



Botley West Solar Farm

Environmental Statement

Volume 3

Appendix 8.7: Representative Viewpoint Assessment

September 2025

PINS Ref: EN010147

Document Ref: EN010147/APP/6.5

Revision 0

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a); Planning Act 2008; and Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations

Approval for issue

Jonathan Alsop

12 September 2025

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1 Representative Viewpoint Assessment

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Appendix sets out the detailed assessment of the 55 No. individual Representative Viewpoints selected and assessed as part of the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), for the Botley West Solar Farm project. These findings are used to inform the assessment of effects attributable to the Project as presented within the LVIA.

1.2 Construction Phase Effects

Northern Site

Representative Viewpoint 1: View looking south from bridleway 365/4/30

- 1.2.1 Within this distant view, the majority of the Project Site would be screened from view by intervening layered vegetation and topographical variation. With the bridleway drawing the eye to the south towards the Project Site, there would be glimpsed distant views to a very small part of the northern site. Seen between existing vegetation construction works would not break the skyline within the view and therefore not be a prominent feature within this panoramic view. At a distance of some 2.2 km, construction activities, although discernible in a small part of the view, would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact upon PRow users of High sensitivity. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant. This panoramic view would largely remain unchanged as a result of the temporary construction works.

Representative Viewpoint 2: View looking south from bridleway 416/11/10 part of NCN Route 5

- 1.2.2 Views from this middle distant view looking south towards the Project Site, are channelled along the PRow / local access road. On either side of the PRow there are high existing hedgerows which heavily screen and limit available views to the wider countryside. Although there are number of gaps within the hedgerows, at field gates and other PRow for example, these draw the viewers eye away from the Project Site. Within the background of the view, a small block of woodland / tree group further screens possible views to the Project Site. There would be no discernible view of the temporary construction works from this location. Resulting in no change and no effect for High sensitivity users of this part of the PRow.

Representative Viewpoint 3: View southeast from footpath 416/10/60, near Woottondown Farm

- 1.2.3 The majority of the Project Site, located beyond intervening vegetation and topography, would be screened from view. Construction activities within a small part of the northern side would be discernible on the ridgeline to the eastern part of the view, seen through a break in the vegetation. Views to remaining construction site would not be discernible from this location. The

temporary construction phase would result in a Low magnitude of impact for PRoW users of High sensitivity, visible for users looking south. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 4: View east from footpath 416/22/20, near Lower Dornford Farm

- 1.2.4 Construction activity would occupy the majority of the foreground of this Representative Viewpoint located on the western boundary. Construction within the adjacent field to the southeast would be seen, although a pronounced ridgeline across the view would prevent views to much of the Northern site. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact during construction, with activities nearest the view gradually preventing views to the wider landscape. Considering the receptors High sensitivity this would result in a temporary Moderate adverse visual effect during construction, which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 5a: View looking south from bridleway 416/11/20 (Claude Duval Way) part of NCN Route 5

- 1.2.5 Mature hedgerows and trees either side of the bridleway, for the majority of its length, largely screen views to the Projects Site. Where vegetation is thinnest and / or there are gaps due to adjoining PRoW and field access points, there would be brief views, generally open, to small parts of the Project Site during the temporary construction period. Although transitory, these views would be a noticeable feature within short distance views from bridleway 416/11/20, disrupting available views of the wider landscape. For much of the bridleway's length, there would be a Low magnitude of impact upon users of High sensitivity. Where more open views are available it is anticipated that the significance of effect would be greater, but views would remain transitory and only of small parts of the Project Site. There would be a temporary Minor adverse significance of effect during construction along the majority of the bridleway's length, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 5b: View looking east from footpath 416/5/20.

- 1.2.6 Construction activities within the northern site would occupy the foreground and much of this view seen on rising round to the east. Similarly, to viewpoint 4, a pronounced ridgeline across the view would prevent views to the wider construction site, with construction activity nearest the view further preventing views to the wider construction site. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact during construction, with activities nearest the view gradually curtailing views to the wider landscape. Resulting in a temporary Moderate adverse visual effect during construction, which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 5c: View looking west from footpath 416/5/10

- 1.2.7 Temporary construction activities within the northern parts of the Project Site, would be a feature within the foreground of this view. Parts of a line of trees, to the background of the view, would remain visible above and through construction works. However, the temporary construction works would curtail

available views to the wider landscape from this location. Occupying the whole view as it is constructed. The temporary construction period would result in a Medium magnitude of impact for PRow users of High sensitivity. Resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant, with the foreground and views to the wider landscape across the whole view being gradually curtailed as the construction activities progress.

Representative Viewpoint 6: View looking west from footpath 379/7/20

- 1.2.8 A slightly elevated view, looking west to the Project Site. Due to intervening layered vegetation and topographical variation, the majority of the temporary construction works would not be discernible in views from this location. Seen above mature hedge line, adjacent to the A4260, and field boundary hedgerow and trees beyond it, as small part of the northern site would be visible. Seen as a slither across a small part of the view, broken up by intervening vegetation. Within this small part of the Project Site, construction activities would be visible. Higher ground to the west would remain visible, with the skyline not broken by the construction works. The overall composition of this panoramic view would remain unchanged. There would be a temporary Negligible magnitude of impact during construction. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant, upon PRow users of High sensitivity.

Representative Viewpoint 7: View looking southeast from footpath 416/17/20

- 1.2.9 Elevated view to the west of the Project Site, looking southeast across a valley formation in the local landscape. Intervening vegetation and topographical variation would prevent views to the majority of the temporary construction activities throughout the Project Site from this location. Where construction activities take place at the easternmost edge of the northern site, small parts of it on the eastern slopes of a local ridge would be discernible from this location. Filtered by intervening vegetation, although visible it would not form a prominent feature within the view. There would be a Low magnitude of impact upon users of High sensitivity where views are available, but obliquely to the PRow direction. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect during the construction period, where only a small part of the overall Project Site would be visible. These effects are not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 8: View looking southeast from footpath 416/24/10, near Hordley House

- 1.2.10 Rising ground to the east of the view would screen much of the construction site from view. Where construction activity occurs nearest the view it would occupy the middle distance of it across the whole view, with a break in the panels allowing views to the roofline of Sansom's Farm. The solar panels would break the skyline and form a noticeable addition to the view adding to the pylons which can be seen across the view but would not be prominent. There would be a Low magnitude of impact during construction, with activities nearest the view gradually curtailing views to the wider landscape, although

the immediate foreground would remain unaltered. Resulting in a temporary Minor adverse visual effect during construction, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 9: View looking north from footpath 379/1/10 (Oxfordshire Way)

- 1.2.11 Seen from a relatively low position, rising ground to the north of the viewpoint, culminating at a ridgeline with trees, would prevent views to the majority of the temporary construction works from this location. To the east of the view, a hedgerow field boundary would further screen potential views. Within the middle ground of the view construction activities would be noticeable. Where this occurs, construction would take place across the view, approximately halfway up the sloping ground and above the view line of PRow users. The immediate foreground of the view would remain unaltered. Construction activity would form a noticeable feature across much of the view, although the tree line, to the ridgetop, and hedgerow to the east would remain and be partially visible. Due to the location of construction work, relative to the viewpoint location, works would likely break the skyline in places. There would be a temporary Medium magnitude of impact. Resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 10: View looking west from footpath 379/1/20 (Oxfordshire Way)

- 1.2.12 From this relatively elevated location the construction activity would occupy the middle distance view, across the whole view, beyond intervening hedgerow and tree boundaries. The works would be visible on rising ground to the west of the view and result in a temporary Medium magnitude of impact. Taking account of the receptors High sensitivity this would result in temporary Moderate adverse significance of visual effect, which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 11: View looking west from bridleway 379/19/20 (Claude Duval Way)

- 1.2.13 Construction activity, within field 1.15, would be located beyond the existing hedgerow with trees in the middle ground, on rising ground to the west, and be visible across the majority of the view, although only a small part of the overall site. Giving rise to a Low magnitude of temporary visual impact. Taking account of the receptors High sensitivity this would result in a temporary Minor adverse significance of effect during construction, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 12: View looking northeast from footpath 413/1/10

- 1.2.14 From this elevated view to the west of the Project Sites' northern site, the temporary construction work would occupy a slither of land across the whole view. Intervening vegetation and landform would prevent views to much the construction work from this location. Those small parts of it that would be visible, at the eastern edge, would be partially screened by vegetation although parts of it would be seen above due to the undulating topography. During the temporary construction period there would be a Low magnitude of impact

where small parts of the construction site would be visible in oblique views relative to the direction of travel along this PRoW. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 13: View looking northeast from bridleway 342/1/10, near Banbury Road

- 1.2.15 Construction activity would occupy the foreground of the view in proximity to it. Existing hedgerow and tree vegetation would filter views to the east. Occupying the foreground of much of the view, where construction takes place in this area, including the substation, it would form an obvious feature within the view and screen views to the wider landscape. Topographical variation, combined with construction activity, would prevent views further north to the wider construction site. This would result in a temporary Medium magnitude of impact and Moderate adverse significance of effect during construction, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 14: View looking west from bridleway 342/1/30 near the A4260 main road

- 1.2.16 Construction activities would be located across the midground of the majority of the view. A tree / hedge line to the west northwest of the view would screen / filter views to parts of the northern site. Undulating topography and vegetation is such that the majority of the Project Site and therefore construction works would not be visible from this location, similarly with other views. Those parts of the construction work visible would be a discernible change to the available view seen on slightly rising ground to the west, though not prominent. The ridgeline and treeline to the background would likely remain visible above the construction work, which would only partially break the skyline in places with the use of any taller plant material. There would be a temporary Low magnitude of impact as a result of those parts of the construction works visible across much of the view. This would result in a temporary Minor adverse significance of effect upon PRoW users of High sensitivity. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 15: View looking northeast from footpath 342/6/10

- 1.2.17 Similarly, to Representative Viewpoint 14, located in a slightly elevated position relative to the Project Site. To the north of the view, seen on rising ground, a small part of the construction site would be visible. Undulating topography and intervening layered vegetation would screen possible views to the majority of the Project Sites' construction activities. Where visible, temporary construction works would form a noticeable, though not prominent, part of this panoramic view to the middle / background of the view. With the land continuing to rise a little to the north it is unlikely that any part of the construction works would break the skyline. The overall composition of the view would alter over time as a small part of it is occupied by the temporary construction works. As a result, there would be a temporary Low magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Central site

Representative Viewpoint 16: View looking south from A44, near Bladon

- 1.2.18 Construction activities would be located on rising ground beyond existing field boundary hedgerows and tree to the midground of the view. Due to topographical variation and intervening vegetation only a small section of the Central site would be discernible in transient views from this busy main road. At some 0.5 km or more from this part of the road, those parts of the temporary construction works discernible, would not be an obvious feature within views. There would be a temporary Negligible magnitude of impact, resulting in a Negligible adverse significance of effect for receptors of Low sensitivity. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 17: View looking west from footpath 265/24/20

- 1.2.19 When taking place at this location, construction activities would occupy the immediate foreground of the view. Existing vegetation to the west and north of the view would partially screen construction works and remain visible above it. Occupying the foreground of much of the view, where construction takes place in this area, it would form an obvious feature within the view and screen views to the wider landscape. Topographical variation, combined with construction activity, would prevent views further north and south to the wider construction site. There would be a temporary Medium magnitude of impact and Moderate adverse significance of effect during construction, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 18: View looking northeast from footpath 132/3/10, near Bladon.

- 1.2.20 A small part of the construction site, within the Central site, would be visible above an existing mature field boundary hedgerow with trees. Topographical variation, intervening vegetation and the direction of the view is such that only a small part of the overall central site would be visible. Higher plant material would be noticeable above the hedgerow, particularly as construction activities take place in Field 2.8 nearest the Representative Viewpoint. There would be a temporary Low magnitude of impact during construction with some measurable change. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect for users of High sensitivity, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 19: View looking southeast from the A4095 local road

- 1.2.21 From this location, a small part of the Project Site would be visible in proximity to the A4095. Within the foreground of the view, above the road verge, a portion of the exiting agricultural field would remain as existing. Beyond this at the ridgeline to the middle ground, construction activities would be visible across the view. The construction work nearest the view, along with intervening topography and the settlement edge of Bladon, would prevent views to the wider construction site. Views to this small part of the temporary construction works would be from road users and roadside footway users. So views would be transient. There would be a temporary Low magnitude of impact upon users

of Low to Medium sensitivity. Resulting in a Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 20: View looking southeast from footpath 238/1/10, near Long Hanborough

- 1.2.22 A small part of the central site construction activities would be discernible on rising ground to the southeast of the view. With the majority of the construction site screened from view and not affected users of High sensitivity. During the temporary construction period there would be a Negligible magnitude of impact, resulting in a Negligible adverse significance of effect. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 21: View looking southeast from footpath 238/1/10, near Pinsley Wood

- 1.2.23 The foreground of this view would remain unchanged during the construction phase. Towards the middle ground of the view, across much of it, a small part of the overall construction site would be visible across this flat agricultural field. Rising ground to the southeast of the view, beyond Lower Road, there would be glimpsed views to further parts of the construction site. Though screened by intervening vegetation, with topographical variation preventing views to much of the site. With no existing screening to the foreground, views to the construction works, although only a small part of the field, would be a noticeable feature within the view. Higher ground to the southeast would remain visible above maintaining the overall view to an extent. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact as a result of the temporary construction work. Resulting in a temporary Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 22: View looking southeast from footpath 238/2/20 at the edge of Lower Road

- 1.2.24 A small part of the construction site, in proximity to Lower Road, would be visible from this location. A semi intact roadside hedgerow with intermittent trees would screen parts of it in transient views. Due to its' proximity to the view, parts of the temporary construction works would likely break the skyline in places. Although ground the east of Lower Road would remain visible. Similarly, to the majority of the Representative Viewpoints, intervening vegetation and particularly topography would prevent views to the majority of the construction site. With construction traffic directed internally, there would be no noticeable increase in construction type traffic using Lower Road. There would be a temporary Low magnitude of impact during construction, with a small part of the overall site visible and partially screened. This would result in a Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect for users of Low to High (PRoW users) sensitivity. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 23: View looking northeast from footpath 238/2/20, near Pinsley Wood

- 1.2.25 Located at the western boundary, in proximity to Field 2.62, construction activities would be a noticeable feature within the view. Similarly, to all views, topographical vegetation and intervening vegetation would screen the majority of the central site. Where visible, construction activities would occupy the whole view, with rising ground in the east still visible above. Construction nearest the view would further screen activity within the wider site. High sensitivity users of this PRow would experience a Medium magnitude of impact. Resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 24: View looking east from footpath 238/5/20, near Church Hanborough

- 1.2.26 At the start of PRow 238/5/20, heading south, a mature hedgerow to the east of the PRow largely screens views to the wider landscape. Here there are gaps, at field access points and where the hedgerow is thinned out, such as Representative Viewpoint 24, there would be channelled views to a small part of the construction site in proximity to the viewpoint. Across the valley and on rising ground to the east, there would be further views available to parts of the construction site. Broken up by intervening layered vegetation. The construction site as a whole would not be discernible from this location. Construction works nearest the view would, overtime, screen some available views to the wider construction site. Though available views would be a noticeable feature within available channelled views oblique to the Pros direction of travel. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact, resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect during the temporary construction phase. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 25: View looking south from footpath 238/5/20

- 1.2.27 The construction activities, within a small part of the Project Site, would occupy much of this view. With parts in proximity to this elevated view. Higher ground to the south of the view would remain a feature of the view, seen above the construction site. As the construction takes place, views of it would be partially screened by those parts nearest the Representative Viewpoint. Construction activities would be a noticeable feature across much of the view. There would be a Medium-High magnitude of impact as a result and Moderate / Major adverse significance of effect, which is significant. Albeit that visual effects of the construction activities would increase over time, as construction progresses, occupying available views nearest the Representative Viewpoint. With effects becoming similar to those of the operational phase.

Representative Viewpoint 26: View looking north from footpath 238/5/20

- 1.2.28 Construction works, within a small part of the overall Project Site would occupy the agricultural fields to the immediate north of the viewpoint. With a small part to the northeast visible through gaps in the field boundary hedgerow adjacent to PRow 238/5/20 as it heads to the north towards Church Hanborough. With

construction works gradually filling in the view it would be an obvious additional built feature within it. With the rising ground to the north, the construction work would not break the skyline across the whole view, with views of a distinctive treeline remaining visible above. However, those parts of it closest to the view would likely break the skyline in places foreshortening the available view. As the construction progresses there would be a Medium-High magnitude of impact, with a Moderate / Major adverse significance of effect, which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 27: View looking north from footpath 238/5/20

- 1.2.29 The Project Site sits across the entire view. However, due to undulating topography and intervening vegetation, only small parts of the site can be seen from this location. Including on rising ground towards Church Hanborough, north of the view (Representative Viewpoints 25 and 26), and on rising ground to the northeast near Purwell Farm. As the construction works progress, those parts of it nearest the view would likely be visible at the top of the ridgeline, across much of the view. Where visible, the construction would represent a noticeable feature within the view though it would not be a prominent feature within the panoramic view available. There would be a Low magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect during the temporary construction phase. This is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 28: View looking east from footpath 216/4/10, near Elm Farm

- 1.2.30 Substantial layered vegetation and topographical variation prevents views to the majority of the construction site from this location. To the east of the view, looking along PRow 216/4/10 and across much of the view there would be glimpses to small parts of the construction site. Although discernible, these small parts of the construction site would not break the skyline and would not be a prominent feature within the view. With the overall panoramic composition of it remaining largely unaltered. There would be Negligible magnitude of impact upon PRow users of High sensitivity. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, due to the distance to the construction site and glimpsed nature of views. This is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 29: View looking northeast from footpath 206/12/10, at Acre Hill

- 1.2.31 A small part of the central site construction activities would be discernible on rising ground to the northeast of the view. With the majority of the construction site screened from view and not affected users of High sensitivity. During the temporary construction period there would be a Negligible magnitude of impact, resulting in a Negligible adverse significance of effect. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 30: View looking northeast from footpath 206/12/10 at Acre Hill

- 1.2.32 Similarly, to Representative Viewpoint 22, an intermittent hedgerow and open field boundary would allow transient views to a very small part of the overall construction site. The route of the 275kv cable route follows the hedge line for a small length of the road, before joining the main part of the central site. Where this cable route is located, adjacent to the road, there would be glimpsed transient views of plant machinery while it is installed. The existing hedgerow and blocks of woodland along with the topographical variation would screen the majority of those parts of the construction site where panels are to be installed. Occupying a small part of the agricultural field adjacent to Lower Road, a small part of the construction site partially screened by the intermittent hedgerow would be visible to the north of the existing telecoms line. The remainder of the arable field to the east of the cable route would remain as existing. Beyond this field, on rising ground to the northeast, there would be heavily filtered views to other small parts of the construction site near Eynsham Mill. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact as a result of part of the view being affected. This would result in a Negligible adverse significance of effect for road users, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 31: View looking north from bridleway 206/9/10, near Lower Road

- 1.2.33 The majority of the construction site would not be discernible in views from this location. Vegetation nearest the view, at the entrance to Eynsham Mill, along with the undulating nature of the topography in the wider landscape is such that only a very small part of the construction site, within a small part of the agricultural field to the north of the view adjacent to Lower Road would be visible, though partially screened by the roadside hedgerow. This small part of the construction site would not be a prominent feature in transient views available. There would be Negligible magnitude of impact as a result and Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect upon road users and PRoW users at the intersection with Lower Road looking north, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 32: View looking northwest from footpath 124/5/10, near Begbroke

- 1.2.34 Similarly to all of the Representative Viewpoints, the construction site as a whole would not be discernible from this location. As construction progresses, the Project would occupy the field to the immediate foreground, with solar panels visible across the majority of the view. A large strip of the existing field, either side of PRoW 124/5/10, would remain. This would help to maintain available views to the northwest along the PRoW to the wider landscape. There would be Low magnitude of impact as a result and Minor adverse significance of effect upon PRoW users looking northwest. These effects would become more noticeable other time with significance of effect likely to increase to a level similar to that of winter Year 1. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 33: View looking southeast from footpath 152/7/10

- 1.2.35 Due to the existing hedgerow planting adjacent to the PRow, to the southwest of the view, there would be limited views to the construction as a whole. A small part of it would occupy the agricultural field immediately to the southwest of the view. As construction work fills this field, the available views would be noticeably changed being foreshortened with construction works in proximity to the Representative Viewpoint. As the construction progresses there would be a Medium magnitude of impact during the temporary construction phase, resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 34: View looking west from footpath 420/14/10 (Shakespeare's Way)

- 1.2.36 Expansive panoramic elevated view across the Evenlode valley. The immediate foreground of the view would remain unchanged as a result of the temporary construction works. Within the middle of the view, with land falling away to the west, views of the construction works nearest the view would be limited. Across the valley, towards Purwell Farm to the southwest and Goose Eye Farm to the northwest, there would be views available to parts of the construction works within the central site. Partially filtered and broken up by intervening layered vegetation which would remain visible from this elevated position. There would be a Low magnitude of impact, with the overall composition of this panoramic view remaining unchanged. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effects for PRow users of High sensitivity, This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 35: View looking west from footpath 420/14/20 (Shakespeare's Way)

- 1.2.37 Similarly, to Representative Viewpoint 34, in an elevated position from the Shakespeare Way looking generally west across the Evenlode Valley. The agricultural field to the foreground of the view, the southern parts of the same field in viewpoint 34, would remain unchanged during the temporary construction period. An existing tree / hedge line within the middle of the view marks the eastern edge of the central site. With land falling away, there would be limited views to the construction site in this part of the view. Above this, to the west and northwest across the valley towards Purwell Farm there would be glimpsed views of small parts of the construction site available. To the northwest of the view parts of the construction site nearest Representative Viewpoint 34 would be visible from this location owing to the undulating landform. Above this within the Evenlode Valley and on its western slopes near Purwell Farm, small parts of the construction site would be visible partially screened / broken up by the existing field boundary pattern. There would be a Low magnitude of impact upon users of this PRow, at this particular location. With views available to the temporary construction works not forming a prominent feature within the view. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 36: View looking southwest from footpath 237/1/10, near Bletchington

- 1.2.38 At some 2.5 km to the east of the Project Site, clear views of the temporary construction works would be limited from this location. Intervening layered vegetation and built form would screen the majority of it from view. Where there are distant glimpsed views to small parts of the construction site, it is considered that activities within the site would be barely discernible and therefore have no marked effect upon this view. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact, resulting in a Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect. Which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 37a: View looking east from footpath 152/6/10, near Goose Eye Farm

- 1.2.39 Located at the edge of the River Evenlode at the base of the valley, views to the construction site as a whole would be limited from his location. The immediate foreground of the view would remain as existing, during construction. Beyond the field boundary vegetation and partially screening it, small parts of the construction site would be visible on rising ground looking east towards Purwell Farm, although not likely to break the skyline with views to vegetation at the ridgetop around Purwell Farm remaining visible. Seen within a slice of land across the whole view, the construction works as it progresses across the view would represent a noticeable feature within available views. There would be a Low magnitude of impact during construction with a Minor adverse significance of effect, increasing over time. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 37b: View looking north from footpath 152/6/10, near Goose Eye Farm

- 1.2.40 Views to the west from the same location as Representative Viewpoint 37a across the River Evenlode. On the west bank of the river within the agricultural fields, field boundary hedgerows and layered vegetation limit or partially screen available views to a small part of the construction site. Where work takes place nearest the river, there would be partially filtered views of the construction work. Seen through or above existing hedgerows, the layered vegetation would limit its overall effect. There would be no potential intervisibility to the wider construction site from this location. A Low magnitude of impact would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect during construction. Which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 38: View looking west from footpath 152/6/10, near Purwell Farm

- 1.2.41 Construction work would occupy the immediate foreground of the view to the west and north, with an existing hedgerow partially screening views to the north. Beyond the River Evenlode, on rising ground to the west up towards Church Hanborough, further parts of the temporary construction work would be visible across much of the view, partially screened by existing layered vegetation which would remain visible, breaking up the construction works,

from this elevated view. As the work progresses, those parts nearest the view would ultimately screen views to much of the remaining construction site. There would be a Low-Medium magnitude of impact upon PRow users of High sensitivity. Resulting in a Minor/Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 39: View looking southeast from footpath 152/6/10, near Purwell Farm

- 1.2.42 There would be open views to a small part of the construction site in the central site, near Cassington, from this location. Occupying the immediate foreground to the southeast of the Representative Viewpoint on ground sloping away from the view. Existing hedgerow and tree vegetation to the immediate southwest of the view would partially screen ground level construction activities to the southwest. As the construction works progress up the slope nearest the view, available glimpsed views to small parts of the Project Site to the north of Cassington would be screened. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact upon High sensitivity PRow users. Resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 40: View looking northwest from footpath 152/6/10, near Cassington.

- 1.2.43 Construction works would be noticeable across much of this view, on rising ground beyond existing hedgerow and trees and in front of them the west of the view. Existing vegetation to the eastern side of the view, along with topographical variation would prevent views to the majority of the construction site. Where visible, movement of plant material and the gradual filling in of fields within the view would be noticeable but not define the view. There would be a Low magnitude of impact during construction resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 41: View looking west from Yarnton Road on the outskirts of Cassington

- 1.2.44 As construction works progress, they would become an obvious feature within transient views from this part of the road enroute to Cassington. Intermittent existing hedge planting at the roadside would have limited screening effects, with a part of the construction site occupying the field to the immediate northwest of the road. With further works occupying much of the view on rising ground to the northwest. Although transient in nature, with the majority of the construction site screened from view by the works closest to the road and topography. Those parts of the temporary construction works seen would be in close proximity to the road and therefore an obvious change to the view. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor to Moderate adverse significance of effect for road users of varying sensitivity. These effects are not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 42: View looking northwest from footpath 419/1/10, Oxford Green Belt Way

- 1.2.45 Located some 1.9 km to the southeast of the central site, there would be generally open elevated views to a large part of the construction site. Seen on rising ground in the northwest. At this distance, while visible, elements of the construction site would not have a defining effect upon available views. Existing areas of open water to the mid ground of the view would further dilute the potential visual effects. There would be a temporary Low magnitude of impact upon users of the PRoW looking northwest. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 43: View looking northwest from permissive path through Wytham Wood

- 1.2.46 Located some 2.2 km to the south of the central site, at its nearest point, views to the construction site although visible would not be a prominent feature within this elevated panoramic view. Seen as a slither of land across much of the view, parts of the construction site would be visible, though the majority of it would be screened by intervening layered vegetation and topographical variation. There would be a Low magnitude of impact, with the composition of the view remaining largely the same although parts of the construction works would be distinguishable across much of the view. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Southern Site

Representative Viewpoint 44: View looking southwest from permissive path through Wytham Wood

- 1.2.47 From this elevated view to the northeast of the southern site, a distinctive ridgeline and existing woodland block would prevent views to the majority of the temporary construction site. Views to a small part of it, at its westernmost edge, would be discernible above the ridgeline. Surrounded by mature woodland on rising ground to the south of the construction site, works would not break the skyline. At some 1.7 km from the site, views to a small part of the construction site would not be a prominent feature, with the overall composition of this panoramic view maintained. The viewers eye would be generally drawn to the landscape further to the west. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact during the temporary construction phase. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect for user of High sensitivity. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 45: View looking southeast from footpath 184/48/10, at the edge of Farmoor Reservoir

- 1.2.48 Looking southeast across Farmoor Reservoir, existing mature trees on the southeastern edge of the reservoir screen views to much of the Project Site. Located on rising ground to the south, parts of the construction site would be visible above intervening vegetation. With the land continuing to rise south towards Cumnor, the temporary construction work would not break the skyline

in any place. With the dark colour of the surrounding landscape, although visible, views of the construction works would not be immediately apparent. With the overall composition of the view remaining largely unchanged. There would be a Low magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect during the temporary construction phase, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 46: View looking south from footpath 184/15/10 near Eynsham Road

- 1.2.49 Located some 1 km to the north of the southern site, construction activities would be discernible on rising ground beyond existing hedgerow and trees in the mid ground. It is anticipated that no part of the construction activities would break the skyline. As such, the treed skyline would remain and the construction activities, although noticeable for a PRow user travelling to the south, it would not substantially alter the overall composition of the view. There would be a Low magnitude of impact during the temporary construction phase. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 47: View looking southeast from footpath 184/22/10 (Oxfordshire Green Belt Way)

- 1.2.50 Located a short distance to the north of the Project's southern site, there would be generally open views across and arable field to a small part of the temporary construction works. A mature hedgerow at the field boundary adjacent to Cumnor Road, along with mature tree planting surrounding Jumpers Farm, would screen the westernmost parts of the southern site from view. With no discernible views to this part of the construction site when viewed from this particular location. Rising ground to the south is such that no part of the construction site visible would break the skyline, with views to properties on Tumbledown Hill remaining. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result of views available to parts of the temporary construction site, though not prominent. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect. Which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 48: View looking south from footpath 184/15/30, Oxford Green Belt Way

- 1.2.51 Due to intervening vegetation and topographical variation, only a small part of the Project Site would be visible from this location. However, due to the proximity of it to the view, those parts which are visible would result in a noticeable change to views. As construction activities approach the view it would further screen views to the wider site. Although close to the view, only a small part of the construction works would be noticeable. During the temporary construction phase there would be a Medium magnitude of impact, resulting in a temporary Moderate adverse significance of effect which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 49: View looking southwest from footpath 184/22/20

- 1.2.52 During the temporary construction phase within the southern site, the immediate foreground of this view would remain as existing. Within the middle

distance of the view and across the whole view, including behind Denman's Farm on rising ground, a large portion of the construction site would form an obvious feature within the view. Woodland block to the south of Denman's Farm would contain the construction works and still be visible above it. With no parts of the construction breaking the skyline. There would be a Medium magnitude of change and Moderate adverse significance of effect as a result of the temporary construction works as it gradually occupies much of the view around Denman's Farm, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 50: View looking southeast from footpath 184/50/20, Oxford Green Belt Way adjacent Farmoor Reservoir

- 1.2.53 Similarly, to many other views, intervening topography and vegetation is such that only a small part of the southern site would be visible from this Representative Viewpoint. Construction activities would be noticeable beyond intervening hedgerows and tree along the lane off Cumnor Road to the mid ground of the view. As construction activities get closer to the view, particularly the substation sites, activities would become more noticeable and gradually screen parts of the view. During the temporary construction phase there would be a Medium magnitude of impact, upon users of High sensitivity. Resulting in a temporary Moderate adverse significance of effect which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 51: View looking northeast from footpath 184/29/10, near Upper Whitely Farm

- 1.2.54 Viewed in proximity to the south westernmost parts of the construction site, as small part of it would occupy parts of the view. Where existing hedgerows are at their lowest, or there are gaps, views to a very small part of the construction site would be noticeable within the view, though not dominate it. Existing hedgerows, woodland and other tress, along with the land falling away from the view, would screen the majority of the construction site. Taller plant material within the westernmost parts of the site would be discernible above the vegetation in places. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact during the construction. Resulting in a Negligible adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 52: View looking north from the B4017 Tumbledown Road

- 1.2.55 To the north of this elevated view, along the B4017 Tumbledown Hill, parts of the construction site within the southern site would be visible above the roadside hedgerow with channelled views along the road. Views to the construction site would generally be below the eyeline of road users and so not immediately apparent. The roadside hedgerow would screen large parts of the site from view, particularly in summer months depending on timing of the construction work and the maintenance of the hedgerow. Channelled views to parts of the construction site, near Jumpers Farm, would be a feature for much of the road's length travelling towards Farmoor Reservoir. There would be a Low magnitude of impact during construction, with a Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 53: View looking north from footpath 184/15/30, Oxford Green Belt Way

- 1.2.56 From this elevated location, construction works within the southern site would be located within the mid ground of the view below the eyeline of PRow users. Views to it would be open, with views available to much of the southern site from this location. Due to the elevated nature of the view, construction activities would not break the skyline and would not be a dominant feature within this panoramic view. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact during construction, resulting in a Minor / Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 54: View looking north from footpath 184/16/20

- 1.2.57 To the east and west of PRow 184/16/20 within the immediate foreground of the view, construction work would form an obvious feature. With no existing vegetation along the PRow generally open views to a part of the construction site to the south of Denman's Farm would occupy the foreground of the view. There would remain channelled views the wider landscape and in particular higher ground at Wytham Woods. Parts of the construction site to the immediate north of Denman's Farm, near to Representative Viewpoint 49, would be screened by the construction works as it makes its way south up the hill. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact during construction, resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 55: View looking northwest from footpath 184/18/20, near Cumnor

- 1.2.58 Views of the construction works from this elevated position near to the norther edge of Cumnor would be very limited. With land falling away near to Denman's Copse and the construction site below this, this panoramic view would remain largely unchanged as a result. In between Denman's and Saddle Copse there would be potentially glimpsed views to higher plant material as the construction works progress up to the southernmost point. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact as a result of the limited potential intervisibility. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

1.3 Operation and Maintenance Phase Effects

Northern Site

Representative Viewpoint 1: View looking south from bridleway 365/4/30

- 1.3.1 At winter Year 1, distant views to a very small part of the northern site would be available for High sensitivity PRow users traversing the PRow south towards Tittenford Bridge. Intervening layered vegetation and topographical variation would prevent any discernible view to the majority of the Project Site from this location. Any glimpsed distant views to a very small part of the northern site would be seen as a change in colour to the currently green /

brown fields common to the area. At this distance there would not be a substantial change to available panoramic views with the completed Project Site going largely unnoticed. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact as a result of a very small part being discernible. Giving rise to a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

- 1.3.2 By Year 15, with intervening vegetation in full leaf. Along with the designed in mitigation having matured, it is anticipated that no part of the Projects northern site would be discernible in this distant view. There would also be no view to the central or southern sites from this particular PRow for users traversing south. There would be a magnitude of impact and significance of effect of No Change and No Effect as result. With available panoramic views from this PRow being the same as that of the baseline.

Representative Viewpoint 2: View looking south from bridleway 416/11/10 part of NCN Route 5

- 1.3.3 Following the construction phase (on completion), winter Year 1, and at summer Year 15, substantial mature hedgerows adjacent to the PRow and woodland blocks are such that there would be no available views of the Project Site from this particular location. While glimpsed views are possible from limited parts of the PRow, generally at field entrances, users' appreciation of the Project Site from this PRow would be very limited. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact, where views are available, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant. For the majority of the PRow length, views would be unavailable resulting in a Magnitude of impact and significance of effect of No Change and No Effect respectively, which would be the case for Representative Viewpoint 2.

Representative Viewpoint 3: View southeast from footpath 416/10/60, near Woottondown Farm

- 1.3.4 Following the construction phase (on completion), winter Year 1, distant views beyond intervening fields with existing treed hedgerows would be obtained of a very small area of solar panels filtered by intervening existing vegetation. The solar farm would appear as a change in colour across a small part of the view within a previously green field. This would give rise to a Negligible magnitude of visual impact. Given the receptors' High sensitivity this would result in a Minor adverse significance of visual effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.5 By Year 15, the reinforced hedgerows and newly planted copse along the north-western boundary of the Project Site would have an influence on the view and provide additional vegetation screening of solar panels. From this distance the magnitude of impact of the solar farm would be Negligible particularly in summer with vegetation in full leaf. Given the receptors' High sensitivity the significance of effect would be reduced to Negligible adverse effects, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 4: View east from footpath 416/22/20, near Lower Dornford Farm

- 1.3.6 Following the construction phase (on completion), (winter Year 1), near distant views to a small part of the Project, predominantly solar panels in proximity to the viewpoint, would be obtained from this location. Topographical variation and existing retained vegetation would continue to screen the majority of the solar farm from view. Newly reinforced hedgerow and tree planting along the western Project Site boundary would have recently been planted but would provide limited screening of the perimeter fence and solar panels.
- 1.3.7 The perimeter fence and solar panels would be visible in the near distance of the view giving rise to a Medium magnitude of visual impact. Given the receptors' High sensitivity this would result in Moderate adverse significance of effect at winter Year 1, which would not be significant.
- 1.3.8 At Year 15 the establishment of the newly reinforced hedgerow and tree planting adjacent to the PRow, with the continued management of existing retained vegetation, would have matured and the height of the planting would result in the perimeter fence and a large proportion of the solar panels being screened. The newly reinforced hedgerow and managed vegetation would help to maintain the characteristics of the existing view. Albeit that less agricultural fields would be visible, with some taller elements of the Project remaining visible above the vegetation. The magnitude of impact would remain as Low, but the overall significance of effect would reduce to Minor adverse, for the duration of the operation which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 5a: View looking south from bridleway 416/11/20 (Claude Duval Way) part of NCN Route 5

- 1.3.9 Following the construction phase (on completion), extensive vegetation, hedgerows and trees, along both the east and west side of the PRow would remain and screen potential views to the Project from views along the length of the PRow. There are points here the vegetation is thinner and where there are gaps. This would allow glimpsed, heavily filtered views to small parts of the Project, in close proximity to the PRow. This would be particularly during winter months with no leaves on the vegetation. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact as a result of glimpsed heavily filtered views from parts of the PRow, including at Representative Viewpoint 5a. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect upon users of High sensitivity, which is not significant.
- 1.3.10 At summer Year 15, intervening vegetation in full leaf would prevent any discernible views to the Project Site from this location. Although in close proximity to it, for the majority of the PRow there would be no appreciation of it. Resulting in a magnitude of impact and significance of effect of No Change and No Effect respectively.

Representative Viewpoint 5b: View looking east from footpath 416/5/20.

- 1.3.11 In contrast to much of PRow 416/5/20, following the construction phase (on completion), walkers at this viewpoint would obtain near distance eastwards open views of the adjacent solar farm (Figure 8.22 to 8.23a). Solar panels

would cover the majority of the view but would generally follow the landform allowing distant views to the ridgeline to the east. New hedgerow planting located adjacent to this PRoW through this part of the Project to the east of the view would have recently been planted and would not provide much screening of the adjacent solar farm at winter Year 1.

- 1.3.12 The Project would be visible in the foreground of this view giving rise to a Medium-High magnitude of visual impact. With solar panels obstructing some views to the wider landscape. Given the receptors' High sensitivity walkers would experience a Moderate to Major adverse significance of visual effect at winter Year 1, which would be significant. Significant effects would be limited to viewers looking east and continuing along the PRoW. When viewed from the PRoW, traversing north to south, views would be transient and not significant.
- 1.3.13 By year 15, the new hedgerow planted adjacent to footpath 416/5/20 to the east of this view would have matured screening parts of the Project Site from view. Due to the undulating nature of the topography, solar panels would remain a noticeable feature within the landscape, however. The character of the view would remain that of a developed solar farm, but the new planting will better integrate it into its' landscape setting and slightly diminish its overall effect. The magnitude of the impact would remain at Medium, but the resulting significance of effect would be reduced slightly to Minor to Moderate adverse, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 5c: View looking west from footpath 416/5/10

- 1.3.14 Similarly, to Representative Viewpoint 5b, following the construction phase (on completion), PRoW users traversing southwest along this PRoW towards Dornfield Cottage would obtain open near distance views of a small part of the completed Project. Solar panels would be seen across the view, with the PRoW corridor remaining as a wide strip within the centre of the view. Solar panels nearest the view and existing vegetation visible above would prevent views to the wider Project Site, though those parts visible would form an obvious change to the character and appearance of available views. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact as a result of solar panels being in close proximity to the view. Proposed hedgerow planting either side of the PRoW as it passes through the panels, although planted, would have limited screening effect. There would be a Major adverse significance of effect as a result of views available. This effect is judged to be significant. Significant effects would be limited to viewers looking west and continuing along the PRoW. When viewed from the PRoW, traversing north to south, views would be transient and not significant.
- 1.3.15 By year 15, the new hedgerow planted adjacent to footpath 416/5/10 to the west of this view would have matured screening parts of the Project Site and creating a more defined PRoW route. Due to its close proximity to the view, however, solar panels and parts of the access tracks would remain a noticeable feature within the landscape, with the new planting helping to better integrate it into its' landscape setting and slightly diminish its overall effect. The magnitude of the impact would remain at Medium, with the resulting

significance of effect reducing to Minor to Moderate adverse, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 6: View looking west from footpath 379/7/20

- 1.3.16 At winter Year 1, a small part of the Project's northern site would be discernible above intervening hedgerow vegetation adjacent to the A4260 and to fields further to the west. The completed solar panels would be seen as a slightly darker colour to that of the existing fields. Although discernible they would not have a substantial effect upon uses of this PRoW traversing west towards the A4260. The majority of the Project would not be discernible from this location, although a slightly elevated position. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact as a result of a slight alteration in available views to a very small part of the Project. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect for users of High sensitivity. This is not a significant effect.
- 1.3.17 At summer Year 15, intervening layered hedgerow vegetation, along with woodland blocks and individual trees would further screen available views. Along with the proposed landscape planting which would help to integrate the Project into the landscape, particularly when viewed from a distance. Due to the elevated nature of the view, however, views to a very small part of the Project would remain available from a part of this PRoW when looking to the west. As such, it is considered that the level of effect identified at winter Year 1, i.e. Negligible magnitude of impact and Minor adverse significance of effect, would remain at summer Year 15. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 7: View looking southeast from footpath 416/17/20

- 1.3.18 At winter Year 1, views to a small part of the completed Project's northern site would be available above intervening vegetation. Seen on higher parts of the westernmost parts of the northern site, solar panels would be noticeable within part of this elevated view. Intervening vegetation and topographical variation would prevent views to the majority of the Project Site from this location, even in winter. Views to solar panels would not dominate the view and with panels following the local contours, the overall composition of the view would be largely retained. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result of those parts which are visible. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect upon users of High sensitivity. This is not significant.
- 1.3.19 At summer Year 15, although intervening vegetation would be in full leaf, due to the elevated nature of the view and the location of the Project Site in relation to it, it is anticipated that views to a small part of the northern site, available at winter Year 1, would remain at summer Year 15. Although the landscape planting implemented as part of the Project would have matured and would partially break up those parts of development visible. It is anticipated that the magnitude of impact and significance of effect identified at winter Year 1 would remain at Year 15 as a result. Albeit that this would not be significant.

Representative Viewpoint 8: View looking southeast from footpath 416/24/10, near Hordley House

- 1.3.20 At winter Year 1, a very small part of the northern site would be visible on top of the pronounced ridgeline across the view. Solar panels would appear as a single row over the ridge. Existing features such as pylons and partially screened views of Samson's Farm would remain. With solar panels following the topography of the local landscape, although a noticeable addition, they would not substantially alter the overall composition of the view. New hedgerow planting of the perimeter in this location would have limited screening effects on completion of the Project at winter Year 1. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result and Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.21 At summer Year 15, new hedgerow planting to the western perimeter would have matured and be managed to a suitable height. From this relatively low lying view, solar panels would largely be screened from view. View to some taller elements of the solar farm, such as the CCTV masts, would remain visible above the hedgerow, though seen in the context of existing vertical elements within the view such as the pylons. There would be a residual Negligible magnitude of impact for users at this location and Negligible adverse significance of effect. This is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 9: View looking north from footpath 379/1/10 (Oxfordshire Way)

- 1.3.22 At winter Year 1, the immediate foreground of the view, nearest the PRow, would be unchanged from that of the baseline situation. As the ground rises to the north of the view, the front elevation of solar panels would be visible across the whole view. Being viewed at a lower level and due to the nature of the topography, solar panels would screen the remaining parts of the Project Site at this location. With only a small part of the overall Project visible. Hedgerow planting, implemented as part of the Project would be present but have limited screening effects at this stage. A treeline to the local ridge, north of the view, would likely remain visible, albeit less of it, above the panels. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result of the Project, resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect for users of High sensitivity as solar panels in the middle ground would occupy the whole view and be noticeably at odds with the baseline situation. This effect is not significant.
- 1.3.23 At summer Year 15, hedgerow planting implemented as part of the Project, appropriately managed, would have reached maturity. This would screen available views to much of this small part of the Project Site from transient oblique views along the PRow. Due to the nature of the topography, rising to the north of the view, parts of the solar panels and those further to the north would remain visible above the hedge line. The magnitude of impact would remain Low, with the significance of effect reducing to Minor adverse with solar panels still discernible above the hedge line. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 10: View looking west from footpath 379/1/20 (Oxfordshire Way)

- 1.3.24 On completion, at winter Year 1, users of this PRow travelling to the west towards the Project would have open elevated views to parts of it. Seen on rising ground beyond existing retained vegetation, the solar panels would not break the skyline and at this distance would generally appear as a darker shade across strips of fields across the majority of the view. Newly planted vegetation within the Project, although implemented, would have limited or no screening effects at this stage. A newly planted woodland to the east of the northern site would similarly have limited screening effects, although this would be dependent on timings of completion. For the purposes of this assessment it has been assumed the young woodland would have no screening effect (i.e. worst case). At this distance, although parts of the northern site would occupy the width of the view, there would be a Medium magnitude of impact, with solar panels visible but not a defining character of this panoramic view. Due to the High sensitivity of the receptors, this would result in a Moderate adverse significance of effect which is not significant.
- 1.3.25 At summer Year 15, proposed vegetation within the Project Site would have reached maturity. Although this would break up parts of the development within the view, parts of it would remain visible due to the elevated nature of the view. The newly planted woodland to the east of the northern site, within the north of the view (Figure 8.34 to 8.35a) would similarly have matured. This would have a screening effect to parts of the northern site when viewed from sections of his PRow. It is considered that the magnitude of impact and significance of effect would remain the same as that of Year 1. Low and Minor adverse respectively, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 11: View looking west from bridleway 379/19/20 (Claude Duval Way)

- 1.3.26 At winter Year 1, High sensitivity users of this PRow travelling west towards the Project Site would experience a noticeable change in views. Solar panels, within a small part of the overall northern site, would occupy rising ground to a ridgetop in the middle of the view. Although not substantially tall and following the existing contours, the solar panels would be an obvious addition to the view. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact, resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect. Although an obvious change, due to the low lying nature of the solar panels it would not be a dominant feature within the view and these effects are therefore not significant.
- 1.3.27 At summer Year 15, mitigation planting, including tree and hedgerow planting to the eastern limit of the solar arrays within the central parts of Field 1.15 and between the solar panels along the ridgeline, would have matured. This would help to break up those parts of the solar farm which are visible. Due to the rising ground on which the solar panels are located, parts of the solar farm would remain visible and be a noticeable feature in the view. There would be a residual Low magnitude of impact and Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 12: View looking northeast from footpath 413/1/10

- 1.3.28 Similarly, to Representative Viewpoint 7, elevated view to the west of the Project Site. At winter Year 1, there would be views to a small part of the Project Sites northern site. On sloping ground to the east of the view. Intervening vegetation and topography is such that there would be no available views to the majority of the Project Site from this location and much of the PRow's length. Although there is extensive vegetative cover between the viewer and the Project Site, being in an elevated position views would be available to small parts of the northern site above intervening vegetation. Solar panels would appear as a noticeable darker colour to the surrounding agricultural fields but would not break the skyline. Following the contours of the existing landscape would ensure that the overall composition of views available would remain predominantly the same. Where visible in oblique transient views, the Project Site would have a Low magnitude of impact upon users of High sensitivity. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.29 Due to the elevated nature of views, it is anticipated that those parts of the Project Site visible at winter Year 1 would remain visible at summer Year 15. Although proposed landscape mitigation, having matured, would help to break up the views. It is considered that the magnitude of impact and significance of effect identified at winter Year 1 would remain at summer Year 15.

Representative Viewpoint 13: View looking northeast from bridleway 342/1/10, near Banbury Road

- 1.3.30 At winter Year 1, users of this PRow would experience close range views to a small part of the Project Site. Including views to solar panels and Project substation. This would obstruct views to the wider landscape. Existing retained vegetation would screen views to solar panels to the southeast of the view. Although glimpsed views would be available where vegetation is thinner, particularly in winter. Although only a small part of the overall Project Site, due to the scale of the substation and proximity to the view, it would be a prominent feature in the view. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact upon user of High sensitivity. Resulting in a Moderate to Major adverse significance of effect, which is significant.
- 1.3.31 Proposed hedgerow planting adjacent to the PRow, traversing east from the view would have matured. Due to the position of the view however, this would have very limited screening effects for this part of the PRow. To the foreground meadow grassland would have some amenity value although no screening effect. Existing retained vegetation to the southeast would screen views of the wider solar farm. There would be a residual Medium magnitude of effect and Minor to Moderate adverse significance of effect which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 14: View looking west from bridleway 342/1/30 near the A4260 main road

- 1.3.32 At winter Year 1, small parts of the Projects northern site would be discernible across the centre of much of the view. An existing field boundary hedgerow to the southwest of the view would screen views to the Project Site, though parts would be visible above and through what is a fairly gappy hedgerow. More open views to a small part of the northern site would be visible to the west of the view at the PRoW junctions where field boundary hedgerows are not present. No part of the Project Site would break the skyline and with only a small part of it visible, it would not represent a prominent feature within the view. There would be a Low magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect upon users of High sensitivity traversing to the west towards the Project Site, which is not significant.
- 1.3.33 At summer Year 15, proposed landscape planting, in the form of reinforcement to the existing hedgerow, tree planting and new hedgerow planting at the eastern most boundaries nearest the view, would help to further screen the Project Site. Provided they are appropriately managed, it is anticipated that those small parts of the Project Site visible at winter Year 1, particularly in more open parts of the view, would be largely screened from view. Views to very small parts of the Project would remain, however the overall magnitude of impact would reduce to Negligible. Given the High sensitivity of PRoW users a Minor adverse significance of effect would remain, but the Project would be less discernible. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 15: View looking northeast from footpath 342/6/10

- 1.3.34 At winter Year 1, a small part of the overall completed Project would be visible across approximately half of the view, to the north. The ground falls away to the middle ground before rising to the north. Solar panels would be visible on this rising ground occupying a field enclosed by existing woodland vegetation. The solar panels would not break the skyline, with existing vegetation remaining the predominant feature of the view. Although a small part would be visible, it would not dominate the view. With panels following the contours of the landscape the overall character, although partly changed in a small section of the overall view, would be fundamentally as existing. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result, with a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.35 Due to the elevated nature of available views, it is anticipated that designed in mitigation would have limited effects upon available views. Although the overall mass of the Project Site visible in the view would likely be broken up in places. The magnitude of impact and significance of effect, identified at winter Year 1 would remain at Year 15. These effects are not significant.

Central site

Representative Viewpoint 16: View looking south from A44, near Bladon

- 1.3.36 At winter Year 1, a thin strip of the existing view would be occupied by solar panels, seen on sloping ground beyond existing field boundary hedgerows and trees within the middle ground. Where visible, depending on light conditions, solar panels would generally appear as a darker shading of existing fields and would not break the skyline at any point. Although visible in transient views from the A44, at a distance of some 0.5 km this small part of the Project Site would not be an obvious feature in view. There would be Negligible magnitude of impact upon users of Negligible to Medium sensitivity using the A44. Resulting in a Negligible significance of effect which is not significant.
- 1.3.37 At summer Year 15, proposed landscaping implemented as part of the Project, including hedgerow and tree planting to the northern boundary and hedgerow planting within the solar panels, would break up the overall mass of it within the view. Due to the elevated position of this small part of the Project in relation to the A44, parts of the Project and solar panels would remain visible however at summer Year 15. There would be a residual Negligible magnitude of impact and Negligible significance of effect as a result. Which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 17: View looking west from footpath 265/24/20

- 1.3.38 At winter Year, on completion, the solar panels within a small part of the Project Site central site would occupy the immediate foreground of the view. To the northwest of the view an existing hedgerow and trees would partially screen views to further solar panels beyond. Mature trees to the west, around Bladon, would likely remain partially visible above the solar panels. Where solar panels and associated infrastructure located nearest the view, would obstruct views to the wider Project Site. Resulting in a limited appreciation of it as a whole. Solar panels visible, across the foreground of the view, would be an obvious change to the available view, resulting in a Medium magnitude of impact, giving rise to a Moderate to Major adverse significance of effect for users of High sensitivity. This effect is significant.
- 1.3.39 At summer Year 15, proposed hedgerow planting following the route of the PRoW, heading towards Bladon, would partially screen available views to the Project Site. The existing retained hedgerow would screen available views to solar panels northwest of the view. With an access point for the Project to be located at the junction of the PRoWs in the local area, there would remain channelled views to a very small part of the solar panels to the south of the view. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact, with solar panels partially screened, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect. This is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 18: View looking northeast from footpath 132/3/10, near Bladon.

- 1.3.40 In close proximity to the central site. However, due to the position of the view and intervening vegetation and landform, only a small part of the solar farm

would be noticeable at winter Year 1. Seen above an existing and retained hedgerow with trees to the middle of the view, the tops of solar panels would be seen as a noticeable addition to the landscape, extending north of the view. Due to the low lying nature of the solar panels they would not break the skyline with views to the wider landscape to the north remaining a feature of the view. By following the topography the addition of the solar panels to the view would not be a dominant feature and the overall composition of the view would remain. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result. Leading to a Minor adverse significance of effect for users of High sensitivity. This is not significant.

- 1.3.41 At summer Year 15, there would be limited landscape intervention at this location. Meadow grassland to the foreground would have some positive impacts on the outlook but not be substantially different to the existing grassland / pasture landscape. It is considered that the Low magnitude of impact and Minor adverse significance of effect would remain.

Representative Viewpoint 19: View looking southeast from the A4095 local road

- 1.3.42 At winter Year 1, a very small proportion of the overall Project Site would be visible from this location. Within the foreground of the view, above the road verge, a portion of the existing agricultural field would have been retained. Beyond this on rising ground to the southeast of the view, solar panels and perimeter fencing would be visible across the view. Due to the rising ground, in relation to views available from the view, it is anticipated that the Project Site would largely obstruct available views to the existing trees to the south of Bladon. Conversely, solar panels nearest the view would also obstruct available views to the wider Project Site. Available views would be transient in nature for road users, with longer views available for pedestrian using the roadside footway and cyclists on the road. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result of a small part of the Project being visible. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.43 At summer Year 15, hedgerow planting implemented as part of the Project at the northwestern boundary near the A4095, would have matured and be in full leaf. Due to the Project location relative to the road, provided it is appropriately managed, the new hedgerow would screen available views to much of the Project. Views to the tops of panels and the perimeter fence may still be discernible above but not form an obvious feature within transient views. Meadow grassland enhancements and management of the field in the foreground would further improve available views. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact, resulting in a Negligible adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 20: View looking southeast from footpath 238/1/10, near Long Hanborough

- 1.3.44 At completion, distant views of solar panels on higher parts of the Project Site would be obtained above dense intervening vegetation (Figure 8.54 to 8.55a). This would give rise to Negligible magnitude of visual impact. Given the

receptors' High sensitivity this would result in walkers experiencing Minor adverse significance of effect in winter, which would not be significant.

- 1.3.45 By Year 15, existing hedgerow and trees in full leaf would help to break up the overall mass of the solar farm visible from this location. Located on rising ground parts would remain visible but have no substantial effect on the overall composition of the view. Views of the solar panels would be minimal above intervening vegetation, particularly in summer with deciduous vegetation in full leaf. The magnitude of impact would reduce to Negligible, and walkers would experience Negligible adverse significance of effect from the location during the operation and maintenance phase, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 21: View looking southeast from footpath 238/1/10, near Pinsley Wood

- 1.3.46 At winter Year 1, the immediate foreground and a large part of the existing agricultural field to the southeast of the view would remain. Across the southeastern parts of the field, solar panels would occupy the middle ground of the view. Above intervening vegetation along Lower Road and adjacent fields, rising ground to the southeast would be occupied by solar panels, of which there would be glimpsed views, heavily filtered by intervening vegetation. There would be no appreciation of much of the Project from this location. A newly planted hedgerow in front of hose parts of the Project Site visible would have limited screening effects at this stage. With only a small part of the Project visible, generally enclosed by existing vegetation visible above, there would be a Medium magnitude of impact for High sensitivity PRow users. Resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.47 At summer Year 15, appropriately managed hedgerow planting to the boundary of the Project Site within the southern part of the view would generally screen available views to the solar panels. It is anticipated that the tops of the solar panels and perimeter fence would be visible above the hedgerow but not form an obvious feature within the view. Existing vegetation to the south of the view, along Lower Road, in full leaf would screen views to the Project Site further to the southeast of the view. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result and Minor adverse significance of effect would remain due to the High sensitivity of PRow users. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 22: View looking southeast from footpath 238/2/20 at the edge of Lower Road

- 1.3.48 At winter Year 1, the many gaps within the exiting hedgerow adjacent to Lower Road and the field access gates, would allow partially screened views to a small part of the Project Site across the whole view. Although transient in nature for road users, views to this part of the Project, in proximity to Lower Road, would be a noticeable alteration. Particularly for PRow users merging onto Lower Road from the west. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor to Moderate adverse significance of effect for Low (road users) and High (PRow users) sensitivity. Neither of which would be significant.

- 1.3.49 Views to the Project Site, although in proximity to Lower Road, would be substantially curtailed a summer Year 15. Intervening roadside vegetation in full leaf would screen available views. Where there would remain gaps in the hedgerows and at access points along the road, within the southeastern part of the view, there would remain glimpsed views to small parts of the Project Site. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result of these glimpsed views remaining, resulting in a Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 23: View looking northeast from footpath 238/2/20, near Pinsley Wood

- 1.3.50 At completion, winter Year 1, the immediate foreground of this view would remain largely the same. Beyond this, near distance views to solar panels across the whole view would be and obvious change to the view. With the solar panels being to laying and a sizeable gap between groups of panels, treed higher ground to the east of the view would remain a feature of the overall view. With overhead transmission lines remaining the tallest feature within the view. The solar panels would follow the existing topography and so not be a dominant feature of the view. However, this obvious change to the view would result in a Medium-High magnitude of impact at inter Year 1 and Moderate / Major adverse significance of effect, which is significant.
- 1.3.51 A proposed hedgerow along the perimeter fence would have matured by summer Year 15. This would sufficiently screen the lowest parts of the solar panels from view. Taller elements of the solar farm would still be visible above. However, above the proposed hedgerow the prominent feature would be that of a treed ridgeline to the east of the view. Elements of the Project would likely remain visible from this location, but the magnitude of impact would reduce to Medium at summer Year 15. Due to the High sensitivity of receptors sing this PRoW in proximity to the Project a Moderate adverse significance of effect is considered likely. This is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 24: View looking east from footpath 238/5/20, near Church Hanborough

- 1.3.52 Seen though a gap in the hedgerow adjacent to the PRoW, which is otherwise very well vegetated for its entire length to the south of Church Hanborough. There would be views in the immediate foreground and on rising ground across the Evenlode Valley of solar panels across majority of the view. At winter Year 1, although without leaf, existing layered vegetation would have limited screening effect due to the position of the view. Solar panels closest to the PRoW would screen views to parts of the wider Project Site. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact to this fleeting view resulting in a Moderate significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.53 At summer Year 15, gaps within the hedgerow along the PRoW would likely remain, allowing glimpsed views across the Evenlode to large parts of the Project Sites central site. Intervening layered vegetation, in full leaf, along with proposed planting would help to break up the overall mass of the Project. There would remain a Medium magnitude of impact as a result, with the significance of effect remaining at Moderate adverse, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 25: View looking south from footpath 238/5/20

- 1.3.54 At winter Year 1, a part of the completed Project would occupy the majority of this elevated panoramic view. Solar panels in close proximity to the view, would form an obvious change to it. Within the wider view, existing vegetation would break up those parts of the Project visible, with topographical variation obstructing views to the majority of the Project. Those parts visible, particularly nearest the view, would result in a Medium-High magnitude of impact with a substantial change to the available view. Resulting in a Moderate to Major adverse significance of effect for users of High sensitivity traversing southwards along the PRow. This effect is significant.
- 1.3.55 At summer Year 15, hedgerow planting at the edge of the PRow would have matured helping to screen parts of the Project Site from view. Particularly for PRow users heading south. However, the Project Site would remain a visible feature within the view, albeit that the absolute mass of those parts visible would be partially screened / broken up by intervening vegetation. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact, resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which would not be significant.

Representative Viewpoint 26: View looking north from footpath 238/5/20

- 1.3.56 At winter Year 1, a small part of the Operational Projects central site would be an obvious feature within the immediate foreground of the view. Continuing the slope north towards Church Hanborough. Those panels nearest the view would screen parts of it, with trees to the ridgeline near Church Hanborough remaining visible above. To the east of the view, where gaps in the existing hedgerows allows, there would be glimpsed views to a small part of the wider Project Site. There would be a Medium-High magnitude of impact, with the majority of the view substantially altered as a result of the Project. Resulting in a Moderate to Major adverse significance of effect at winter Year 1, which is significant.
- 1.3.57 Proposed hedgerow vegetation along the PRow would have matured at summer Year 15. This would partially screen available views to the Project Site. Due to the rising ground to the north, panels would remain visible above. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact, with available views to the solar panels not dominating the view. This would result in a Minor to Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 27: View looking north from footpath 238/5/20

- 1.3.58 At winter Year 1, small parts of the Project Site would be visible to the north of the view, up towards Church Hanborough, and northeast towards Purwell Farm on rising ground. Across the majority of the view a ridgeline would screen the majority of the Project Site from view. Although the tops of panels and the perimeter fence may be discernible at parts nearest the view to the northeast. There would be a Low magnitude of impact for PRow users of High sensitivity when looking north along the PRow. This would result in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.59 At summer Year 15, new hedgerow planting to the northeast, along with intervening meadow grassland would largely screen available views to the

northeast and Purwell Farm. View to the Project Site near to Church Hanborough would remain though not be a dominant feature within the view. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result. However, due to the High sensitivity of receptors using the PRoW a Minor adverse significance of effect would remain, although not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 28: View looking east from footpath 216/4/10, near Elm Farm

- 1.3.60 At winter Year 1, parts of the completed Project would form a discernible feature within this view. On rising ground to the east, around Purwell Farm, parts of the Project would be discernible across much of this elevated view, seen as a dark slither within the middle of the view. Although discernible, it would not obviously alter the character of this panoramic view and not break the skyline in any location. Intervening vegetation and topographical variation would prevent any discernible views to parts of the Project nearest the view. On the western slopes of the Evenlode Vally. There would be a Low magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect with glimpsed views to small parts of the Project. This effect is not significant.
- 1.3.61 At summer Year 15, intervening layered vegetation would further screen available views to the Project. At its highest point, near to Purwell Farm, a very small part of the Project would likely remain visible over and in between mature tree and woodland vegetation. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact from this location with only glimpsed middle distance views to a very small part of the Project. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect due to the High sensitivity of PRoW users. This is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 29: View looking northeast from footpath 206/12/10, at Acre Hill

- 1.3.62 At completion, winter Year 1, users will obtain middle distance views to small parts of the central site. Seen above and though intervening vegetation. The majority of the central site will be screened from view by intervening vegetation and topographical variation. Depending on atmospheric conditions, those parts of the solar panels visible would appear as a dark shading across arable fields with limited definition at this distance. There would be a Low magnitude of impact upon users of High sensitivity. Although visible the overall composition of this panoramic countryside view would remain, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect which is not significant.
- 1.3.63 At summer Year 15, with intervening vegetation in full leaf, those small parts of the Project visible at completion would likely be further screened from view with parts going largely unnoticed. The largest part, to the east of the view, located on rising ground although partly broken up by proposed hedgerows amongst solar panels would remain visible, albeit not a defining feature of the view. There would be a negligible magnitude of residual impact resulting in a Negligible significance of effect which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 30: View looking northeast from footpath 206/12/10 at Acre Hill

- 1.3.64 At winter Year 1, roadside vegetation along Lower Road, which is gappy in places, would partially screen views to a very small part of the Project within the field to the northeast of the view. To the immediate foreground, beyond Lower Road, views to this part of the adjacent fields would remain the same. To the north, solar panels would be discernible through and adjacent to the hedgerow vegetation which would be devoid of leaf. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result of views to a very small part of the Project from this location. Resulting in a Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect for road users and walkers on those parts of PRoW nearest the road. This effect is not significant.
- 1.3.65 With existing hedgerow vegetation to this part of Lower Road in full leaf and having grown up in summer months, it is anticipated that no part of the Project would be visible from this location at summer Year 15, Resulting in a magnitude of impact and significance of effect of No Change and No effect respectively.

Representative Viewpoint 31: View looking north from bridleway 206/9/10, near Lower Road

- 1.3.66 At winter Year 1, extensive vegetative cover, particularly around Eynsham Mill, along with the topography of the local landscape will prevent views to the majority of the Project Site from this location. A gap between trees at the Eynsham Mill entrance and the hedgerow to the eastern side of Lower Road, would allow glimpsed transient views to a very small part of the Project at its southernmost point of the central site. A small area of solar panels located adjacent to Lower Road and the perimeter fence line, appearing in the gap of the vegetation, would be partially screened by the roadside hedgerow, with glimpsed views available to it. There would be a Low magnitude of impact upon road users of Low / Medium sensitivity, with occasional PRoW users of higher sensitivity who would have glimpsed views from the PRoW as it joins Lower Road. This would result in a Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.67 At summer Year 15, intervening vegetation, particularly the hedgerow along Lower Road, would be in full leaf and grown up. The small area of solar panels within the fields adjacent to the road would be screened from view. A smaller gap would remain between the hedgerow and entrance to Eynsham Mill. This would allow a glimpsed view to a very small section of the perimeter fence. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact as a result of these glimpsed transient views to a very small part of the Project. Resulting in a Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect remaining at Year 15. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 32: View looking northwest from footpath 124/5/10, near Begbroke

- 1.3.68 On completion, at winter Year 1, a small part of the overall Project Site will occupy the immediate foreground of this close view. Solar panels and the

perimeter fence nearest the view would obstruct views to the wider development. The PRoW (124/5/10) would remain within the centre of the view, which would allow channelled views to the wider landscape and layered vegetation to the northwest of the view. There would be a High magnitude of impact with parts of the view obstructed by the Project Site, although there would be no appreciation of the Project Site as a whole from this location with channelled views to the landscape remaining available. This would result in a Major adverse significance of effect for PRoW users of High sensitivity traversing in a generally northerly direction from the village of Begbroke. This effect is significant.

- 1.3.69 At summer Year 15, the proposed hedgerow to either side of PRoW 124/5/10 would have matured. Appropriately managed, to a suitable height, this hedgerow would screen views to parts of the Project Site in proximity to the PRoW. Creating a more pleasant route through it and maintaining views to the wider landscape. However, where the hedgerow is not present, at the start of the PRoW, near distant views to a small part of the Project would remain an obvious feature within the view. There would remain a Medium magnitude of impact, but the overall visibility of the Project from this location would be slightly diminished as a result of the designed in landscape proposals. Resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 33: View looking southeast from footpath 152/7/10

- 1.3.70 At winter Year 1, a very small part of the overall Project Site would form an obvious feature in proximity to the view. Seen across the whole view, solar panels and the perimeter fencing would partially obstruct available views to the wider landscape. To the south of the view, an existing mature field boundary hedgerow would screen views to other parts of the Project Site. Though in close proximity to the view, they would be discernible. Tall trees within Worton Heath, long with an individual tree, would remain partially visible above the Project. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact as a result of solar panels occupying much of the view, with landscape elements still visible and screening other parts. This would result in a Major adverse significance of effect, which is significant.
- 1.3.71 At summer Year 15, proposed hedgerow planting to the northern edge of PRoW 152/7/10 would have matured, creating a more pleasant viewing experience for the PRoW. In full leaf and having been maintained at a suitable height it will help to mitigate the effects of the Project in views from this location. However, those parts of it nearest the view would remain a noticeable feature within it. There would remain a Medium magnitude of impact, though the significance of effect would be reduced slightly to Moderate adverse, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 34: View looking west from footpath 420/14/10 (Shakespeare's Way)

- 1.3.72 At winter Year 1, the immediate foreground of this view would remain unchanged. Beyond the local ridge line to the mid ground, A small part of the Project Site, to the south of Purwell Farm would be glimpsed through and above

intervening vegetation, to the west of the view, on rising ground to the north of the access road to Purwell Farm, and further around to the northwest of the view within the local Evenlode Valley formation, further parts of the Project Site would be visible, though screened and / or broken by the existing layered vegetation. With the exception of those parts of the Project Site nearest Purwell Farm, available views to it would be below the eyeline of PRoW users in this location. The overall composition of this panoramic view would be largely maintained as a result, with views to higher ground to the west of the Evenlode remaining a characteristic feature of the view. Those parts of the Project Site visible would result in a Low magnitude of impact with parts of the Project, though noticeable, partially screened and broken up by layered vegetation. This would result on a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

- 1.3.73 Due to the elevated nature of the view, although proposed mitigation would likely break the Project up further, it is considered that effects identified at Year 1 would remain at Year 15.

Representative Viewpoint 35: View looking west from footpath 420/14/20 (Shakespeare's Way)

- 1.3.74 Located along the same PRoW, slightly to the south of Representative Viewpoint 34, views available to the Project Site at winter Year 1 and summer Year 15 from this location would be similar. A small part of the Project would be visible on rising ground near Purwell Farm, with glimpses to a very small part of the Project Site to the south of Purwell Farm at the base of the Evenlode valley. Layered vegetation and topographical variation would prevent any discernible view to the majority of the Project Site from this location. The immediate foreground of the view would remain unchanged as a result of the Project. Those parts of the Project Site visible on rising ground near Purwell Farm would be at a similarly eyeline to users of the PRoW. But the overall composition and character of this panoramic view would largely remain. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result of those parts of Project within the same eyeline of High sensitivity users. At summer Year 15, proposed landscape mitigation would help to break up these small parts of the Project. However, due to the elevated nature of the view it is considered that a Minor adverse significance of effect would result at both winter Year 1 and summer Year 15. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 36: View looking southwest from footpath 237/1/10, near Bletchington

- 1.3.75 At winter Year 1, distant views to a very small part of the central site would be available for High sensitivity PRoW users traversing the PRoW southwest from Bletchington. Seen near to the large building within the airport. Intervening layered vegetation and topographical variation would prevent any discernible view to the majority of the Project Site from this location. Any glimpsed distant views to a very small part of the central site would be seen as a change in colour to the currently green / brown fields. At this distance there would not be a substantial change to available panoramic views with the completed Project Site going largely unnoticed. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a

result of a very small part being discernible. Giving rise to a Minor adverse significance of effect, for High sensitivity PRow users, which is not significant.

- 1.3.76 By summer Year 15, with intervening vegetation in full leaf. Along with the designed in mitigation having matured, it is anticipated that no part of the Projects central site would be discernible in this distant view. There would also be no view to the northern or southern sites from this particular location for PRow users traversing southwest from Bletchington. There would be a magnitude of impact and significance of effect of No Change and No Effect as result. With available panoramic views from this PRow being the same as that of the baseline.

Representative Viewpoint 37a: View looking east from footpath 152/6/10, near Goose Eye Farm

- 1.3.77 At winter Year 1, a part of the completed Project would be noticeable on rising ground to the east of the view. On rising ground towards Purwell Farm. The immediate foreground of the view would remain the same. With the ground continuing to rise, it is anticipated that the Project would not break the skyline in available views. The majority of the Project Site would not be discernible from this location, although those parts which are visible would occupy much of the view and represent a moderate change to it. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact, resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.78 With land rising away from the view, it is anticipated that effects identified at winter Year 1, would remain at summer Year 15. Designed in mitigation would have limited screening effects due to the nature of the view, with the solar panels remaining a noticeable feature on rising ground above the view.

Representative Viewpoint 37b: View looking north from footpath 152/6/10, near Goose Eye Farm

- 1.3.79 Viewed across part of the Evenlode, a very small part of the Project Site's central site would be discernible at completion (winter Year 1). Intervening layered vegetation, including near the view, is such that those parts of the Project discernible would be broken up and / or heavily filtered within the view. It is anticipated that, at some 2.05m high the solar panels would not break the skyline in any part of the view. As such, the inherent characteristic of this view would remain largely unaffected. Views to higher ground and the tree lined horizon to the northwest of the view would remain. There would be a Low magnitude of impact upon viewers of High sensitivity. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.80 At summer Year 15, designed in landscape mitigation, including a block of woodland and hedgerow planting, would further screen available views to a small part of the Project Site. It is considered that there would be no discernible view of the Project Site from this location as a result at Year 15. There would be a magnitude of impact and significance of effect of No Change and No Effect respectively.

Representative Viewpoint 38: View looking west from footpath 152/6/10, near Purwell Farm

- 1.3.81 At winter Year 1, immediate foreground of this elevated view would be occupied by a small part of the Project Site. Beyond this, and on rising ground towards Church Hanborough, further parts of the view would be occupied by the Project Site. The inherent structure and field pattern, a distinctive characteristic of the view would remain intact, including a field to the immediate east of Church Hanborough being clear of solar panels, with proposed hedgerow vegetation to the south of PRow 152/6/10 screening further views to the solar panels. Views would be channelled along PRow towards Church Hanborough. As a result, this layered existing and proposed vegetation and vegetative structure within available views would break up the Project, so it does not dominate those parts of the view furthest from it. Solar panels nearest the view would obstruct parts of the view and Project Site within, though views above would remain, though also occupied by parts of the Project. There would be a Medium-High magnitude of impact with the Project resulting in a noticeable change in the character and composition of the view. This would result in a Moderate to Major adverse significance of effect, which is significant.
- 1.3.82 At summer Year 15, designed in landscape mitigation, including hedgerow planting adjacent to PRow 152/6/10 and a linear strip of woodland with the field to the immediate foreground, would help to screen parts of the Project Site within the view, breaking up its overall mass within the view. Due to the elevated nature of the view and rising ground to Church Hanborough, it is anticipated that this mitigation planting would have limited screening effect upon this particular part of the Project visible from this particular location. Those parts of it nearest the view would remain an obvious feature within it. There would remain a Medium magnitude of impact as a result, but designed in mitigation measures would break up the overall mass of the Project visible within the view, resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 39: View looking southeast from footpath 152/6/10, near Purwell Farm

- 1.3.83 Within the immediate foreground of the view, a small part of the Project Site would form an obvious feature within the view. To the south of the view, an existing field boundary hedgerow would heavily filter available views to other parts of the Project Site. The elevated nature of the view is such that views of Cassington would remain visible above the Project, with other small parts of it visible to the southeast, near Cassington. Views of higher ground to the southeast / south of Cassington would remain a feature of the view, still visible above those parts of the Project visible. Here would be a Medium magnitude of impact as a result of those parts of the Project, particularly nearest the view. This would result in a Moderate to Major adverse significance of effect, which is significant.
- 1.3.84 At Year 15, hedgerow planting along PRow 152/6/10, along with existing hedgerows, properly managed would screen available views to the Projects Site. Though those parts nearest the view would remain an obvious feature within it. The magnitude of impact would remain Medium, but the significance

of effect would reduce slightly to Minor to Moderate adverse, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 40: View looking northwest from footpath 152/6/10, near Cassington

- 1.3.85 Similarly, to many other Representative Viewpoints, intervening vegetation and topographical variation would screen the majority of the Projects central site, to the northwest, from view. Solar panels within part of the central site would be visible from this location, particularly those parts on rising ground. Existing and retained vegetation within the areas of panels would break up the overall visibility and screen other parts. Low lying solar panels, following the topography, would not break the skyline and the overall characteristics of the views would remain. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result of solar panels being visible but not prominent. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect for users of High sensitivity. This effect is not significant.
- 1.3.86 Proposed planting, including hedgerows and trees, to the south easternmost boundary nearest the view would be matured at Year 15. This would screen views to much of the solar panels visible at winter Year 1. Where solar panels are located on higher ground, they would remain visible though not a defining feature within the view. At summer Year 15 there would be a Negligible magnitude of impact as a result. Due to the High sensitivity of PRow users, the significance of effect would remain as Minor adverse, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 41: View looking west from Yarnton Road on the outskirts of Cassington

- 1.3.87 Seen above Yarnton Road and through a patchy field boundary hedgerow, a part of the Project Site would occupy the whole view. Including on rising ground to the north of the view. Views to the solar panels, partially screened or broken up by the roadside hedgerow, would form an obvious feature within transient views on approach to Cassington. Existing hedgerows and trees retained as part of the Project would remain visible above the solar panels on the higher ground and partially break up the overall mass of it. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact, particularly where parts of the Project are nearest to Yarnton Road. This would result in a Moderate adverse significance of effect for road users of Low sensitivity. Although this would be higher and more noticeable for other road users such as cyclists and pedestrians, though not considered to be greater than Moderate adverse, which is significant.
- 1.3.88 At summer Year 15, designed in landscape, including hedgerow reinforcement adjacent to Yarnton Road, would screen available views to the majority of the Project Site. With ground rising to the north it is anticipated that there would remain transient views of a small part of the Project from this location. There would be a Low magnitude of impact with the significance of effect reducing to no greater than Minor adverse. Which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 42: View looking northwest from footpath 419/1/10, Oxford Green Belt Way

- 1.3.89 Following the construction phase (on completion) at winter Year 1, and summer Year 15 due to the elevation of the solar panels seen on the ridgeline. Long distance views to parts of the central site would be available from this location. Solar panels would be seen on higher ground to the northwest around Cassington. At this distance and depending on the atmospheric conditions, solar panels would generally appear as darker shaded areas within the arable fields, with limited definition. Existing areas of open water to the southeast of Cassington would remain the most noticeable feature within the view and generally draw the eye away from the solar panels. There would be Negligible magnitude of impact upon users of High sensitivity. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 43: View looking northwest from permissive path through Wytham Wood

- 1.3.90 Similarly, to Representative viewpoint 42, the southernmost parts of the central site of the completed Project (at winter Year 1 and summer Year 15) would be discernible across much of the ridgeline to the north of Cassington. No part of the Project, due to its low lying nature, would break the skyline and at this middle distance would not represent an obvious feature within the view. The characteristic panoramic view would be largely unaffected. There would be Negligible magnitude of impact upon users of High sensitivity. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Southern Site

Representative Viewpoint 44: View looking southwest from permissive path through Wytham Wood

- 1.3.91 Viewed from this elevated position, a small part of the southern site would be discernible in views at winter Year 1. The westernmost parts of the southern site, seen on rising ground to the north of Smith Hill Copse would be seen as a darker colour when compared to the existing agricultural fields. At a distance of circa. 1.7km, views to a small part of the Project would not represent an obvious feature within the landscape. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact upon users of High sensitivity. Albeit that users of this permissive path would be limited when compared to a public right of way. As a result of the High sensitivity, there would be a Minor adverse significance of effect, which would not be significant.
- 1.3.92 Due to the elevated nature of the view, it is anticipated that any views available at winter Year 1, would remain available at summer Year 15. As a result, the magnitude of impact and significance of effect would similarly remain, being not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 45: View looking southeast from footpath 184/48/10, at the edge of Farmoor Reservoir

- 1.3.93 Seen across Farmoor Reservoir, the majority of the southern site would be visible on rising ground framed by Smith Hill Copse and Denman's Copse. Solar panels would appear as a dark colour within agricultural fields, not dissimilar to the colour of the reservoir, an expanse of water which dominates the view. As such, following the construction phase (on completion) at winter Year 1 and at summer Year 15, with no obstructions in the foreground, the southern site of the Project would form a visible feature within the view, though not prominent. Intervening vegetation to the northwest of the southern site would partially screen parts of the Project both during winter and summer months. Proposed vegetation, at summer Year 15, would add to this screening effect, though due to the rising ground it is anticipated that the views of the Project would remain largely the same as those at Year 1. There would be a Low magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect at Year 1 and Year 5. This effect is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 46: View looking south from footpath 184/15/10 near Eynsham Road

- 1.3.94 Following the construction phase (on completion) at winter Year 1, and summer Year 15 due to the elevation of the solar panels seen on the ridgeline. Middle distance views to parts of the southern site would be available from this location. Solar panels would be seen on higher ground to the south. Solar panels would generally appear as darker shaded areas within the arable fields. To the west of the view, the Project substation and NGET substation would be the most noticeable addition to the view. Although large structures, it is anticipated that they would not break the skyline. There would be Low magnitude of impact upon users of High sensitivity. Resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 47: View looking southeast from footpath 184/22/10 (Oxfordshire Green Belt Way)

- 1.3.95 At winter Year 1, parts of the completed southern site of the Project would be visible on rising ground to the south of the viewpoint. Seen above Jumpers Farm and intervening vegetation. A mature hedgerow, adjacent to Cumnor Road, would screen much of the southern site from view, including those parts containing the Project and NGET substations which are the most noticeable features within the southern site. Due to the rising ground existing intervening hedgerow and tree vegetation would have limited screening effects, with solar panels seen as a noticeable change to the character of the view. The solar panels would not break the skyline and be quite contained within the view. As such, it is anticipated that those parts of it visible would not dominate the view. There would be a Low magnitude of impact as a result, with a Minor adverse significance of effect. Which is not significant.
- 1.3.96 Due to the rising ground, it is anticipated that the existing and proposed vegetation would have a limited effect in terms of screening the Project from

view. It is considered that those effects identified at winter Year 1 would remain at summer Year 15.

Representative Viewpoint 48: View looking south from footpath 184/15/30, Oxford Green Belt Way

- 1.3.97 Following the construction phase (on completion) near distance views of the solar panels would be obtained through gaps in the existing retained hedgerow and would occupy the sloping land to the west of the view (Figures 8.112 to 8.113a). New reinforcement planting to the existing hedgerow along the southern Project Site boundary would have recently been planted and would provide little screening of the perimeter fence and solar panels. The available views include high Voltage powerlines.
- 1.3.98 The perimeter fence and solar panels would be visible in the near distance of the view giving rise to a High magnitude of impact. Given the receptors' High sensitivity this would result in Major adverse significance of effect at winter Year 1 (on completion), which would be significant.
- 1.3.99 At Year 15, the establishment of the new reinforcement planting to the existing hedgerow surrounding the field in which the solar panels are located would have matured and the height of the new planting would result in the perimeter fence and a large proportion of the solar panels being screened. The hedgerow would not be a new feature but would reinforce the existing vegetation already present. Resulting in the composition and character of the view being partly improved. The magnitude of impact would be Medium-High, but the overall significance of effect would reduce slightly at summer Year 15, to Moderate/Major adverse for the duration of the operation, which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 49: View looking southwest from footpath 184/22/20

- 1.3.100 At winter Year 1, following the construction phase (on completion), the immediate foreground of this view would be unchanged. Within the mid-ground and across the view the solar panels within this part of the Projects southern site would be a noticeable feature within the view. Continuing on rising ground above Denman's Farm, a slither of green would be occupied by solar panels. The solar panels would not break the skyline at any point, with the characteristic Denman's and Smith Hill Copse remaining an obvious feature within the view enclosing the Project. To the southwest of the view the Project and NGET substations would be a noticeable feature within the view, partially screened by intervening layered vegetation. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact with parts of the Project in proximity to the view. Resulting in a Moderate adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.101 At summer Year 15, designed in landscape mitigation including hedgerow planning to the southern sites northern edge, appropriately managed, would screen views of those parts of the Project to the north of Denman's Farm nearest the view. Above this, on rising ground, parts of the Project would remain visible though not a prominent feature within the view. There would be a Low magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 50: View looking southeast from footpath 184/50/20, Oxford Green Belt Way adjacent Farmoor Reservoir

- 1.3.102 Following the construction phase (on completion) at winter Year 1, walkers at this viewpoint would obtain near distance south eastwards views of the adjacent solar farm and site of the Project substation and assumed location of the NGET substation (Figure 8.116 to 8.117a). Views of much of the southern site would not be available from this location. Due to the substation(s) views to the wider landscape and higher ground to the southeast would no longer be available. Although the substation(s) would not be solid building as such and would allow some glimpsed views through them. Hedgerow planting located adjacent to the boundary along the roadside would have recently been planted and would not provide much screening of the adjacent solar farm at winter Year 1.
- 1.3.103 The proposed substation(s) would be visible in the midground of this view giving rise to a High magnitude of impact. The views of higher ground to the southeast would be obstructed. Given the receptors' High sensitivity walkers would experience Major adverse significance of effect, which would be significant.
- 1.3.104 By year 15, the new hedgerow reinforcement, woodland planting and individual trees adjacent to the roadside and substation sites would have matured. Given the size of the substation(s) they would remain a noticeable element within the view, but their overall significance would be slightly diminished with the new landscaping having a screening effect, visually breaking up the overall mass of the substation(s). Existing retained vegetation in full leaf would similarly have some screening effect. The magnitude of impact would likely reduce slightly to Medium-High. Resulting in a residual Moderate to Major adverse significance of effect, which is significant.

Representative Viewpoint 51: View looking northeast from footpath 184/29/10, near Upper Whitely Farm

- 1.3.105 At winter Year 1, with gaps in the vegetation to the mid ground, there would be views to a very small part of the southern site in front of Smith Hill Copse. Much of the view would remain unchanged with a large portion of it left as existing to accommodate the route of the existing overhead power lines and water main. To the northernmost part of the view, seen above hedgerows, parts of the Project and NGET substation would be visible, although partially screened by existing retained vegetation and topography as it falls away from the view. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact with only a small part of the Project most noticeable in the view. This would result in a Negligible adverse significance of effect, which is not significant.
- 1.3.106 Due to the elevated nature of the viewpoint, available views to small parts of the Projects southern site, including parts of the Project and NGET substations, would remain at summer Year 15. Although existing trees in full leaf would partially screen the available views to the substations. It is considered that the magnitude of impact and significance of effect identified would remain at summer Year 15.

Representative Viewpoint 52: View looking north from the B4017 Tumbledown Road

- 1.3.107 At winter Year 1, intervening vegetation along Tumbledown Road would screen available views to much of the Project Site. With land falling away from the view, those parts of the southern site visible would be generally below the eyeline of road users with views towards Wytham Wood to the north remaining the predominant feature within this view. A small part of the Project Site, including glimpsed views to part of the main substation near to the road would be seen across the middle of the view occupying agricultural fields which have the overhead powerlines within them. Existing hedgerow vegetation, including along Tumbledown Road would break up those parts of the Project visible within the view. Along with a green strip, following the route of the overhead powerlines, which would ensure that the solar panels would not be a dominant feature within transient views. Here would be a Low magnitude of impact and Negligible to Minor adverse significance of effect as a result. Which is not significant.
- 1.3.108 At summer Year 15, roadside vegetation within the view would further screen the majority of Project Site visible within the view. There would remain channelled views to a small part of the Project, including the substation nearest the road, when looking north along Tumbledown Road. Views would be partially screened by intervening layered vegetation. There would remain a Low magnitude of impact, though with only a very small part of the Project Site visible below the eyeline of road users, it is considered that the significance of effect would be reduced to Negligible adverse, which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 53: View looking north from footpath 184/15/30, Oxford Green Belt Way

- 1.3.109 Following the construction phase (on completion), winter Year 1, views of the solar farm would be obtained across the central part of the frame from this elevated location (Figures 8.122 to 8.123a). The solar farm would be seen in the context of pylons and overhead powerlines. New hedgerow, tree planting and enhancements to existing hedgerows to provide screening would have recently been implemented and would provide little screening, however the composition and character of the view would be similar to the existing situation with the user's eye drawn above the solar farm to higher ground to the north. The solar farm would be similar in colour and scale to the Farmoor Reservoir to the northwest.
- 1.3.110 Areas of the solar farm would be visible in the middle distance at this location giving rise to Low magnitude of impact. Given the receptors' High sensitivity this would result in a Moderate adverse significance of visual effect which would not be significant.
- 1.3.111 By Year 15, hedgerow planting with trees, predominately to the perimeter of the site, and existing hedgerow enhancements would have matured and break up the overall mass of the southern site of the solar farm. Although due to the elevated location, views to much of it would remain noticeable in the middle distance. The magnitude of impact would reduce slightly to Negligible-Low, but

the overall significance of effect would reduce to Minor adverse which is not significant.

Representative Viewpoint 54: View looking north from footpath 184/16/20

- 1.3.112 At winter Year 1, a part of the Projects southern site would form an obvious feature in the immediate foreground of the view, on either side of the PRow as it goes north. Channelled views to the wider landscape and views to higher ground around Wytham Woods would remain a feature of the view, though views to solar panels would be a prominent feature within the view. There would be a Medium magnitude of impact upon users of High sensitivity, with much of the available views to the wider landscape still available. Resulting in a Major adverse significance of effect, which is significant.
- 1.3.113 At summer Year 15, new native species hedgerow planting to either side of the PRow, appropriately managed, would screen views of those parts of the Project nearest the view. Views to parts of the Projects southern site would remain visible other the hedgerow due to the topographical variation relative to the viewpoint's location. Though these views would be less prominent than those of Year 1. The hedgerow planting would channel views to the wider landscape away from the Project Site. There would be a Low magnitude of impact, with the significance of effect reducing to Minor adverse, which would not be significant.

Representative Viewpoint 55: View looking northwest from footpath 184/18/20, near Cumnor

- 1.3.114 At winter Year 1 and summer Year 15, views of the Project Sites southern sit would be limited. With the land falling away from the view the majority of it would be below he ridge line near to Denman's Copse. It is anticipated that a very small part of the Projects southernmost part, between Denman's and Smith Hill Copse may be discernible. This would be the very tops of the perimeter fence and / or solar panels and would not alter the overall panoramic view available towards Farmoor Reservoir. There would be a Negligible magnitude of impact and Negligible significance of effect, approaching No Effect, which would not be significant.