



Frodsham Solar

Environmental Statement: Volume 2

Appendix 6-6: Construction Phase Effects

May 2025



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

Revision P01

Appendix 6-6

Construction Phase Effects

Prepared for: Frodsham Solar Ltd

May 2025

EN010153/DR/6.2

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- 1.1.1 This Appendix of the Environmental Statement ('ES') sets out the assessment of the construction phase landscape and visual effects of the Proposed Development upon the landscape fabric, upon landscape character and upon viewpoints.
- 1.1.2 The assessment is concerned with landscape and visual effects that could arise specifically from construction activities only.
- 1.1.3 The baseline context and sensitivity for each receptor is not set out in detail here. The reader should refer to the following for details:
- i) Landscape Fabric. **ES Volume 1 Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Amenity [EN010153/DR/6/1] [EN010153/DR/6/1].**
 - ii) Landscape Character. **ES Volume 2 Appendix 6-7: Effects on Landscape Character [EN010153/DR/6/2].**
 - iii) Viewpoints. **ES Volume 2 Appendix 6-8: Effects on Viewpoints [EN010153/DR/6/2].**
- 1.1.4 All construction phase effects would be temporary in duration. As a worst case, it has been assumed that effects would last for the entirety of the approximately 30-month construction phase. In reality, many effects would be experienced for a shorter period, reflecting the progression of the works and the fact that different activities would take place at different times, and thus that the effects of these would be experienced at different times.

- 1.1.5 Where construction activities would occur within the footprint of the operational development, change is considered to be irreversible (i.e. the baseline situation would not be recreated) unless otherwise stated. Where activities would occur outside of the footprint of the operational development, change is considered to be reversible.

| Effects on Landscape Fabric | |
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| Sensitivity of Receptor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arable land: Low. • Pasture grassland: Low. • Neutral grassland: Medium. • Hedgerows: Medium. • Tree belts and hedgerow trees: High. • Scrub: Medium • Waterbodies and wetland vegetation: High • Hardstanding: Low |
| Change | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Localised removal of arable land, pasture, neutral grassland and scrub vegetation to accommodate temporary constructor's compounds within the Solar Array Development Area and the SPEN Grid Connection Area. • Compounds within the Solar Array Development Area would be covered by solar PV arrays and would not be reinstated, albeit they would be likely to revegetate over time. • SPEN Grid Connection compound area to be reinstated post-construction • Further limited disturbance in arable, pasture and neutral grassland areas from the installation of new structures, and vehicle movements associated with this. • Tree belts, hedgerows, and waterbodies/wetland vegetation protected during construction, with specific measures to be set out in the CEMP. • Magnitude of change on landscape fabric: Small |
| Level and Significance of Effect | |
| <p>A minor adverse effect would be experienced by arable land, pasture, neutral grassland and scrub. There would be localised loss of each of these vegetation types in order to facilitate the construction of the Proposed Development. Temporary compound areas would be reinstated post-construction.</p> <p>The majority of vegetation within the Order Limits would be retained and protected during construction. Any loss of vegetation would be very limited in extent, and would also be limited in duration.</p> <p>Effects would not be significant.</p> | |

| Effects on Landscape Character | | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|---|
| LCA | Sensitivity of Receptor | Magnitude of Change | Level and Significance of Effect |
| CWaCC LCA 2a: Frodsham | Medium to High | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views out over the Mersey Estuary. No change in the character of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| CWaCC LCA2b: Helsby Hill | Medium to High | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views out over the Mersey Estuary. No change in the character of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| CWaCC LCA3a: Helsby to Tarporley Sandstone Ridge | Medium | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views out over the Mersey Estuary. No change in the character of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| CWaCC LCA4a: Frodsham, Helsby and Lordship Marshes | Medium to High | Medium. Construction activity would occur largely within this LCA. Temporary presence of plant, fencing/hoardings, compounds, signage, would contrast with the existing make-up of features in the LCA Construction activities and movement of plant and people would increase the level of activity within the LCA | A moderate to major adverse effect upon landscape character would occur during the construction phase. The presence of construction activities and plant would represent a noticeable change to the existing character due to the appearance and movement of these new influences. Effects would be significant . |
| CWaCC LCA5b: Frodsham to Northwich | Medium | No visibility of construction activities is anticipated. No change in character | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| CWaCC LCA5f: Helsby to Frodsham | Medium to High | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views out over the Mersey Estuary. No change in the character of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| CWaCC LCA8a: Aston | Medium | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views out over the Mersey Estuary. No change in the character of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| CWaCC LCA9a: Dunham to Tarvin Plain | Low to Medium | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views towards the Order Limits from the north-westernmost part of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |

| Effects on Landscape Character | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|---|
| LCA | Sensitivity of Receptor | Magnitude of Change | Level and Significance of Effect |
| | | No change in the character of the LCA. | |
| CWaCC LCA15c: Lower Weaver Valley | Medium to High | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views out over the Mersey Estuary. No change in the character of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| CWaCC LCA16a: Stanlow and Ince Banks | High | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views inland from the Mersey Estuary. No change in the character of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| HBC LCA3: Moore Village and Keckwick Brook Valley | Medium to High | No visibility of construction activities is anticipated. No change in character | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| HBC LCA4: Upper Mersey Valley | Medium | No visibility of construction activities is anticipated. No change in character | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| HBC LCA5: Norton Wooded Parkland | High | No visibility of construction activities is anticipated. No change in character | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| HBC LCA6: Runcorn Hill and Heath Parkland | Medium | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views out over the Mersey Estuary. No change in the character of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |
| HBC LCA7: Hale Shore and Farmland | Medium to High | Construction activity visible as a very small scale and intermittent presence in views out over the Mersey Estuary. No change in the character of the LCA. | As there would be no change in character, there would be no effect upon the LCA |

| Effects on Viewpoints | | | |
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| Viewpoint | Sensitivity of Receptor | Magnitude of Change | Level and Significance of Effect |
| 1: Mersey Way, near Hale | High | Negligible. Glimpses of construction plant/activity potentially visible as a very limited presence in views across the Mersey. Existing structures would remain more prominent. | A negligible neutral effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would be a very limited addition to an expansive long range view where more prominent structures, including some with moving parts, are well established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 2: A56, Sutton Weaver | Medium to High | Negligible. Construction plant/activities would be very well screened by intervening features, and would be barely visible if at all. | A negligible neutral effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would be difficult to make out from the Viewpoint. Effects would not be significant . |
| 3: Ship Street, Frodsham | High | Small. Construction plant/activities would be well screened by foreground vegetation cover. There would be some limited visibility through this, with change towards the rear of the view | A minor to moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would result in limited background change in a context where traffic movement along the M56 and prominent structures north of the motorway are already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 4: Hawthorne Road, Frodsham | Medium to High | Negligible. Construction plant/activities would be very well screened by foreground vegetation cover, with only glimpses visible at worst | A negligible neutral effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would be difficult to make out from the Viewpoint. Effects would not be significant . |
| 5: Langdale Way, Frodsham | Medium to High | Small. Construction plant/activities would be well screened by foreground features. Plant/activities in the north-western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be more clearly visible | A minor adverse effect would occur. Construction would be a very limited addition towards the rear of the view, where prominent structures are well-established. There would be little change of note from baseline. Effects would not be significant . |
| 6: Public footpath, near St Laurence's Church, Frodsham | High | Small to Medium The majority of the construction plant/activities would be visible in the middle ground of the view. | A moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would be evident, but would always be seen in a context where traffic movement |

| Effects on Viewpoints | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|
| Viewpoint | Sensitivity of Receptor | Magnitude of Change | Level and Significance of Effect |
| | | Limited change, but change that is clearly visible | along the M56 and prominent structures north of the motorway are already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 7: Castle Park, Frodsham | High | Small. Construction plant/activities would be well screened by foreground features. Plant/activities in the south-western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be more clearly visible | A minor adverse effect would occur. Construction would be a very limited addition towards the rear of the view, where prominent structures are well-established. There would be little change of note from baseline. Effects would not be significant . |
| 8: A56, Chester Road, Frodsham | High | Small. Construction plant/activities would be well screened by foreground features. Plant/activities in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be more clearly visible, and there would glimpses of plant/activities elsewhere within the Order Limits | A minor to moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would result in limited background change in a context where prominent structures north of the M56 are already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 9: Frodsham Hill War Memorial | High | Medium Construction plant/activities would be a clearly visible addition in the middle ground of the view, and would replace the views of the undeveloped fields within the Solar Array Development Area. The presence of industry/infrastructure and associated movement (turbines blades, motorway traffic) is well-established, but would increase. | A moderate level of effect would occur. There would be a clear change in view as a result of the construction of the Proposed Development. The influence of development and associated movement would increase from baseline. The view would remain panoramic and expansive looking out across the Mersey Estuary where development is already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 10: Public footpath, north of Foxhill House | High | Small. Construction plant/activities would be well screened by foreground features. Plant/activities in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be more clearly visible, and there would glimpses of plant/activities | A minor to moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would result in limited background change in a context where prominent structures north of the M56 are already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |

| Effects on Viewpoints | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|--|
| Viewpoint | Sensitivity of Receptor | Magnitude of Change | Level and Significance of Effect |
| | | elsewhere within the Order Limits | |
| 11: Plovers Lane, Helsby | High | Negligible. Construction plant/activities would be very well screened by intervening vegetation cover, and would be difficult to make out clearly. | A negligible neutral effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would be difficult to make out from the Viewpoint. Effects would not be significant . |
| 12: Bates Lane | Medium | Small. Construction plant/activities would be well screened by foreground features. Plant/activities in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be more clearly visible. | A minor to moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would result in limited background change in a context where prominent structures north of the M56 are already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 13: Helsby Hill | High | Small to Medium The majority of the construction plant/activities would be visible towards the rear of the view. Limited change, but change that is clearly visible | A moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would be evident, but would always be seen in a context where traffic movement along the M56 and prominent structures north of the motorway are already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 14: M56, Weaver Lane overbridge | Medium to High | Small to Medium Construction plant/activities would be visible within the field to the north-east of the Viewpoint. Activities elsewhere within the Order Limits would however be screened by vegetation cover | A moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would be evident, but would always be seen in a context where very prominent traffic movement along the M56 is already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 15: M56, Brook Furlong overbridge | Medium to High | Small to Medium Construction plant/activities would be visible towards the rear of the view, with some partial screening by vegetation. Limited change, but change that is clearly visible | A moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would be evident, but would always be seen in a context where very prominent traffic movement along the M56, and prominent structures north of the motorway are already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 16: M56, Straight Length overbridge | Medium to High | Small Construction plant/activities would be a very limited addition | A minor adverse effect would occur. |

| Effects on Viewpoints | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|--|
| Viewpoint | Sensitivity of Receptor | Magnitude of Change | Level and Significance of Effect |
| | | to the middle ground of the view, with other features remaining more prominent. | Construction would be a small scale addition to a view where very prominent traffic movement along the M56, and prominent structures north of the motorway are already well-established Effects would not be significant . |
| 17: Public footpath within Order Limits | High | Medium Construction plant/activities would be an obvious new presence which would be clearly visible at short range. Movement of people and plant would increase the level of activity visible from the Viewpoint. | A moderate to major adverse effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would introduce new features and movement at short range, which would contrast clearly with the existing features that make up the view. Effects would be significant . |
| 18: Restricted byway leading to Frodsham Marsh Farm | Medium to High | Large Construction plant/activities would be clearly visible at short range all around the Viewpoint. Existing views across the surrounding fields would be replaced by views looking in all directions across a construction site. | A moderate to major adverse effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would introduce new features and movement at short range, which would contrast clearly with the existing features that make up the view. Effects would be significant . |
| 19: Restricted byway, Lordship Lane | High | Negligible. Construction plant/activities would be very well screened by intervening vegetation cover, and would be difficult to make out clearly. | A negligible neutral effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would be difficult to make out from the Viewpoint. Effects would not be significant . |
| 20: Restricted byway, Cross Lane | High | Medium. The majority of construction plant/activities would be well screened by intervening features and would be a very limited presence. Activities at the western edge of the Solar Array Development Area would be a very limited addition to the view. Activities elsewhere with the Solar Array Development Area would not be visible. Movement of vehicles along the Access Road would be a frequent although intermittent presence at the Viewpoint and would be | A moderate to major adverse effect would occur. The majority of construction activities/plant would be a very limited addition towards the rear of the view, where prominent structures are well-established. However, the movement of construction traffic along the Access Road, along which the Viewpoint is located, would be very prominent and would result in obvious changes in the experience of byway users. Effects would be significant . |

| Effects on Viewpoints | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| Viewpoint | Sensitivity of Receptor | Magnitude of Change | Level and Significance of Effect |
| | | very clearly visible at short range. | |
| 21: Restricted byway, Straight Length | High | Medium. The majority of construction plant/activities would be well screened by intervening features and would be a very limited presence. Activities at the south-western edge of the Solar Array Development Area would be a very limited addition to the view. Activities elsewhere with the Solar Array Development Area would not be visible. Movement of vehicles along the Access Road would be a frequent although intermittent presence at the Viewpoint and would be very clearly visible at short range. | A moderate to major adverse effect would occur. The majority of construction activities/plant would be a very limited addition towards the rear of the view, where prominent structures are well-established. However, the movement of construction traffic along the Access Road, along which the Viewpoint is located, would be very prominent and would result in obvious changes in the experience of byway users. Effects would be significant . |
| 22: Public footpath, Ince | High | Negligible. Construction plant/activities would be very well screened by intervening features. | A negligible neutral effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would be difficult to make out from the Viewpoint. Effects would not be significant . |
| 23: Public footpath, adj. to River Weaver | High | Medium Construction plant/activities would be an obvious new presence which would be clearly visible at short range. Movement of people and plant would increase the level of activity visible from the Viewpoint. | A moderate to major adverse effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would introduce new features and movement at short range, which would contrast clearly with the existing features that make up the view. Effects would be significant . |
| 24: The Willows | High | Small. Construction plant/activities would be well screened by foreground features. Plant/activities in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be more clearly visible. | A minor to moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would result in limited background change in a context where prominent structures north of the M56 are already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 25: Public footpath adj. to River Weaver | High | Medium to Large Construction plant/activities would be an obvious new presence which would be clearly visible at short range immediately west and south of | A moderate to major adverse effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would introduce new features and movement at short range, which |

| Effects on Viewpoints | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| Viewpoint | Sensitivity of Receptor | Magnitude of Change | Level and Significance of Effect |
| | | the Viewpoint. Movement of people and plant would increase the level of activity visible from the Viewpoint. | would contrast clearly with the existing features that make up the view. Effects would be significant . |
| 26: Public footpath, adj. to St Laurence's Church | High | Small to Medium The majority of the construction plant/activities would be visible in the middle ground of the view. Limited change, but change that is clearly visible | A moderate adverse effect would occur. Construction would be evident, but would always be seen in a context where traffic movement along the M56 and prominent structures north of the motorway are already well-established. Effects would not be significant . |
| 27: Public footpath, near Rocksavage Moorings | High | Negligible. Construction plant/activities would be very well screened by intervening features. | A negligible neutral effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would be difficult to make out from the Viewpoint. Effects would not be significant . |
| 28: Marsh Lock | High | Small Construction plant/activities at the northern edge of the Solar Array Development Area would be visible from the Viewpoint. However, views from the canal to the north would be very well screened by intervening vegetation. | A minor adverse level of effect would occur at worst. The construction of the Proposed Development would be a small scale addition to the expansive views available from the Viewpoint, and would be unlikely to be visible from the Weaver Navigation to the north of the viewpoint. Effects would not be significant . |
| 29: Weaver Navigation Access Track | High | Small Construction plant/activities at the edge of the Solar Array Development Area would largely be screened by intervening features. Views from the canal to the north would be further screened by intervening vegetation. | A minor adverse level of effect would occur at worst. The construction of the Proposed Development would be a small scale addition to the view available from the Viewpoint, and would be unlikely to be visible from the Weaver Navigation to the north of the viewpoint. Effects would not be significant . |
| 30: Weston Road, Runcorn | High | Small to Medium Construction plant/activities in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be visible, but the remainder of | A minor to moderate level of effect would occur. The construction of the Proposed Development would be partially screened by existing features and would be a relatively small |

| Effects on Viewpoints | | | |
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| Viewpoint | Sensitivity of Receptor | Magnitude of Change | Level and Significance of Effect |
| | | plant/activities would be screened by intervening features | scale addition to the expansive views available from the Viewpoint. |