

Chapter 1(a) – Wireframes.

And you thought the photomontages were bad.

In chapter 1 we reviewed the worst set of photomontages in modern times.

In that we said:

“The wireframes are more realistic. At least you can clearly see the turbines.”

Since then, the wireframes have been nagging me. They looked too small.

So I picked a representative photomontage Public Photomontage 4 (PM4) and a similar wireframe, Private Wireframe 1 (PW1). Both these images were taken from the Roseview estate.

Both show turbine 25 (2515 metres from PW1 and 2473 metres from PM4). If you are going to nitpick on the difference, we can always take the distance between PM4 and turbine 79 (2502 metres) as one comparator. The effect I describe is identical.

The Department of Planning kindly facilitated the supply of high definition images for the photomontages. Unfortunately the wireframes supplied were of much lower quality.

I took PM4 and PW1 and blew each of them up to A0 (as advised by the consultants).

Here is a snapshot from each:



Public Photomontage 4. Turbine 25 is the left most turbine.



Private Wireframe 1. Turbine 25 is 3 from the left.

Surely, one of them must be wrong. To me, PM4 is much closer to reality when blown up to A0 and held at arms length. The barely visible measurement tower in PM4 confirms they are in proportion height-wise. (The tower is not visible to me in the wireframe)

So, the wireframe turbines are comparatively shown much smaller than they should be. Let's not argue about relative AHDs etc, let us consider the vertical blade lengths which will not be distorted. The swept area in the wireframe of turbine 25 is approximately half that of the same turbine in the photomontage.

Is this not deceptive?

If so, the only question is whether it is a deliberate deception or a mistake. The Department is always prepared to forgive the latter, even though it suggests incompetence.

Which consultancy did the wireframes?

Why is it that "mistakes" nearly always tend to favour the developer?

I will suggest that all wireframes suffer from the same defect.

Residents relying on wireframes would appear to have been misled as to the Visual Impact of the Jupiter wind farm on them.