Tillbridge Solar

Tillbridge Solar

PEI Report Volume II Appendix 12-6: LVIA Assessment of Visual Effects

April 2023

tillbridgesolar.com

@: info@tillbridgesolar.com T: 0800 046 9643

Prepared for:

Tillbridge Solar Ltd

Prepared by:

AECOM Ltd

Table of Contents

1. Preliminary Assessment of Visual Effects 1
1.1 Overview 1
1.2 References 38

Tables

Table 1-1: Visual Assessment of Representative Viewpoints 2
Table 1-2: Preliminary assessment of visual effects: Cable Route Corridor. 30

1. Preliminary Assessment of Visual Effects

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 The Scheme as outlined in **PEI Report Volume I Chapter 3: Scheme Description** has been considered in assessing the likely impacts and effects of the Scheme, whilst considering the embedded mitigation.

1.1.2 The high-level visual effects associated with the construction, operation and maintenance year 1 and year 15, and decommissioning of the Scheme are outlined below. The types and duration of impacts will be different during construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases.

1.1.3 The assessments are based on **PEI Report Volume III Figure 3-1** (Indicative Site Layout Plan) which includes the embedded mitigation described above.

1.1.4 The following sections and tables set out the preliminary visual effects in full, covering significant and not significant effects. The likely impacts and effects are set out separately as follows:

- Preliminary visual effects in relation to the Principal Site: Table 1-1**Error! Reference source not found.**; and
- Preliminary visual effects in relation to the Cable Route Corridor: Table 1-2.

1.1.5 For the Principal Site, an illustration of the views for the preliminary selection of representative photo-viewpoints is provided in **PEI Report Volume III Figure 12-13**. These have been prepared in accordance with LI Technical Advice Note (TGN) 06/19 Visual Representation of Development Proposals. The viewpoint photography was conducted in May and July 2022 and is a best-case scenario as trees are in full leaf. An indication of differences between seasonal views is included within this visual appraisal where appropriate.

1.1.6 No views or change in visual impact will occur at the representative viewpoint 9, Bridleway (GItw/85/1) south of Glentworth, due to screening by topography and vegetation. This viewpoint is not presently proposed to be taken forward in the assessment.

1.1.7 For the Cable Route Corridor, no viewpoint figures are provided, but these will be developed following further design, stakeholder input and site survey prior to preparation of the ES.

Table 1-1: Visual Assessment of Representative Viewpoints

Viewpoint 1: Access track to Harpswell Grange, off A631 (Figure 12-13-1)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor type	Approximate Distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E: 491341, N: 390551	23m	Residential, road	Within Principal Site

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors include residents at Grange Bungalow and Cottage, with open rural views towards the Cliff, albeit including movement of agricultural plant and HGVs associated with the adjacent Harpswell Grange, and traffic on the A631. The A631 is a busy route with fast-moving traffic: it is unlikely to be frequented by recreational receptors and users are likely to have only a passing interest in the view, although this view is noted in the Neighbourhood Plan. Susceptibility to the type of activity involved during construction is considered to be medium. When combined with the overall low value, the overall receptor sensitivity with respect to the type of development proposed is considered to be medium. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity is considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	Medium

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	Magnitude of Visual Effect
Construction Phase Construction activity, including earthworks, will occupy much of the middle distance. New offices and stores may be constructed at Harpswell Grange, which will require increased traffic movement along the adjacent road, with potential for localised vegetation works, including the mature trees that line the route. New deer fences, Solar Stations and panels and CCTV poles will be visible at relatively close range, although they are not likely be sufficiently tall to disrupt the longer-range views to the Cliff. Immature planting will occupy the foreground, but as a minor element that will not provide any screening at this stage. The majority of the new features will be prominent in the view and incongruous with respect to the baseline situation. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	High
Operation Year 1 (winter) The solar panels will be visible within much of the middle distance, along with Solar Stations. A buffer of undeveloped land and woodland planting between the nearest property and the solar panels will be provided, although the latter will be immature and not provide screening or integration into the wider landscape at this stage. Grassland beneath the panels will not be fully	High

Viewpoint 1: Access track to Harpswell Grange, off A631 (Figure 12-13-1)

established. The solar infrastructure will be prominent and incongruous with respect to the baseline situation, resulting in a pronounced change across the horizontal extent of the view, although longer-range views of the Cliff are not likely to be disrupted. The change will be long-term and reversible.	
Operation Year 15 (summer) Planting in the foreground will have established. The design of the planting and expected height of woodland will be such that the view of the solar infrastructure is likely to be screened or limited to elements such as CCTV poles or the top of fencing. The established planting will alter the composition of the view from the baseline situation, resulting in a greater degree of enclosure and less expansive views, although woodland belts and tall hedges are not out of character in the area. Views to the top of the Cliff are likely be retained, but an appreciation of the wider change in topography at the base of the scarp slope, and views towards Harpswell, will be reduced. Overall, the solar infrastructure is likely to be unobtrusive in the view. The change will be long-term and reversible for the solar elements; and permanent for the screening vegetation.	Low
Decommissioning (winter) The vegetation established in the foreground of the view will screen views of decommissioning such that only fleeting glimpses of taller elements are likely to be visible. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Very Low
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**
Construction Phase The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the high magnitude of change in the view will result in a major effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Major adverse (significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the high magnitude of change in the view will result in a major effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Major adverse (significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Decommissioning (winter)	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Viewpoint 1: Access track to Harpswell Grange, off A631 (Figure 12-13-1)

The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible effect on visual amenity at this stage.

Viewpoint 2a: Common Lane, east of Hermitage Low Farm, looking east (Figure 12-13-2a)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor type	Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E:492419, N: 389319	27m	Road, recreational	Within main site

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors will be users of Common Lane including limited numbers on vehicles (likely to be local traffic with a lower appreciation the view); and recreational users, including cyclists, horse riders and walkers that will be moving more slowly, appreciate the view towards the Cliff, woodland around the moated feature and Harpswell. The route is not a PRoW and is likely to be the focus of only short walks from the village, including within the adjacent field and moat area. Susceptibility overall is considered to be Medium. When combined with the overall medium value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be medium. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity is considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	Medium

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	Magnitude of Visual Effect
Construction Phase (winter) Construction activity, including localised earthworks and movement of vehicles, will be visible in the middle distance, across the southwestern quadrant of this view; and beyond the hedge to the left of the view. One of the three proposed construction access routes will descend the scarp slope from Middle Street, along the existing farm track, allowing access to a storage area next to the existing barn. Traffic movement along this route will increase, although not in a manner that will be out of keeping with that associated with intensive agricultural activities. No construction traffic is expected to use Common Lane. New mitigation woodland planting will be located at the far side of the field to the right (south) but will likely be a very minor element in the view. New deer fences, Solar Stations and panels and CCTV poles will be visible within the more distant quadrant to the southeast and may also be visible above the hedge to the left, although they are not likely not interrupt the more open aspect directly towards Hermitage Farm. These new features will be noticeable in the view and incongruous with respect to the	Medium

Viewpoint 2a: Common Lane, east of Hermitage Low Farm, looking east (Figure 12-13-2a)

baseline situation, although the view includes the existing functional barn. The field in the foreground has been identified for ecological mitigation; at this point, it will have the appearance of a ploughed winter field, very similar to the baseline. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	
Operation Year 1 (winter) The solar panels will be visible within the middle distance in the south-eastern quadrant of the view; Solar Stations may also be visible. Panels, fencing and CCTV poles may be visible above the hedgerow to the left. A buffer of woodland planting between the more distant panel area will be in place but being immature, it will not yet provide screening or integration into the wider landscape. Grassland in the large foreground field, provided as ecological enhancement, will not be established. The solar infrastructure features will be noticeable and incongruous with respect to the baseline situation, resulting in a degree of change across within the peripheral areas of the view, although longer-range views of the Cliff are not likely not be disrupted. The change will be long-term and reversible.	Medium
Operation Year 15 (summer) Planting to the far side of the field in the foreground, to the right of the view, will have established; and the existing hedge to the left of the view will be managed to limit views of solar infrastructure in the field beyond. The design of the planting and maintained height will be such that the view of the solar infrastructure will be screened or limited to glimpsed elements such as CCTV poles or the top of fencing. The field in the foreground will be managed for ecological mitigation and will offer a more visually varied and pleasing aspect, contrasting with the existing intensively farmed, monocultural fields. The established planting will alter the composition of the view from the baseline situation, resulting in a slightly increased level of enclosure, although woodland belts and tall hedges are not out of character in the area. Views to the top of the Cliff within the centre of the view will be retained, but new planting along Middle Street will extend the woodland and tree cover along the scarp. Overall, the Scheme will likely be unobtrusive in the view. The change will be long-term and reversible for the solar elements; and permanent for the screening vegetation.	Low
Decommissioning (winter) The vegetation established around the panel areas and the existing hedge will screen views of decommissioning, such that only fleeting glimpses of taller elements will likely be visible. There will be in increase in construction traffic on the distant access route to Middle Street. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Very Low
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**

Viewpoint 2a: Common Lane, east of Hermitage Low Farm, looking east (Figure 12-13-2a)

Construction Phase The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the medium magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Moderate adverse (significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the medium magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Moderate adverse (significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage. Ecological mitigation in the foreground may result in neutral effects.	Minor adverse to neutral (not significant)
Decommissioning (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Viewpoint 2b: Common Lane, east of Hermitage Low Farm, looking west (Figure 12-13-2b)

Grid reference	**Elevation (m AOD)**	**Receptor type**	**Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary**
E:492419, N: 389319	27m	Road, recreational	Within Principal Site

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	**Sensitivity**
Construction Phase Receptors will be users of Common Lane, including limited numbers on vehicles (likely to be local traffic with limited appreciation the view); and recreational users, including cyclists, horse riders and walkers that will be moving more slowly. The route is not a PRoW and is likely to be the focus of only short walks from the village. Susceptibility overall is considered to be Medium. When combined with the overall low value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be medium. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity is considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	Medium

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	**Magnitude of Visual Effect**

Viewpoint 2b: Common Lane, east of Hermitage Low Farm, looking west (Figure 12-13-2b)

Construction Phase (winter) Construction activity, including localised earthworks and movement of vehicles, will be visible across the full extent of the view, and extending into the distance, beyond Billyards Farm. New mitigation hedge planting will be located in the foreground, along the boundary to Common Lane. New deer fences, solar panels, Solar Stations and CCTV poles will be progressively constructed in the view, whilst also limiting the longer-distance view, including to Harspwell Wood which is noted in the Neighbourhood Plan Character Assessment. These features will be highly incongruous with respect to the baseline situation, although the field beneath the panels will remain largely similar to a ploughed winter baseline. No construction traffic is expected to use Common Lane. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	High
Operation Year 1 (winter) The solar panels will dominate the full extent of the view, limiting the expansive baseline views towards woodland and Billyards Farm. Hedgerow planting between along Common Lane will be in immature and provide no screening at this time. The solar infrastructure will be dominant and very incongruous with respect to the baseline situation, resulting in extensive change across the whole view, although the field beneath the panels will remain largely similar to a ploughed winter baseline. The change will be long-term and reversible.	High
Operation Year 15 (summer) Planting along Common Lane in the immediate foreground will have established; screening the solar panels although elements such as CCTV poles or the top of fencing may be glimpsed. The character of the view will be different, with a loss of long-distance views of intensively farmed fields noted in the Neighbourhood Plan documents, to be replaced by a strong sense of enclosure from hedging. The latter would represent an enhancement to the landscape quality an condition that would be in keeping with the wider context. The Scheme itself will be unobtrusive in the view. The change will be long-term and reversible for the solar elements; and permanent for the screening vegetation.	Low
Decommissioning (winter) The vegetation established around the panel areas and the existing hedge will screen views of decommissioning, such that only fleeting glimpses of taller elements will likely be visible. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Very Low
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**
Construction Phase	Major adverse (significant)

Viewpoint 2b: Common Lane, east of Hermitage Low Farm, looking west (Figure 12-13-2b)

The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the high magnitude of change in the view will result in a major effect on visual amenity at this stage.	
Operation Year 1 (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the high magnitude of change in the view will result in a major effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Major adverse (significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Decommissioning (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Viewpoint 3: Local Green Space, Harpswell Farm, (Figure 12-13-3)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor types	Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E:493461, N: 389921	42m	Recreational, residential	485m

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors will largely be recreational, using the PRoW, permissive open space and paths, including as access from the complex of workshops and garden at Hall Farm to the moat. The view is also representative of residents, with views across the adjacent lane. Susceptibility overall is considered to be High. When combined with the overall High value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be High. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity is considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	High

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	Magnitude of Visual Effect
Construction Phase (winter)	Very Low

Viewpoint 3: Local Green Space, Harpswell Farm, (Figure 12-13-3)

Construction activity, including topsoil stripping/storage and movement of vehicles, is likely to be glimpsed through the trees around the moat at the far end of the open space, although such elements will be visible across an intervening field and may appear similar in character to activities associated with intensive agriculture. New panels may possibly be visible, although elements such as CCTV poles and fences are likely to be too distant. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	
Operation Year 1 (winter) Solar panels may, in a worst-case, be glimpsed through trees at the far end of the open space, although elements such as CCTV poles and fences are likely to be too distant. New mitigation planting at the far side of the intervening field will be immature and not provide screening at this stage. The change will be long-term and reversible.	Low
Operation Year 15 (summer) Hedge planting to the boundary at the far side of the intervening field will be mature is likely to screen panels, alongside the more general baseline screening provided by the mature trees around the open space.	Neutral
Decommissioning (winter) The vegetation established at the far side of the intervening field will screen views of decommissioning, such that only fleeting glimpses of vehicles movements may be visible as a worst-case. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Very Low
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**
Construction Phase The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Moderate adverse (significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the no change in the view will result in a neutral effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Neutral (not significant)

Viewpoint 3: Local Green Space, Harpswell Farm, (Figure 12-13-3)

Decommissioning (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)

Viewpoint 4: B1398 Middle Street, above Harpswell (Figure 12-13-4)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor type	Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E: 494016, N: 389498	68m	Road	700m

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors will largely be road users in vehicles. Although receptors travelling along Middle Street have continuous exposure to the well-documented Cliff views, traffic speeds are high and there are very few opportunities to stop and appreciate the view. This viewpoint is a private farm access with no parking available and Middle Street is not considered to be an attractive prospect for leisure cycling or walking. Susceptibility is therefore considered to be Medium. When combined with the Medium value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be Medium. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity are considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	Medium

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	Magnitude of Visual Effect
Construction Phase (winter) Construction activity, including localised earthworks and movement of vehicles, will be visible across much of the middle distance within the view. In isolation, some works will appear similar to activities associated with intensive agriculture at this distance, but the level of construction activity will be extensive. Individual elements such as CCTV poles and fences are less likely to be discernible, but progressive installation of racks, panels and Solar Stations will result in the gradual massing of incongruous elements. The two proposed substations are likely to be visible, although not dissimilar in form to other functional outbuildings in the view, and at distance. A storage area will be located behind the existing barn, benefiting from a degree of screening, but relatively high levels of vehicle movement may be expected along the track from the viewpoint, including	Medium

Viewpoint 4: B1398 Middle Street, above Harpswell (Figure 12-13-4)

alterations to verges to allow movement of heavy plant. New planting either side of the track entrance will be immature, and ecological mitigation or enhancement to the fields in the foreground will not have established, appearing similar to the baseline. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	
Operation Year 1 (winter) New panels will be visible across a large proportion of the view, occupying much of the middle distance. The two proposed substations are likely to be visible, although not dissimilar in form to other functional outbuildings in the view, and at distance. The Solar Stations will punctuate the panel areas and although relatively small-scale, collectively may appear numerous. Individual elements such as CCTV poles and fences are less likely to be discernible, but the massing of panels, alongside the Solar Stations, will introduce a more industrial, functional character to the view, with the largely unvarying, grey panel colours contrasting with the baseline browns and greens of winter field patterns. New planting, both along the road and as wider screening and green infrastructure enhancements, will be immature and generally not visible, except where adjacent to the access track entrance. Some of the inherent characteristics of the view, in terms of openness, expansive skies, and long-range views towards the power stations and distant Pennines, will not change. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent. It should be noted that planting undertaken during winter 2022/2023 may limit views at this stage, with effects being lower. A worst-case is presented here.	Medium
Operation Year 15 (summer) New solar panels will be visible , including Solar Stations that will punctuate the panel areas and, although relatively small-scale, collectively may appear numerous. Individual elements such as CCTV poles and fences are less likely to be discernible, but the massing of panels, alongside the Solar Stations, will introduce a more industrial and functional character to the view, with the largely unvarying, grey panel colours contrasting with the baseline seasonal variations in colour of arable crops. However, mature hedge and woodland planting, both along the road and as wider screening and green infrastructure enhancements, will be established and provide a high level of screening along Middle Street, limiting visibility of the solar infrastructure to a narrow field of view. The planting will also complement and offer a degree of improvement in terms of the pattern of woodland and hedgerows. Ecological enhancement to the scarp slope, for example in the form of native species-rich meadows, will provide variation and interest to the foreground relative to the existing baseline monoculture. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent.	Low
Decommissioning (winter) Decommissioning activity, including removal of solar elements and movement of vehicles, will be visible but heavily screened by mature mitigation tree planting along Middle Street. There will be an increase in construction traffic along the access road. Much of the scheme will revert to agriculture, reflecting the wider context. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Low

Viewpoint 4: B1398 Middle Street, above Harpswell (Figure 12-13-4)

Level of Visual Effect	Level of Visual Effect and Significance
Construction Phase The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the medium magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Moderate adverse (significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the medium magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Moderate adverse (significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Decommissioning (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)

Viewpoint 5: Kexby Road, West of Glentworth (Figure 12-13-5)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor type	Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E: 494115, N: 387625	29m	Road, recreational	860m (mitigation) 980m (solar development)

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors will be road users in vehicles travelling along a rural road at relatively low speeds, and recreational receptors on foot, cycle or horseback, using lanes around Glentworth. Susceptibility is considered to be Medium. When combined with the Low value, the overall receptor sensitivity with respect to the type of development proposed is considered to be Medium.	Medium

Viewpoint 5: Kexby Road, West of Glentworth (Figure 12-13-5)

Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity are considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	Magnitude of Visual Effect
Construction Phase (winter) Visibility of construction activity is likely to be limited to glimpses localised earthworks and vehicle movement, along with the construction of solar elements such as racks and panels, within a very small part of the view and immediately either side of the agricultural reservoirs. Construction of the nearest proposed substation may also be glimpsed (1.3km distant), but these elements are unlikely to be very visible and broadly similar in character to functional features or activities associated with intensive agriculture in the wider landscape. Much of the site is screened by the gently rising land, along with woodland around the agricultural reservoirs and intervening field boundaries. There is anticipated to be occasional construction traffic along this section of Kexby Road, to access the substation site and other parts of the Principal Site. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	Low
Operation Year 1 (winter) Visibility of solar elements such as racks and panels will be available but within a very small part of the view, immediately either side of the agricultural reservoirs. The nearest proposed substation may also be glimpsed (1.3km distant), but these elements are unlikely to be very visible, and broadly similar in character to functional features associated with intensive agriculture in the wider landscape. Much of the Principal Site is screened by subtle topography, along with woodland around the agricultural reservoirs and intervening field boundaries. The change will be long-term and reversible.	Low
Operation Year 15 (summer) Proposed mitigation planting along Northlands Road will be established, screening views of solar elements and the substation. The remainder of the site will be screened by topography and existing woodland around the agricultural reservoirs and intervening field boundaries. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent.	Very Low
Decommissioning (winter) The vegetation established around the panel areas and the existing topography and vegetation will screen views of decommissioning, such that only fleeting glimpses of taller elements will likely be visible. There is anticipated to be occasional construction traffic along this section of Kexby Road, to access the substation site and other parts of the Principal Site. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Very Low

Viewpoint 5: Kexby Road, West of Glentworth (Figure 12-13-5)

Level of Visual Effect	Level of Visual Effect and Significance
Construction Phase The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Negligible adverse (not significant)
Decommissioning (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Viewpoint 7: B1398 Middle Street, Glentworth Cliff Farm (Figure 12-13-7)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor type	Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E: 495201, N: 387698	66m	Road, Residential, Recreational	1.9km (1.8km from mitigation areas)

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors will include residents in the houses to the east side of Middle Street (behind the viewer) that experience open views across to the west, although views from these properties are subject to localised screening by trees on the western verge of	High

Viewpoint 7: B1398 Middle Street, Glentworth Cliff Farm (Figure 12-13-7)

Middle Street. Receptors will also include road users in vehicles: although receptors travelling along Middle Street have continuous exposure to the well-documented Cliff views, traffic speeds are high and there are very few opportunities to stop and appreciate the view. There is a section of footway leading from the properties to Hanover Hill, which is likely to be used by residents: at this point, Middle Street is not considered to be an attractive prospect for leisure cycling or walking. Susceptibility is considered to be High, due to residential views. When combined with the Medium value, the overall receptor to the type of development proposed is considered to be High.

Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity are considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	**Magnitude of Visual Effect**
Construction Phase (winter) Construction activity, including localised earthworks and movement of vehicles, will be visible across the northern half of the panorama, beyond Glentworth, intervening fields and woodland blocks and occupying a relatively narrow band of land in the middle distance. In isolation, some works may appear similar to activities associated with intensive agriculture at this distance, but the level of construction activity will be extensive within this area. Individual elements such as CCTV poles and fences are not likely to be discernible, but progressive installation of racks, panels and Solar Stations will result in the gradual massing of incongruous elements. One of the proposed substations will be visible but as a very minor element and not dissimilar to other functional outbuildings within the baseline, such as steel portal barns. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	Low
Operation Year 1 (winter) New solar panels within the northernmost part of the panorama, beyond Glentworth and intervening fields and woodland blocks, will occupy a relatively narrow band of land in the middle distance. One of the substations may be visible but as a very minor element in and not dissimilar to other functional outbuildings, such as those associated with farmsteads. The Solar Stations will punctuate the panel areas and, although relatively small-scale, collectively may appear numerous. Individual elements such as CCTV poles and fences are not likely to be discernible, but the massing of panels and racks, alongside the Solar Stations, will introduce a more industrial, functional character to periphery of the view, with the largely unvarying, grey panel colours contrasting with the baseline browns and greens of distant winter field patterns. Many of the inherent characteristics of the view, in terms of openness, expansive skies, and long-range views towards the power stations and distant Pennines, will not change. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent.	Low
Operation Year 15 (summer)	Low

Viewpoint 7: B1398 Middle Street, Glentworth Cliff Farm (Figure 12-13-7)

New solar panels within the northernmost part of the panorama, beyond Glentworth and intervening fields and woodland blocks, will occupy a relatively narrow band of land in the middle distance. One of the proposed substations may be visible but as a very minor element and not dissimilar to other functional outbuildings in the baseline, such as those associated with farmsteads. The Solar Stations will punctuate the panel areas and, although relatively small-scale, collectively may appear numerous. Individual elements such as CCTV poles and fences are not likely to be discernible, but the massing of panels and racks, alongside the Solar Stations, will introduce a more industrial, functional character to the periphery of the view, with the largely unvarying, grey panel colours contrasting with the baseline seasonal variations in colour of arable crops. New planting, as screening and green infrastructure enhancements, will be established. Whilst providing limited screening to the panels from this elevation, it will complement and offer a degree of improvement relative to the existing the pattern of woodland and hedgerows, through enhanced green infrastructure and reinforcement of positive landscape character features. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent. Many of the inherent characteristics of the view, in terms of openness, expansive skies and long-range views towards the power stations and distant Pennines, will not change. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent.	
Decommissioning (winter) Decommissioning activity, including removal of solar elements and movement of vehicles, will be visible across a narrow band in the middle distance of the northern half of the view. Increased levels of vegetation growth since the construction phase will reduce overall visibility and much of the scheme will revert to agriculture, reflecting the wider context. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Very Low
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**
Construction Phase The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Moderate adverse (significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Moderate adverse (significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Moderate adverse (significant)

Viewpoint 7: B1398 Middle Street, Glentworth Cliff Farm (Figure 12-13-7)

Decommissioning (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)

Viewpoint 8: B1398 Middle Street, above Fillingham (Figure 12-13-8)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor type	Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E: 495492, N: 385967	61m	Road, Residential, Recreational	2.8km (2.5km from mitigation areas)

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors will include residents in the adjacent houses on High Street and, may represent those at Fillingham Castle, situated to the east on the ridge but with no public access. Recreational uses may also experience this view when accessing a public footpath south of Fillingham Castle via High Street. Receptors will also include road users in vehicles: although receptors travelling along Middle Street have continuous exposure to the well-documented Cliff views, traffic speeds are high and there are very few opportunities to stop and appreciate the view. There is no footway at this point and Middle Street is not considered to be an attractive prospect for leisure cycling or walking. Susceptibility is considered to be High, due to residential views. When combined with the High value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be High. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity are considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	High

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	Magnitude of Visual Effect
Construction Phase (winter) Construction activity, including localised earthworks and movement of vehicles, may be glimpsed within part of the northern half of the panorama, occupying a relatively narrow band of land in the middle distance and subject to filtered screening by intervening trees and woodland. Works may appear similar to activities associated with intensive agriculture at this distance, although more	Very Low

Viewpoint 8: B1398 Middle Street, above Fillingham (Figure 12-13-8)

extensive in this part of the view. The progressive installation of panels and Solar Stations will result in the gradual massing of incongruous elements, although as a very minor element in an expansive view, which extends to southwest and away from the Principal Site. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	
Operation Year 1 (winter) New panels will be glimpsed within part of the northern half of the panorama, occupying a very narrow band of land in the middle distance and subject to localised, filtered screening by intervening trees and woodland. The panels and Solar Stations will result in the massing of incongruous elements, introducing a more industrial, functional character to this part of the view, with the largely unvarying, grey panel colours contrasting with the baseline browns and greens of winter field patterns. However, this will be a very minor element in an expansive view, which extends to the southwest and away from the Principal Site. Panels, at this distance, may be perceived as water bodies or agricultural protection. Much of the inherent character of the view, in terms of openness, expansive skies, and long-range views towards the power stations and distant Pennines, will change. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent.	Very Low
Operation Year 15 (summer) New panels will be glimpsed within part of the northern half of the panorama, occupying a relatively narrow band of land in the middle distance and subject to localised, filtered screening by intervening trees and woodland. The panels and Solar Stations will result in the massing of incongruous elements, introducing a more industrial, functional character to this part of the view, with the largely unvarying, grey panel colours contrasting with the baseline seasonal variations in colour of arable crops. However, this will be a very minor element in what is an expansive view, particularly to the southwest and away from the Site. Panels, at this distance, may be perceived as water bodies or agricultural protection. Much of the inherent character of the view, in terms of openness, expansive skies, and long-range views towards the power stations and distant Pennines, will not change. New planting as screening and green infrastructure enhancements will be established and, whilst providing limited screening to the panels from this elevation, will complement and offer a degree of improvement relative to the existing the pattern of woodland and hedgerows. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent.	Very Low
Decommissioning (winter) Decommissioning activity, including removal of solar elements and movement of vehicles, may be visible across a very narrow band in the middle distance of the northern half of the view. Increased levels of vegetation growth since the construction phase will marginally reduce overall visibility. Much of the scheme will revert to agriculture, reflecting the wider context. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Very Low

Viewpoint 8: B1398 Middle Street, above Fillingham (Figure 12-13-8)

Level of Visual Effect	Level of Visual Effect and Significance
Construction Phase The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the Very Low magnitude of change in the view will result in a Minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The sensitivity of the receptor combined with the Very Low magnitude of change in the view result in Minor moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the Very Low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Decommissioning (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)

Viewpoint 9: Kexby Road, west of Glentworth Grange: junction with bridleway GItw/85/1 (Figure 12-13-9)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor type	Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E:492253, N: 387148	25m	Residential, recreational, road	Within Principal Site

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors include residents at properties on Flaxby Road such as Glentworth Grange and Low Farm, although the level of screening to individual properties varies. Recreational receptors will be using the bridleway and also the quiet section of the rural Kexby Road towards Glentworth. Road receptors in vehicles are likely to be largely local traffic at relatively low speeds.	High

Viewpoint 9: Kexby Road, west of Glentworth Grange: junction with bridleway Gltw/85/1 (Figure 12-13-9)

Susceptibility to the type of activity involved during construction is considered to be High. When combined with the overall medium value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be High.

Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity are considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	**Magnitude of Visual Effect**
Construction Phase New planting (potentially as advanced mitigation) will be visible in the foreground, but immature and not expected to provide screening to construction activity. This activity will occupy much of the view beyond, including localised earthworks, movement of plant and access route construction. One of the proposed substations is likely be visible, in line with Harpswell Church in this view, although it will likely be perceived as a minor, distant feature, not dissimilar to functional barns associated with farmsteads, including properties along Kexby Road. New deer fences, Solar Stations and panels and CCTV poles will progressively be installed, with south-facing panels being particularly noticeable on the gentle ridge that runs across the view. These new features will be prominent and incongruous with respect to the baseline situation. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	High
Operation Year 1 (winter) The solar panels will be visible across almost the entire width of view, occupying the middle distance up to and including the rising land and low ridge towards Billyards Farm. Solar stations will be located within some of the fields, with smaller elements such as deer fences and CCTV poles along the developable area boundary to the far side of the field in the foreground. A buffer of undeveloped land and new woodland planting between the nearest property and the solar panels will be present, with the latter being immature and not yet provide screening or integration into the wider landscape. Grassland within this area and beneath the panels will not have been fully established. These new features will be prominent and incongruous with respect to the baseline situation, resulting in a pronounced change across the horizontal extent of the view, although longer-range views of the Cliff will not be disrupted. The panels will introduce a more industrial, functional character through the seasonally unvarying, grey panel colours that will contrast with baseline browns and greens of winter field patterns. The change will be long-term and reversible.	High
Operation Year 15 (summer) Planting in the foreground will be established. This will largely comprise a woodland belt, which is proposed to be set back across an area of intervening ecological mitigation in order to limit the loss of long-range views from properties, but at the same time screen the solar infrastructure beyond. The influence of solar elements will be reduced, although there will be foreshortening of the baseline open views. The design intent of the planting and expected heights is to screen most of the solar	Low

Viewpoint 9: Kexby Road, west of Glentworth Grange: junction with bridleway Gltw/85/1 (Figure 12-13-9)

infrastructure, but it is possible that some elements of the development will be visible above the woodland. Views of the Cliff scarp are expected to remain available, but these will be confirmed by more detailed modelling and visualisations. The ability to appreciate of the change in topography at the base of the scarp slope, and views towards Harpswell, will be reduced through greater enclosure, although woodland belts receptors tall hedges are not out of character with respect to the wider area and may represent an attractive feature for residents, with seasonal variation. The change will be long-term and reversible for the solar elements and permanent for the screening vegetation.	
Decommissioning (winter) The vegetation established in the foreground of the view will largely screen views of decommissioning such that only fleeting glimpses of taller elements will likely be visible. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Very Low
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**
Construction Phase The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the high magnitude of change in the view will result in a major effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Major adverse (significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the high magnitude of change in the view will result in a major effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Major adverse (significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage. However, it should be noted that much of this change will arise through the introduction of vegetation and more limited outlook with respect to the baseline, but not out of character with the wider area and offering diversity and interest.	Moderate adverse (significant)
Decommissioning (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)

Viewpoint 10: Kirton Gate Lane (by-way) (Figure 12-13-10)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor type	Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E: 492253, N: 387148	25m	Recreational	500m

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors will be recreational uses of the byway and adjacent temporary permissive bridleway, both of which provide access to views and the wider rural setting for local residents in an area where PRoW are very limited. Susceptibility is considered to be High. When combined with the Medium value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be High. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity are considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	High

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	Magnitude of Visual Effect
Construction Phase (winter) Visibility of construction activity is likely to be limited to glimpses of vehicle movements and construction of elements such as CCTV poles and Solar Stations. The slight change in topography and screening from field boundaries is likely be sufficient to largely screen views of the development beyond the open field in the foreground, with any visibility within the field beyond to the east being limited by distance. Where visible, activities may not be dissimilar to functional features or operations associated with intensive agriculture within the wider landscape Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	Very Low
Operation Year 1 (winter) Additional screen planting located beyond the hedge to the far eastern side of the field will not yet be mature, but any visibility of solar elements such as panels, Solar Stations and CCTV poles will be glimpsed and available in only a very small part of the view. None of the proposed substations will be visible, including the one proposed to the north beyond Grange Cottages, which will screened by these buildings, hedges and subtle topography. Solar development north of School Lane will likely be screened, as evidenced by only the top of the 11kV overhead line poles being visible, with such poles generally being a minimum of around 9m height. The change will be long-term and reversible.	Very Low
Operation Year 15 (summer)	None

Viewpoint 10: Kirton Gate Lane (by-way) (Figure 12-13-10)

Proposed mitigation planting beyond the eastern boundary of the field in the foreground will provide screening to solar infrastructure. The Site to the north will be screened by existing vegetation. No change in the view is expected.	
Decommissioning (winter) The vegetation established around the panel areas and the existing topography and vegetation will screen views of decommissioning. No change in the view is expected.	None
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**
Construction Phase The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with no change in the view will result in a neutral effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Neutral (not significant)
Decommissioning (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with no change in the view will result in a neutral effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Neutral (not significant)

Viewpoint 11: Kell's Barn, Sturgate (Figure 12-13-11)

Grid reference	**Elevation (m AOD)**	**Receptor type**	**Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)**	
E: 488018, N: 359200	19m	Residential, recreational, road	770m	
Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View				**Sensitivity**

Viewpoint 11: Kell's Barn, Sturgate (Figure 12-13-11)

Construction Phase Receptors will be residential, with views subject to varied degrees of screening; and recreational users of the byway, which provides access to views of the wider rural setting for residents in an area where PRoW are very limited. Road receptors are expected to limited to occasional local residents: there is no onward route or any turning space at the end of the lane. Susceptibility is considered to be High. When combined with the Medium value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be High. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity are considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	High
Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	**Magnitude of Visual Effect**
Construction Phase (winter) Visibility of construction activity is likely be extremely limited, with only glimpses of vehicle movements and potentially construction of elements such as CCTV poles and Solar Stations. The narrow field of view, constrained by dense hedges and mature vegetation, will heavily restrict views, further reduced by distance. Where visible, activities may not be dissimilar to functional features or activities associated with intensive agriculture within the wider landscape. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	Very Low
Operation Year 1 (winter) Additional screen planting located beyond the hedge to the far eastern side of the field will not yet be mature, but any visibility of solar elements such as panels, Solar Stations and CCTV poles is likely to be glimpsed and very restricted. The change will be long-term and reversible.	Very Low
Operation Year 15 (summer) Proposed mitigation to the boundary of the field bordering the nearest section of the Site to the east will screen any views of solar infrastructure that may be available. No change in the view is expected.	None
Decommissioning (winter) The vegetation established around the panel areas and the existing topography and vegetation is expected to screen views of decommissioning. No change in the view is expected.	None
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**

Viewpoint 11: Kell's Barn, Sturgate (Figure 12-13-11)

Construction Phase The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with no change in the view will result in a neutral effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Neutral (not significant)
Decommissioning (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with no change in the view will result in a neutral effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Neutral (not significant)

Viewpoint 12: School Lane, Springthorpe (Figure 12-13-12)

Grid reference	**Elevation (m AOD)**	**Receptor type**	**Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)**
E: 487743, N: 389820	23m	Residential, recreational, road	620m

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	**Sensitivity**
Construction Phase Receptors will be residential, within properties to the edge of Springthorpe with views subject to varied degrees of screening; road users; and recreational users of this route, which provides access to views and the wider rural setting for residents. Susceptibility is considered to be High, due to the proximity of residential receptors with rural views and limited detractors. When combined with the Low value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be Medium. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity are considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	High

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	**Magnitude of Visual Effect**

Viewpoint 12: School Lane, Springthorpe (Figure 12-13-12)

Construction Phase (winter) Visibility of construction activity is likely to be very limited, with glimpses of vehicle movements and possibly construction of elements such as CCTV poles to the north side of School Lane. This will be from a point beyond Church Farm, behind existing hedges and in conjunction with the 11kV overhead power line poles. The proposed substation north of Springfield Grange will be screened by barns at Church Farm. Where visible, activities may be perceived as being broadly similar to those associated with intensive agriculture within the wider landscape. No construction traffic is expected to use School Lane. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	Very Low
Operation Year 1 (winter) Visibility of solar infrastructure will be very limited, with glimpses possible glimpses of taller elements such CCTV poles to the north side of School Lane. This will be from a point beyond Church Farm, behind existing hedges and in conjunction with the 11kV overhead power line poles. The change will be long-term and reversible.	Very Low
Operation Year 15 (summer) During summer months, and with reference to wider proposed mitigation across the Scheme, views of the development will be screened by intervening hedges. No change in the view is expected.	None
Decommissioning (winter) The vegetation established around the panel areas and the existing topography and vegetation will screen views of decommissioning. No change in the view is expected.	None
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**
Construction Phase The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 1 (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer)	Neutral (not significant)

Viewpoint 12: School Lane, Springthorpe (Figure 12-13-12)

The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with no change in the view will result in a neutral effect on visual amenity at this stage.	
Decommissioning (winter) The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with no change in the view will result in a neutral effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Neutral (not significant)

Viewpoint 13: Public footpath (Hems/787/82), Millfield, Hemswell (Figure 12-13-13)

Grid reference	Elevation (m AOD)	Receptor type	Approximate distance from Scheme Boundary (Principal Site)
E: 493492, N: 390435	62m	Residential, recreational	900m

Susceptibility of Receptor to Specific Change/Value of View	Sensitivity
Construction Phase Receptors will include residents in the adjacent property and recreational users of the footpath. Based on the large picture window of the former and the fact that few PRoW offer views from the Cliff in the Study Area, susceptibility is High. When combined with the High value, the overall receptor sensitivity to the type of development proposed is considered to be High. Susceptibility and therefore sensitivity is considered to be broadly the same for all subsequent phases.	High

Size/scale, Geographical Extent, Duration and Reversibility of Effect	Magnitude of Visual Effect
Construction Phase (winter) Construction activity, including localised earthworks and movement of vehicles, will be visible across much of the middle distance within the southern half of the view. In isolation, some works may appear similar to activities associated with intensive agriculture at this distance, but the level of construction activity will be extensive. Individual elements such as CCTV poles and fences are less likely to be discernible, but progressive installation of racks, panels and Solar Stations will result in the gradual massing of incongruous elements. The two proposed substations will be visible, although not dissimilar in terms of scale and distance to other functional outbuildings in the baseline view. Construction activities will be short-term and reversible; solar infrastructure will be long-term and reversible.	Low
Operation Year 1 (winter)	Medium

Viewpoint 13: Public footpath (Hems/787/82), Millfield, Hemswell (Figure 12-13-13)

New panels will be visible across much of the middle distance, within the southern half of the view. The two proposed substations will be visible, although not dissimilar in terms of scale and distance to other functional outbuildings in the baseline view. The Solar Stations will punctuate the panel areas and although relatively small-scale, collectively may appear numerous. Individual elements such as CCTV poles and fences are less likely to be discernible, but the massing of panels, alongside the Solar Stations, will introduce a more industrial, functional character to the view, with the largely unvarying, grey panel colours contrasting with the browns and greens of winter field patterns of the baseline. New planting as screening and green infrastructure enhancements will be immature and not visible. Many of the inherent characteristics of the view, in terms of openness, expansive skies, and long-range views towards the power stations and distant Pennines, will not change. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent.	
Operation Year 15 (summer) New panels will be visible across a large proportion of the view, occupying much of the middle distance. The two proposed substations will be visible, although not dissimilar in terms of scale and distance to other functional outbuildings in the baseline view and subject to greater levels of screening from mature mitigation vegetation. The s Solar Stations will punctuate the panel areas and, although relatively small-scale, collectively may appear numerous. Individual elements such as CCTV poles and fences are less likely to be discernible, but the massing of panels and racks, alongside the Solar Stations, will introduce a more industrial and functional character to the view, with the largely unvarying, grey panel colours contrasting with the baseline seasonal variations in colour of arable crops. New planting, as wider screening and green infrastructure enhancements will be established and, whilst providing limited screening to the panels from this elevation, will complement and offer a degree of improvement in terms of the pattern of woodland and hedgerows. Many of the inherent characteristics of the view, in terms of openness, expansive skies, and long-range views towards the power stations and distant Pennines, will not change. The change will be long-term and reversible; planting will be permanent.	Medium
Decommissioning (winter) Decommissioning activity, including removal of solar elements and movement of vehicles, will be visible across much of the middle distance within the view. Increased levels of vegetation growth since the construction phase will reduce overall visibility and much of the scheme will revert to agriculture, reflecting the wider context. The decommissioning phase will be short-term and reversible.	Very Low
Level of Visual Effect	**Level of Visual Effect and Significance**
Construction Phase	Moderate adverse (significant)

Viewpoint 13: Public footpath (Hems/787/82), Millfield, Hemswell (Figure 12-13-13)

The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	
Operation Year 1 (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the medium magnitude of change in the view will result in a major effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Major adverse (significant)
Operation Year 15 (summer) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the medium magnitude of change in the view will result in a major effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Major adverse (significant)
Decommissioning (winter) The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate effect on visual amenity at this stage.	Minor adverse (not significant)

Table 1-2: Preliminary assessment of visual effects: Cable Route Corridor.

Receptor group and location	Preliminary Assessment of visual effects
Residential receptors including: • Along Cow Lane, Glentworth Road, Stow Road and Normanby Road; • Around Normanby by Stow; • To the northwest edge of Stow; • Sort Hills (off Willingham Road); • Along Stow Park Road (A1500); • To the southern edge of Marton, including the A156 High Street (except for Poplar Farm, described below); • Within Trent Port; and • Within Cottam (except for the properties identified below).	Susceptibility of residential receptors is High, due to the majority of receptors experiencing views of rural landscapes which contribute to the setting of settlements. Combined with Medium value, sensitivity is considered to be High, as a worst-case scenario. <u>Construction</u> The Cable Route Corridor is likely to be located at a minimum of 150m distance from the properties listed, subject to detailed design. Receptors may experience views of the cable installation, including localised vegetation removal (where required), excavation, material storage, fencing, movement of plant and boring. Temporary lighting may be required. Screening from individual properties will vary, but views are likely to be experienced for a very short duration and some elements may appear similar to those associated with agricultural activities in the wider area. Construction activities will be reversible. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect during Construction is Very Low. The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. <u>Operation Year 1 (winter)</u> The Cable Route Corridor will be topsoiled and seeded, with immature planting in place as reinstatement to vegetation removed during the works. These elements will be very typical of the wider agricultural landscape, although minor vegetation loss may be perceptible at close range. Planting will be permanent. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect is very low. The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. <u>Operation Year 15 (summer)</u> The Cable Route Corridor will be fully reinstated, and the view broadly returned to the baseline condition, other than where operational requirements may (as a worst-case scenario) prevent replanting over the cable corridor. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect is very low. The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. <u>Decommissioning (winter)</u>

Receptor group and location	Preliminary Assessment of visual effects
	Broadly the same as construction as a worst-case scenario, although it may be anticipated that vegetation removal will be lower. The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage.
Residential receptors on Cottam Road and Floss Lane, Cottam	Susceptibility of residential receptors is High, due to receptors experiencing views of the recreation ground with mature trees in Cottam. Combined with Medium value, sensitivity is considered to be High. <u>Construction</u> The Cable Route Corridor is likely to be located in close-range views, potentially up to 2 m from the receptor. Receptors will experience views of the cable installation, potentially including localised vegetation removal (possibly mature trees, some of which may provide screening to the Cottam Power Station), excavation, material storage, fencing, movement of plant and boring. Works may take place within the recreation field (open space). Temporary lighting may be required. Screening from individual properties will vary and views will be experienced for a very short duration and will be reversible, but the close proximity of these views is such that the preliminary magnitude of visual effect during Construction is low. The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate adverse (significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. <u>Operation Year 1 (winter)</u> The Cable Route Corridor will be topsoiled and seeded, with immature planting in place as reinstatement to vegetation removed during the works. Some elements will not be incongruous in the wider environment, but the potential loss of mature trees, including where replanting (as a worst-case scenario) cannot be provided due to operational requirements, will be apparent at close range. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect is low. The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a moderate adverse (significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. <u>Operation Year 15 (summer)</u> The Cable Route Corridor will be fully reinstated, and the view broadly returned to the baseline condition, other than where operational requirements may (as a worst-case scenario) prevent replanting over the cable corridor. The preliminary magnitude of visual change is very low.

Receptor group and location	Preliminary Assessment of visual effects
	The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Decommissioning (winter) Some elements of decommissioning may be similar to those required during construction as a worst-case scenario, although it is likely that levels of vegetation removal will much more limited. The high sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage.
Recreational receptors, including: • PRoW bridleway (Stow/70/1) and Byway Open To All Traffic (BOAT) along Wooden Lane west of Stow; • Footpath Mton/68/1 south of Marton; • Footpath Mton/66/4 south of Trent Port; • Footpath N. Leverton FP9 along the west bank of the River Trent; • Footpath Cottam FP3 west of Headstead Bank; • Restricted Byways RB4 (Outgang Lane) and RB6 (Wells Lane); • Footpaths Treswell FP4 and Rampton FP6 west of Cottam Power Station; and • Footpath Rampton FP20 (Nightleys Road) and BOATs Rampton 12 (Shortleys Road) and 13 (Torksey Ferry Road) south of Cottam Power Station.	Susceptibility of recreational receptors is High, as the majority of receptors experiencing views of rural landscapes which contribute to the setting of settlements; and such routes are relatively accessible within an area where the density of PRoW density is relatively low. However, views are largely of commonplace intensive farmland, including power lines and Cottam power station. When combined with the Medium value, sensitivity is considered to be Medium. Construction The Cable Route Corridor will run across some PRoW and be located within views of others. Receptors will experience views of the cable installation, including localised vegetation removal (where required), excavation, material storage, fencing, movement of plant and boring. Temporary lighting may be required. Screening will vary, with many routes located in relatively open landscapes, but others where hedgerows alongside PRoW may locally limit views. Some elements may appear similar to those associated with agricultural activities in the wider area, as well as prominent detractors. The connection to the existing 400kV National Grid substation will be in the context of existing electrical infrastructure. Construction activities will be very short term and reversible. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect during Construction is Low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Operation Year 1 (winter) The Cable Route Corridor will be topsoiled and seeded, with immature planting in place as reinstatement to vegetation removed during the works. These elements will be very typical of the wider agricultural landscape, although minor vegetation loss may be perceptible at close range. Changes will be permanent. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect is very low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage.

Receptor group and location	Preliminary Assessment of visual effects
	Operation Year 15 (summer) The Cable Route Corridor will be fully reinstated, and the view broadly returned to the baseline condition, other than where operational requirements may (as a worst-case scenario) prevent replanting over the cable corridor. The preliminary magnitude of visual change is very low. Decommissioning (winter) Broadly the same as construction as a worst-case scenario, although it may be anticipated that vegetation removal will be lower. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage.
Recreational users of the playing field at Cottam.	Susceptibility of recreational receptors is Medium, as receptors will be engaging in activities that generally do not involve an appreciation of the landscape, although some may value the mature trees that form a focus to the green space in the village. The backdrop comprises the dominant power station. When combined with the Medium value, sensitivity is considered to be Medium. Construction The Cable Route Corridor will run across the open space, which may be temporarily closed during works, depending on construction techniques. Subject to detailed design, receptors may experience views of the cable installation, including localised vegetation removal (where required), excavation, material storage, fencing, movement of plant and boring. Temporary lighting may be required. Construction activities will be very short term and reversible. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect during Construction is Low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Operation Year 1 (winter) The Cable Route Corridor will be topsoiled and seeded, with immature planting in place as reinstatement to vegetation removed that may have been removed during the works. Changes will be permanent. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect is low (as a worst-case scenario). The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Operation Year 15 (summer)

Receptor group and location	Preliminary Assessment of visual effects
	The Cable Route Corridor will be fully reinstated, and the view broadly returned to the baseline condition, other than where operational requirements may (as a worst-case scenario) prevent replanting over the cable corridor. The preliminary magnitude of visual change is very low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. <u>Decommissioning (winter)</u> Broadly the same as construction as a worst-case scenario, although it may be anticipated that vegetation removal will be lower. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the low magnitude of change in the view will result in a minor adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage.
Road receptors, including users of: • Unclassified rural roads east of Willingham, including Cow Lane, Fillingham Lane, South Lane and between Normanby and Coates; • B1241 Normanby Road/Stow Road; Stow Park Road and Willingham Road, west of Stow; • A1500 Till Bridge Lane/Stow Park Road; • Residential roads in Marton; • A156 High Street south of Marton; • Trent Port Road; and • Headstead Bank Town Road and Cottam Road, in and around Cottam.	Susceptibility of road receptors will vary, with a worst-case scenario as Medium, reflecting slow-moving receptors experiencing views of rural landscapes from quiet routes that which contribute to the setting of settlements, within an area where PRoW density is locally low. However, routes such as the A1500 and A156 will be of lower susceptibility, with lower appreciation of the view. Views are largely of commonplace intensive farmland, as well as power lines and Cottam power station. When combined with the Medium value, sensitivity is considered to be Medium as a worst-case scenario. <u>Construction</u> The Cable Route Corridor will run beneath some roads and be located within views of others. Receptors will experience views of the cable installation, including localised vegetation removal (where required), excavation, material storage, fencing, movement of plant and boring. Temporary lighting may be required. Screening will vary, with many routes located in relatively open landscapes, but others where hedgerows alongside roads may locally limit views. Some construction activities may appear similar to those associated with agricultural activities in the wider area, as well as prominent detractors. These activities will be very short term and reversible. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect during Construction is Very Low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. <u>Operation Year 1 (winter)</u> The Cable Route Corridor will be topsoiled and seeded, with immature planting in place as reinstatement to vegetation removed during the works. These elements will be very typical of the

Receptor group and location	Preliminary Assessment of visual effects
	wider agricultural landscape, although minor vegetation loss may be perceptible at close range. Changes will be permanent. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect is very low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Operation Year 15 (summer) The Cable Route Corridor will be fully reinstated, and the view broadly returned to the baseline condition, other than where operational requirements may (as a worst-case scenario) prevent replanting over the cable corridor. The preliminary magnitude of visual change is very low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Decommissioning (winter) Broadly the same as construction as a worst-case scenario, although it may be anticipated that vegetation removal will be lower. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage.
Rail receptors using the Gainsborough Lea Road/Sheffield to Lincoln Central line, which carries up to around 25 trains each way, plus freight services.	Susceptibility of rail receptors, as attention will not be focused on the landscape, which is largely of commonplace agricultural land with detractors such as power lines. When combined with the Low value, sensitivity is considered to be Low. Construction The Cable Route Corridor will run across the railway route. Receptors will experience glimpsed views of construction when travelling at speed, including localised vegetation removal (where required), excavation, material storage, fencing, movement of plant and boring. Temporary lighting may be required. Some construction activities may appear similar to those associated with agricultural activities in the wider area, as well as prominent detractors. These activities will be very short term and reversible. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect during Construction is Very Low. The low sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Operation Year 1 (winter) The Cable Route Corridor will be topsoiled and seeded, with immature planting in place as reinstatement to vegetation removed during the works. These elements will be very typical of the

Receptor group and location	Preliminary Assessment of visual effects
	wider agricultural landscape. Due to the speed of the receptor and the very glimpsed nature of views, the preliminary magnitude of visual effect during construction is very low. The low sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Operation Year 15 (summer) The Cable Route Corridor will be fully reinstated, and the view broadly returned to the baseline condition, other than where operational requirements may (as a worst-case scenario) prevent replanting over the cable corridor. The preliminary magnitude of visual change is very low. The low sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Decommissioning (winter) Broadly the same as construction as a worst-case scenario, although it may be anticipated that vegetation removal will be lower. The low sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage.
Receptors in craft using the River Trent, both recreational and commercial traffic	Susceptibility of receptors travelling by boat may vary, with those using recreational craft more likely to be focused on the landscape than commercial carriers. Views at this point are heavily influenced by power lines and Cottam power station, but also include riverside meadows and woodland. When combined with the Medium value, sensitivity is considered to be Medium. Construction The Cable Route Corridor will run under the River Trent, with construction works to opposite banks. Receptors will experience views of localised vegetation removal (where required), excavation, material storage, fencing, movement of plant and boring. Temporary lighting may be required. Some construction activities may appear similar to those associated with agricultural activities in the wider area, as well as prominent detractors. These activities will be very short term and reversible. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect during Construction is Very Low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. Operation Year 1 (winter) The Cable Route Corridor will be topsoiled and seeded, with immature planting in place as reinstatement to vegetation removed during the works. These elements will be very typical of the

Receptor group and location	Preliminary Assessment of visual effects
	wider agricultural landscape. Changes will be permanent. The preliminary magnitude of visual effect is very low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. <u>Operation Year 15 (summer)</u> The Cable Route Corridor will be fully reinstated, and the view broadly returned to the baseline condition, other than where operational requirements may (as a worst-case scenario) prevent replanting over the cable corridor. The preliminary magnitude of visual change is very low. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage. <u>Decommissioning (winter)</u> Broadly the same as construction as a worst-case scenario, although it may be anticipated that vegetation removal will be lower. The medium sensitivity of the receptor combined with the very low magnitude of change in the view will result in a negligible adverse (not significant) effect on visual amenity at this stage.

1.2 References

Ref. 12-1. Landscape Institute (2019). Visual Representation of Development Proposals - Technical Guidance Note 06/19. Available at: https://landscapewpstorage01.blob.core.windows.net/www-landscapeinstitute-org/2019/09/LI_TGN-06-19_Visual_Representation.pdf