\*\*The simulation is at the correct perspective when printed on an 11 inch by 17 inch sheet at full scale, and viewed approximately 21 inches from the eye of the viewer.

## Viewpoint Sensitivity<sup>1</sup>:

### Scenic Quality:

☐ Low

☑ Moderate

☐ High

## **Viewer Exposure**

Frequency:

□ Rare

☐ Occasional

☑ Regular/Repeated

Duration of View:

☑ Short/Brief/Fleeting

☐ Moderate

**X** Long

<sup>1</sup>Viewpoint Sensitivity information is gathered from rating panel results. Scenic Quality is an average based on Low = 1, Moderate = 2, High = 3. Viewer Exposure reflects all those selected be the review panel.

## Contrast Rating Scores<sup>2</sup>:

Component	Score Install	Contrast Rating
Landform	1.5	Minimal/Moderate
Vegetation	1.5	Minimal/Moderate
Land Use	1.8	Moderate
Water	N/A	N/A
Sky	2.2	Moderate
Viewer Activity	2.0	Moderate
AVERAGE	1.8	Moderate

 $^2$  Contrast Rating Scale: 0.0 - 0.2 (Insignificant), 0.3 - 0.7 (Insignificant/Minimal), 0.8 - 1.2 (Minimal), 1.3 - 1.7 (Minimal/Moderate), 1.8 - 2.2 (Moderate), 2.3 - 2.7 (Moderate/Appreciable), 2.8 - 3.2 (Appreciable) 3.3 - 3.7 Appreciable/Strong), 3.8 - 4.0 (Strong).

## **Contrast Rating - Lowest and Highest Scores:**

Post - Install			
Component	Score		
Component	Low	High	
Landform	0.5	2.0	
Vegetation	1.0	2.0	
Land Use	1.5	2.0	
Water	NA	NA	
Sky	2.0	2.5	
Viewer Activity	1.5	2.5	

#### **Existing View**



### **Proposed View (Post Installation)**



### **Existing View**

Viewpoint 68 is located on Bingley Road just west of its intersection with County Route 23 in the Town of Fenner. This viewpoint is located in the Agricultural/Rural residential LSZ, approximately 1.6 miles from the nearest proposed turbine that would be visible in the selected photograph's field of view. Views from this location are typical of those available to local residents, recreational users of the Heaven and Hell Bike Trail, and visitors/members of the S/NRHP-listed Fenner Baptist Church. Views in this general area include the church and a cluster of buildings and trees bordering County Route 23, surrounded by large open fields and scattered small woodlots. In the selected photo, the existing view to the southeast includes a roadside wire fence in the immediate foreground backed by a pasture that extends from the foreground to a woodlot and hedgerow on the opposite side of County Route 23(which is out of view) in the middle ground. Additional lines of fence posts and a roadside utility line cross the field parallel to Route 23, adding vertical features to the view while also reinforcing the horizontal line of the field edge. On the left side of the view, two buildings with red roofs and lightcolored siding are flanked by large evergreens and draw viewer attention. The horizon is defined by gently rolling wooded hills, except for open fields on the periphery of the selected view. While the utility line presents a horizontal feature that extends across the center of the view, the lightly colored utility poles are man-made vertical elements that rise above the horizon line into a blue sky. The rating panel indicated that the existing view has moderate scenic quality.

#### **Proposed View**

With the proposed Facility in place, a cluster of wind turbines are a prominent new addition above the horizon on the right side of the view. More spread out and distant turbines have also been added to the center and left portions of the view. The line, color, and perceived scale of the more distant turbines are consistent with the existing utility poles, and due to their greater distance from the viewer and minimal color contrast with the sky, they are barely noticeable at first glance. To the right of the view the group of closer turbines are more tightly grouped, noticeably taller, and present greater color contrast with the blue sky. These turbines are the tallest features in the landscape, create additional visual clutter on the horizon, and add movement that will attract viewer attention. Despite the introduction of large new vertical features on the right of the view, the sky remains expansive, and the turbines are consistent with other vertical man-made features in the landscape. Although the turbines' line and form contrast with the horizontal lines and rounded forms of the existing landscape, they do not significantly detract from the scenic quality of the foreground features in the view.

# **Hoffman Falls Wind Project**

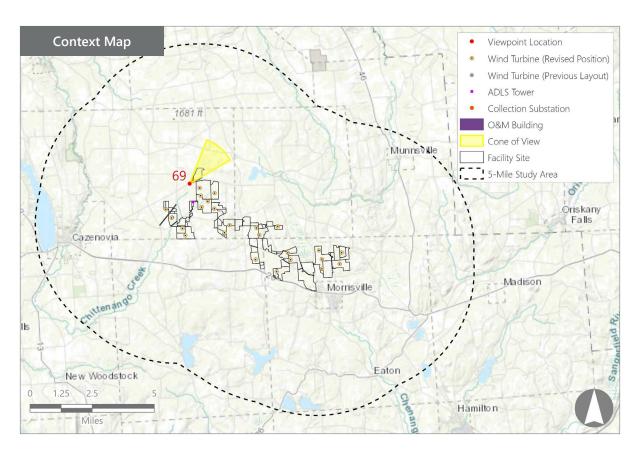
Towns of Eaton, Fenner, Nelson, and Smithfield, Madison County, New York

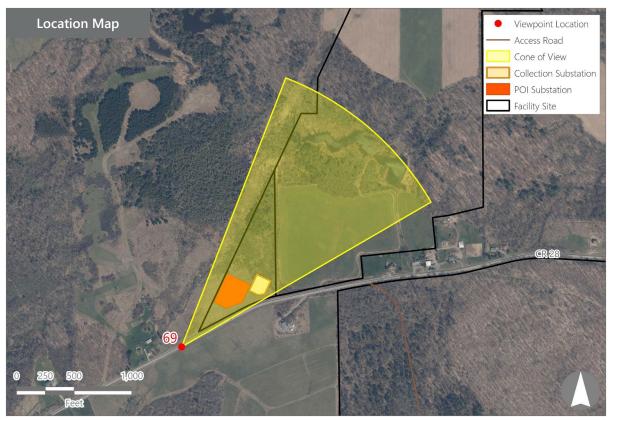
Visual Impact Assessment Addendum Appendix 8-A





Note: The image above is a panorama photograph taken from Cody Road in the Town of Fenner panning clockwise from north (left) to east (right). The green rectangle represents the extent of the simulated photograph.





Towns of Eaton, Fenner, Nelson, and Smithfield, Madison County, New York

Visual Impact Assessment Addendum Appendix 8-A

EDR

### **VIEWPOINT 69**

Cody Road

#### **VIEWPOINT INFORMATION**

Location: Cody Road

Town: Fenner

County: Madison

**Latitude:** 42.96361° N

Longitude: 75.75421° W

#### LOCATION INFORMATION

**Distance Zone Represented in View:** Foreground

Viewer Distance\*: 340.7 feet

Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural/Rural

Residential

Viewer/User Group(s): Local Residents, Through-

Iravelers

**Visually Sensitive Resource(s):** Magnificent
Madison, Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

#### PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

Date: Decemeber 20, 2023

Time: 12:18 PM

Camera: Canon EOS 5D Mark IV

**Resolution:** 24 Megapixels

**Lens Focal Length (35mm equivalent):** 50 mm

Camera Elevation: 1,699 feet

Field of View: 39 degrees

**Direction of View:** Northeast

Printed Size: 10" x 15"

Viewing Distance\*\*: 21"

### NOTES

\*Distance as measured from the viewpoint to the closest wind turbine generator within the simulated photograph's field of view

\*\*The simulation is at the correct perspective when printed on an 11 inch by 17 inch sheet at full scale, and viewed approximately 21 inches from the eye of the viewer.

## Viewpoint Sensitivity<sup>1</sup>:

### Scenic Quality:

X Low

☐ Moderate

☐ High

## **Viewer Exposure**

Frequency:

□ Rare

☐ Occasional

☑ Regular/Repeated

**Duration of View:** 

☑ Short/Brief/Fleeting

☐ Moderate

☐ Long

<sup>1</sup>Viewpoint Sensitivity information is gathered from rating panel results. Scenic Quality is an average based on Low = 1, Moderate = 2, High = 3. Viewer Exposure reflects all those selected be the review panel.

## Contrast Rating Scores<sup>2</sup>:

	Score		Contract Dating	
Component	Install	5-7 Years	Contrast Rating 5-7 Years	
Landform	3.5	3.5	Appreciable/Strong	
Vegetation	3.3	3.2	Appreciable	
Land Use	3.3	3.3	Appreciable/Strong	
Water	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Sky	3.2	3.2	Appreciable	
Viewer Activity	3.5	3.5	Appreciable/Strong	
AVERAGE	3.4	3.3	Appreciable/Strong	

 $^2$  Contrast Rating Scale: 0.0 - 0.2 (Insignificant), 0.3 - 0.7 (Insignificant/Minimal), 0.8 - 1.2 (Minimal), 1.3 - 1.7 (Minimal/Moderate), 1.8 - 2.2 (Moderate), 2.3 - 2.7 (Moderate/Appreciable), 2.8 - 3.2 (Appreciable) 3.3 - 3.7 Appreciable/Strong), 3.8 - 4.0 (Strong).

## **Contrast Rating - Lowest and Highest Scores:**

Post - Install				
Component	Score			
	Low	High		
Landform	3.5	3.5		
Vegetation	3.0	3.5		
Land Use	3.0	3.5		
Water	NA	NA		
Sky	3.0	3.5		
Viewer Activity	3.5	3.5		

Mitigation 5-7 Years				
Commonant	Score			
Component	Low	High		
Landform	3.5	3.5		
Vegetation	3.0	3.5		
Land Use	3.0	3.5		
Water	NA	NA		
Sky	3.0	3.5		
Viewer Activity	3.5	3.5		

#### **Existing View**



## **Proposed View (Post Installation)**



#### **Proposed View (5-7 Years Post Installation)**



#### **Existing View**

Viewpoint 69 is located on Cody Road in the Town of Fenner, approximately 340 feet from the nearest Facility component that would be visible in the selected photograph's field of view. This viewpoint occurs in the Agricultural/Rural Residential LSZ and is typical of views available to local residents and through-travelers in the area. In the selected view to the northeast, the striped surface of Cody Road occupies nearly half of the foreground, extending away from the viewer to the right, and disappearing over a modest rise. Although outside the selected photo's field of view, a large communication tower occurs on the right side of Cody Road. In addition, a utility line runs parallel to the road and a larger transmission line supported by wood H-frame structures passes over the road and directly over the viewer at this location. The transmission line descends into a valley before cresting a wooded hill on a cleared right of way in the background. In the foreground, an open field with brown dormant vegetation slopes down away from the road edge and out of sight into a middle ground valley. Brush on the transmission line right-of-way bounds the meadow on the left and a hedgerow of bare trees bounds it to the right at the crest of an upward slope. A forested hill in the background defines the visible horizon line in the center of the view. A single wind turbine is visible above the horizon line, but the white overcast sky makes the turbine difficult to see. The abundance of man-made features, including the utility/transmission lines, wind turbine, and highway, present a cluttered pattern of horizontal and vertical features in the view. This, along with the dreary sky, brown vegetation, and lack of longdistance views result in low scenic quality.

### **Proposed View**

With the proposed Facility in place, most of the foreground meadow is now occupied by the proposed substation and other components of the interconnection facility. The hedgerow on the right has been cleared and the landform has been substantially altered to provide a level site for the substation. The unnatural landform on which the substation sits slopes downward toward the viewer with scattered evergreen plantings and is backed by a prominent concrete block retaining wall. Because substantial portions of the substation are elevated, all the proposed structures are clearly visible against the sky. Due to their proximity to the viewer, details of the new structures are apparent, and they now dominate the view. These built structures add visual clutter and present substantial line, color, texture, and form contrast with the existing landscape. The proposed interconnection facility significantly adds to an already cluttered view and obscures views of the landscape features in the background, including the single wind turbine. Due to the proximity of the substation to the road and the height of the proposed components, mitigation plantings around the perimeter of the station do little to screen or soften views of the interconnection facility, even after five to seven years of growth. Despite the presence of existing man-made features, contrast between the existing landscape and the proposed interconnection facility would be appreciable according to the rating panel.

# **Hoffman Falls Wind Project**

Towns of Eaton, Fenner, Nelson, and Smithfield, Madison County, New York

Visual Impact Assessment Addendum Appendix 8-A



FDR

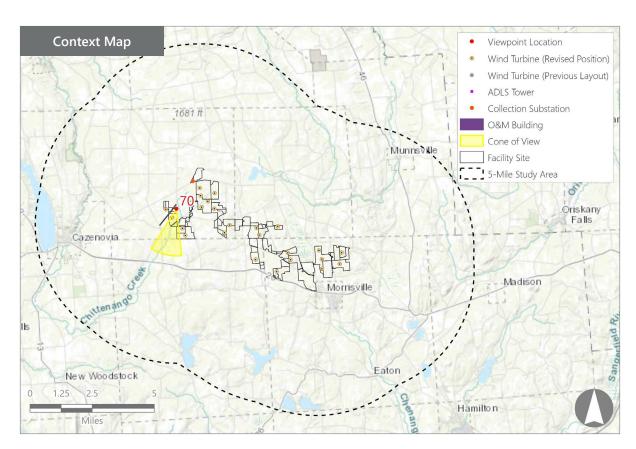


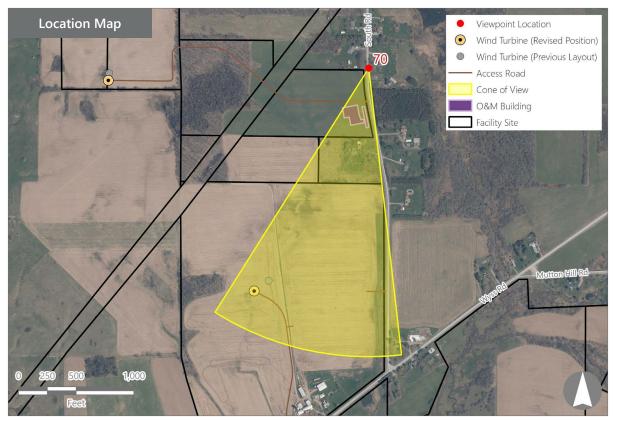
VIEWPOINT 69 Cody Road

VIEWPOINT 69 Cody Road



Note: The image above is a panorama photograph taken from South Road in the Town of Fenner panning clockwise from southeast (left) to southwest (right). The green rectangle represents the extent of the simulated photograph.





Towns of Eaton, Fenner, Nelson, and Smithfield, Madison County, New York

Visual Impact Assessment Addendum Appendix 8-A

EDR

## **VIEWPOINT 70**

South Roa

#### **VIEWPOINT INFORMATION**

Location: South Road

Town: Fenner

County: Madison

**Latitude:** 42.94900° N

Longitude: 75.76513° W

#### LOCATION INFORMATION

**Distance Zone Represented in View:** Foreground

Viewer Distance\*: 342.6 feet

Landscape Similarity Zone: Agricultural/Rural

Residential

Viewer/User Group(s): Local Residents

Visually Sensitive Resource(s): Erie Canalway

National Heritage Corridor

#### PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

Date: Decemeber 20, 2023

Time: 12:07 PM

Camera: Canon EOS 5D Mark IV

**Resolution:** 24 Megapixels

**Lens Focal Length (35mm equivalent):** 50 mm

Camera Elevation: 1,625 feet

Field of View: 39 degrees

**Direction of View:** South-southwest

Printed Size: 10" x 15"

Viewing Distance\*\*: 21"

### **NOTES**

\*Distance as measured from the viewpoint to the closest wind turbine generator within the simulated photograph's field of view

\*\*The simulation is at the correct perspective when printed on an 11 inch by 17 inch sheet at full scale, and viewed approximately 21 inches from the eye of the viewer.

## Viewpoint Sensitivity<sup>1</sup>:

### **Scenic Quality:**

X Low

☐ High

## **Viewer Exposure**

Frequency:

X Rare

☐ Occasional

☑ Regular/Repeated

### **Duration of View:**

☑ Short/Brief/Fleeting

☐ Moderate

**X** Long

<sup>1</sup>Viewpoint Sensitivity information is gathered from rating panel results. Scenic Quality is an average based on Low = 1, Moderate = 2, High = 3. Viewer Exposure reflects all those selected be the review panel.

## Contrast Rating Scores<sup>2</sup>:

	Score		Contract Pating	
Component	Install	5-7 Years	Contrast Rating 5-7 Years	
Landform	2.2	2.0	Moderate	
Vegetation	2.0	1.7	Minimal/Moderate	
Land Use	2.3	2.0	Moderate	
Water	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Sky	2.2	2.2	Moderate	
Viewer Activity	2.2	2.0	Moderate	
AVERAGE	2.2	2.0	Moderate	

 $^2$  Contrast Rating Scale: 0.0 - 0.2 (Insignificant), 0.3 - 0.7 (Insignificant/Minimal), 0.8 - 1.2 (Minimal), 1.3 - 1.7 (Minimal/Moderate), 1.8 - 2.2 (Moderate), 2.3 - 2.7 (Moderate/Appreciable), 2.8 - 3.2 (Appreciable) 3.3 - 3.7 Appreciable/Strong), 3.8 - 4.0 (Strong).

# **Contrast Rating - Lowest and Highest Scores:**

Post - Install				
Component	Score			
	Low	High		
Landform	1.5	3.0		
Vegetation	1.5	3.0		
Land Use	1.5	3.0		
Water	NA	NA		
Sky	2.0	2.5		
Viewer Activity	1.5	3.0		

Mitigation 5-7 Years				
Commonant	Score			
Component	Low	High		
Landform	1.5	2.5		
Vegetation	1.0	2.5		
Land Use	1.0	2.5		
Water	NA	NA		
Sky	2.0	2.5		
Viewer Activity	1.5	2.5		

#### **Existing View**



### **Proposed View (Post Installation)**



## **Proposed View (5-7 Years Post Installation)**



#### **Existing View**

Viewpoint 70 is located on South Road in the Town of Fenner, approximately 343 feet from the nearest proposed Facility component that would be visible in the selected photo's field of view. In the selected view to the south, the surface of South Road is present in the immediate foreground. An overhead utility line crosses the sky and parallels the road as it curves to the left away from the viewer. Beyond the road, a snow-covered agricultural field slopes gently upward from the foreground to a high point in the middle ground. The field is backed by a barn set into a cluster of tall trees on the left, and the upper portions of some scattered trees beyond the crest of the field on the right. More distant background features are screened by the crest of the hill and the trees that border the far edge of the field. The lack of long-distance visibility, along with the overcast sky, dark vegetation, and thin snow cover, give the view relatively low scenic quality.

### **Proposed View**

With the Facility in place, the proposed O&M building now occupies a significant portion of the former agricultural field. Due to its proximity to the viewer, the building appears large and screens landscape features behind it. The scale and angularity of the building also contrast with the natural features of the landscape. However, the building's set back from the road is similar to that of the existing barn, and its line, scale, and form are similar to existing modern agricultural buildings in the area. The wind turbine, on the other hand, is substantially larger than any of the surrounding landscape features, and its scale contrast is notable. Although its base falls behind the high point of the field, the turbine is fully visible and extends well into the sky. Under the lighting conditions illustrated in the selected photo, the turbine appears dark against the sky, which heightens its color contrast. Its proximity, along with the movement of its rotor blades when in operation, will make the turbine a prominent focal point in this view. Landscape plantings around the O&M facility help soften views of the building and better integrate it into the landscape following five to seven years of growth. However, these plantings do nothing to screen the wind turbine. According to the rating panel, the Facility has a moderate impact on scenic quality, but to some, may add an element of interest to the view.

# **Hoffman Falls Wind Project**

Towns of Eaton, Fenner, Nelson, and Smithfield, Madison County, New York

Visual Impact Assessment Addendum Appendix 8-A



VIEWPOINT 70 South Road

VIEWPOINT 70 South Road