

APPENDIX 12.3

PHOTOMONTAGE AND WIRELINE METHODOLOGY

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 Wardell Armstrong LLP conforms with the latest Landscape Institute (LI) Advice Note 01/11 when producing photomontages or wirelines. This document outlines the process followed.
- 1.1.2 It is noted that Scottish Natural Heritage are producing revised guidance on the use of photography and photomontage, however this will be principally for use with assessment of wind farm developments. This is not yet available.

2 DATA COLLECTION

- 2.1.1 The viewpoints for photomontage and wireline are selected by a Landscape Architect and agreed with the appropriate local authority prior to submission. The position of the viewpoints is also selected to be practical for the photomontage process, including safe and legal access to the point for taking photographs and associated surveying.
- 2.1.2 The team conducting the site work consists of a photographer and surveyor who follow the process through.
- 2.1.3 The camera equipment used is stated on the photomontage / wireline. Along with a panoramic head mounted on a tripod, appropriate surveying equipment is also used to establish the position of the camera.
- 2.1.4 The camera settings are in accordance with the LI guidance, and are set for the conditions at the time of the photo.
- 2.1.5 Appropriate control points within the photo are surveyed to a high level of accuracy to allow the development to be accurately correlated to the photo.

3 IMAGE PROCESSING

For each panoramic photo, individual images are stitched together using industry standard software. The images are individually checked to ensure a clean stitch and the original quality is maintained. Stitched images are stored as uncompressed .tiff files.

4 MODELLING

- 4.1.1 The control features surveyed on site are processed and modelled within industry standard survey processing software.
- 4.1.2 The proposed development is modelled fully in three dimensions in the survey software. The model is as detailed as necessary to cover all fundamental elements which need to be incorporated in the final photomontage or wireline.
- 4.1.3 True panoramic images are captured out of the 3D view from the survey software. The position from which the image is captured comprises the coordinates of the photo point plus the setup height of the camera.

5 PHOTOMONTAGE AND WIRELINE

- 5.1.1 Industry standard image handling software is used to produce the final photomontage or wireline image.
- 5.1.2 The stitched image for a viewpoint is the base for the photomontage / wireline, plus the images captured from the survey software. The modelled control features on the development image are aligned to correlate to their real world equivalents in the photo so as to ensure the modelled development is represented to the correct size and location. The photomontage / wireline is produced using the aligned modelled development.
- 5.1.3 For photomontages, colours and lighting conditions for the development are matched to those at the time of the photo. Final images are cropped to the required field of view and saved as .png format.

6 PRESENTATION

- 6.1.1 Industry standard drafting software is used to produce the final deliverable drawing. Both existing and proposed images are shown at the same size and scale, with all required details displayed in the title block of the drawing.
- 6.1.2 The final drawings are printed as paper copies at a suitable resolution for delivery to allow review on site as required.

7 OVERALL APPROACH

- 7.1 The intention of Wardell Armstrong LLP is to produce high quality photomontages and wirelines using a transparent process that meets LI guidance and is therefore comparable with other photomontages and wirelines produced to the same guidelines.