



# **Frodsham Solar**

## **Environmental Statement: Volume 2**

### **Appendix 6-7: Effects on Landscape Character**

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## Appendix 6-7

## Effects on Landscape Character

Prepared for: Frodsham Solar Ltd

May 2025

EN010153/DR/6.2

- 1.1.1 This Appendix of the Environmental Statement ('ES') sets out the assessment of the effects upon landscape character that would occur during the operational phase of the Proposed Development against the landscape character areas identified by Cheshire West and Chester Council ('CWaCC') and Halton Borough Council ('HBC').
- 1.1.2 Refer to **ES Volume 1 Chapter 6.0: Landscape and Visual Amenity [EN010153/DR/6/1]** and to **ES Volume 2 Appendix 6-5 [EN010153/DR/6/2]** for further information relating to the landscape character baseline, and to **ES Volume 2 Appendix 6-1 [EN010153/DR/6/2]** for the methodology followed in undertaking the assessment. Refer to **ES Volume 2 Appendix 6-6 [EN010153/DR/6/2]** for an assessment of effects upon landscape character during the construction phase.

Effects on CWaCC LCA 2a: Frodsham					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics, and key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	←→	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Medium to large scale open landscape. Predominantly enclosed fields, but dense woodland along the scarp at the north-western boundary. Buildings, vegetation and traffic are scale indicators. Broad and expansive views from exposed locations		■		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assumed to be within extents of potential National Landscape.</li> <li>Within ASCV.</li> <li>Sandstone Trail and North Cheshire Way long distance routes.</li> <li>Recreational interest at Frodsham Hill War Memorial and the surrounding network of paths.</li> </ul>
Landform	Distinctive ridge, with dry gorges, steep cliffs at the northern and western edges.			■	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foxhill House overlaps the LCA boundary</li> </ul>
Land cover	Predominantly agricultural. Dense woodland cover on steeper slopes. Scattered rural properties. Former golf course being rewilded		■		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long views northwards across the Mersey Estuary from</li> </ul>

Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural activities predominate. Dispersed settlement. Naturalistic features in areas of steeper landform and on former golf course		■		Frodsham Hill War Memorial <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Areas of Ancient Woodland</li><li>• Localised designated heritage interest</li></ul>
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Remote and peaceful when contrasted with other parts of the Study Area		■		
Visual	Generally open with outwards views often available. Local screening from vegetation cover and along sunken lanes can be very significant. Backdrop to adjacent LCAs		■		
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA is medium to large in scale and is relatively open and exposed. Landform is distinctive and has associated naturalistic features, including large areas of woodland on steep slopes. The LCA is peaceful and remote when contrasted within busier areas to the north and west. The components of character that are most susceptible to change are the nature of underlying landform and the openness of the landscape, both of which could accentuate potentially adverse effects. Susceptibility to change is medium to high.</p> <p>The LCA is assumed to be located within the extents of the potential Sandstone Ridge National Landscape. It is also within the Helsby and Frodsham Hills ASCV. The Sandstone Trail and north Cheshire Way are notable promoted long-distance routes and there is network of public rights of way running throughout the LCA. There is a strong recreational interest at Frodsham Hill War Memorial due to the long views out from this location and to the network of paths that surround it. Further recreational interest is present at Foxhill House which overlaps the LCA boundary further south-west. Large areas of woodland within the LCA are Ancient Woodland. Designated heritage interest is localised. Value is high</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect			Geographical Extent		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Largely outside ZTV.</li><li>• Localised change in visual context from exposed ridgetop locations, such as Frodsham Hill War Memorial.</li><li>• These views are already characterised by the presence of extensive industry/infrastructure.</li><li>• Underlying characteristics would be unaffected</li></ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Very localised visual change – chiefly from Frodsham Hill War Memorial.</li></ul>		
Duration			Reversibility		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li></ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reversible following decommissioning.</li></ul>		
Magnitude					
<p><b>Negligible.</b></p> <p>The LCA lies largely outside the ZTV of the Proposed Development, with only patches of theoretical visibility predicted. There would be some localised change in visual context from exposed locations on the ridge top, notably from Frodsham Hill War Memorial. The introduction of the Proposed Development into outward views that are already strongly characterised by the presence of extensive industrial/infrastructure development would not result in any change in the underlying characteristics of the LCA.</p>					
Level and Significance of Effect					
<p>A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would generally not be visible from within the LCA. From the few locations where it would be visible, it would very obviously be located in a wholly different</p>					

landscape context which is already characterised by the presence of extensive built development. The contrast between this far more development landscape along the Mersey Estuary and that of the LCA would be wholly maintained. Character would not change appreciably from baseline. Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .
<b>Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial</b>
The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance, nor detract from the character of the landscape and of the LCA. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b> .

Effects on CWaCC LCA 2b: Helsby Hill					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics, and key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Landscape that is relatively open and regular in pattern, but physically small in extent, which limits overall scale. Vegetation and built structures are scale indicators. Broad expansive outwards views available from an elevated LCA			<div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Assumed to be within extents of potential National Landscape.</li><li>Within ASCV.</li><li>Scheduled Monument (hillfort).</li><li>Network of public rights of way, and two long distance trails</li><li>Helsby Quarry Nature Reserve</li></ul>
Landform	Prominent and distinctive hilltop landform, including steep cliffs			<div></div>	
Land cover	Predominantly agricultural. Dense woodland cover on steeper slopes. Scattered rural properties		<div></div>		
Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural activities and naturalistic features in areas of steeper landform predominate. Scattered rural settlement			<div></div>	
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Relatively remote in the local context with a sense of 'separateness' from less elevated and more developed areas. Windy and exposed nature limits sense of tranquillity.			<div></div>	
Visual	Generally open with outwards views often available. Local screening from vegetation cover and along sunken lanes can be very significant. Backdrop to adjacent LCAs			<div></div>	
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA is relatively open and exposed, but limited in extent, which reduces its perceived scale. Landform is distinctive and has associated naturalistic features, including large areas of woodland on steep slopes. The LCA feels remote and separate from busier areas to the north, north-east and west. The components of character that are most susceptible to change are the nature of underlying landform and the openness of the landscape, both of which could accentuate potentially adverse effects. Susceptibility to change is medium to high</p> <p>The LCA is assumed to be located within the extents of the potential Sandstone Ridge National Landscape. It is also within the Helsby and Frodsham Hills ASCV. The Longster Trail and North Cheshire Way are notable promoted long-distance routes and there is network of public rights of way running throughout the LCA. There is a strong recreational interest at Helsby Hill due to the long views out from this location and to the network of paths that surround it, which also connect with Helsby Quarry Nature Reserve. A Scheduled Monument (hillfort) is located on the hilltop. Value is high</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b>.</p>					



Size/Scale of Effect	Geographical Extent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largely outside ZTV.</li> <li>• Localised change in visual context from exposed ridgetop locations, such as the summit of Helsby Hill itself.</li> <li>• These views are already characterised by the presence of extensive industry/infrastructure.</li> <li>• Underlying characteristics would be unaffected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Localised visual change from the summit of Helsby Hill and from the eastern edge of the LCA.</li> </ul>
Duration	Reversibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>
Magnitude	
<p><b>Negligible.</b></p> <p>The LCA lies largely outside the ZTV of the Proposed Development, with only patches of theoretical visibility predicted. There would be some localised change in visual context from exposed locations such as the summit of Helsby Hill, and from the eastern edge of the LCA. The introduction of the Proposed Development into outward views that are already strongly characterised by the presence of extensive industrial/infrastructure development would not result in any change in the underlying characteristics of the LCA.</p>	
Level and Significance of Effect	
<p>A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would generally not be visible from within the LCA. From the few locations where it would be visible, it would very obviously be located in a wholly different landscape context which is already characterised by the presence of extensive built development. The contrast between this far more development landscape along the Mersey Estuary and that of the LCA would be wholly maintained. Character would not change appreciably from baseline. Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>	
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial	
<p>The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance, nor detract from the character of the landscape and of the LCA. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b>.</p>	

Effects on CWaCC LCA 3a: Helsby to Tarporley Sandstone Ridge					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics, and key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Medium scale landscape of enclosed fields which vary in size/shape. Relatively open with limited vegetation cover. Buildings, traffic and vegetation are scale indicators. Long views out to the east and west in particular		■		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overlaps the assumed extent of potential National Landscape.</li><li>• Overlaps ASCV.</li><li>• Sandstone Trail, Longster Trail and North Cheshire Way run through the LCA.</li><li>• Designated heritage interest concentrated in Alvanley</li></ul>
Landform	Generally, the west facing slopes of the Sandstone Ridge, with localised variations in landform. The northern edge of the LCA slopes from south to north		■		
Land cover	Predominantly agriculture, with small village at Alvanley		■		
Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural activities predominate. Settlement concentrated at Alvanley	■			
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Relatively typical rural landscape, with some occasional noise and movement, but generally peaceful. A more remote feel than more developed areas to the north		■		
Visual	Views tend to be open, with outward views across adjacent LCA to the east and west available		■		
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA is a landscape of medium scale fields, which are relatively open and exposed with long views outwards to the east and west. The availability of such views into and out of the LCA is the key component of character that is susceptible to change from solar development. Susceptibility to change is medium.</p> <p>The north-eastern edge of the LCA overlaps the assumed boundary of the potential Sandstone Ridge National Landscape. The same area is located within the Helsby and Frodsham Hills ASCV. The majority of the LCA lies outside any existing or potential landscape designation. The Sandstone Trail, Longster Trail and North Cheshire Way are notable promoted long-distance routes. Designated heritage interest is concentrated within Alvanley village. Value is medium</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Largely outside ZTV.</li><li>• Very limited change in visual context at the northern edge of the LCA</li><li>• The underlying characteristics of the LCA would be unaffected</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Localised visual change from the northernmost part of the LCA; a north-facing slope north of the minor road called 'Commonside'.</li></ul>			
Duration		Reversibility			

• Long-term (40-year lifespan).	• Reversible following decommissioning.
<b>Magnitude</b>	
<p><b>Negligible.</b></p> <p>The LCA would be largely outside the ZTV of the Proposed Development. There would be some localised visibility from the northern edge of the LCA, where the landform slopes from south to north and hence views towards Frodsham Marshes are available. This would result in some very limited change in the visual context of that part of the LCA, from which built development is already visible in the distance. The underlying characteristics of the LCA would be unaffected.</p>	
<b>Level and Significance of Effect</b>	
<p>A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would generally not be visible from within the LCA. From the few locations where it would be visible, it would very obviously be located in a wholly different landscape context which is already characterised by the presence of extensive built development. The contrast between this far more development landscape along the Mersey Estuary and that of the LCA would be wholly maintained. Character would not change appreciably from baseline. Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>	
<b>Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial</b>	
<p>The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance, nor detract from the character of the landscape and of the LCA.</p>	



Effects on CWaCC LCA 4a: Frodsham, Helsby and Lordship Marshes					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics; key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.; and forces for change and management guidelines					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Large scale landscape, in places enclosed by hedgerows. Typically, very open and exposed with broad views available. Scale indicators include vegetation and boundary features (e.g. fencing), motorway traffic to the south and large industrial structures including pylons and wind turbines		■		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>National Cycle Route 5.</li> <li>Network of public rights of way.</li> <li>A distinctive landscape, and which is familiar to large numbers of people</li> <li>The LCA is strongly influenced by industrial/infrastructure development</li> </ul>
Landform	Low lying flat former saltmarsh/mudflats. Areas of higher grounds associated with canal dredging deposits provide localised variation. Flood banks. Surrounding higher ground provides a distinctive skyline		■		
Land cover	A combination of agriculture, large scale industry and infrastructure development, and the M56. Some areas are managed with nature conservation interest in mind.	■			
Settlement & Human Influence	Modern influences are predominant including contemporary agriculture, commercial scale wind turbines, modern industrial facilities, the M56 motorway, and the Manchester Ship Canal. Very little settlement. Engineered landforms, with functional drainage system. Nevertheless, the influence of the natural world is unmistakable.	■			
Remoteness and Tranquillity	The LCA has a feeling of separateness from surrounding landscape to the south, and in places does feel remote. The widespread influence of industry and infrastructure, which includes moving features and noise limits the sense of tranquillity.		■		

Visual	Views across and out of the LCA are generally open, and there is a strong intervisibility with adjacent landscapes to the south (notably LCAs 2a, 2b, 5f). There is locally significant screening provided by vegetation along some field boundaries, or associated within industrial facilities.				
<b>Sensitivity</b>					
<p>The LCA is a large-scale open and exposed landscape. Views tend to be broad and expansive, both within and looking out of the LCA. The landform is very flat and low-lying, with some localised variation due to historic dredging deposits. There are a range of different influences present within the LCA, including extensive large scale industrial and infrastructure development. The entirety of the LCA is the result of human intervention to drain former marshland. Nevertheless, the influence of the natural world remains a strong one. The LCA is separate in feel from land to the south and has a remote feel in places especially further from the M56. Intervisibility with the higher ground to the south is a notable part of the visual context of the LCA. The key components of character that are susceptible to change are the separateness, openness, the expansive nature of views and the strong visual relationship with land to the south. Susceptibility to change is medium to high. The LCA is not the subject of any landscape designations. There is no designated heritage interest. National Cycle Route 5 crosses the LCA and there is an extensive network of public rights of way, many of which are relatively well-used. The landform and land cover/land use result in a landscape that has a distinctive character, and which is familiar to large number of people living in the adjacent towns and passing by on the M56. Large scale industrial and infrastructure is a well-established presence within the LCA and this has resulted in the presence of conspicuous detracting features, but also in the introduction of environmental enhancements. Value is medium to high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b>.</p>					
<b>Size/Scale of Effect</b>			<b>Geographical Extent</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be introduced into this LCA.</li> <li>Direct physical change within from the introduction of the new structures.</li> <li>The existing character of a very flat low-lying drained saltmarsh, with large-scale industry and infrastructure present would remain. Increase in the well-established influence of infrastructure development upon the LCA.</li> <li>Enhancements to the existing path network.</li> <li>New planting to provide visual screening from the M56</li> <li>Enhancements to existing vegetation cover to provide landscape and biodiversity benefits</li> <li>Change in character within the Solar Array Development Area from a relatively open landscape with development very evident nearby, to one partly characterised by the presence of built structures.</li> <li>Within land south and west of the Solar Array Development Array character would remain similar to baseline.</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change concentrated in and around the Solar Array Development Area, i.e. the north-eastern part of the LCA.</li> </ul>		
<b>Duration</b>			<b>Reversibility</b>		

• Long-term (40-year lifespan).	• Reversible following decommissioning.
Magnitude	
<p><b>Medium.</b></p> <p>The Proposed Development would be introduced into this LCA and hence there would be direct physical change as a result of the presence of the proposed new structures and internal access roads. This would occur largely within the Solar Array Development Area, with the only physical changes proposed elsewhere within the Order Limits being the SPEN Grid Connection.</p> <p>The existing character of the LCA is one of a very flat, low-lying salt marsh where large-scale industry and infrastructure development exerts a strong influence. Underlying characteristics would remain should the Proposed Development be introduced, but with the already well-established influence of infrastructure increased. The influence of development within the Solar Array Development Area would perceptibly be intensified, and character would change from a location where development is very evident nearby to one that is partially characterised by the presence of built structures. Outside this area to the south and west, character would not undergo any change of note from baseline.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would include measures to enhance public access via provision of new permissive walking routes and would also incorporate materials to help people interpret their surroundings. New planting and other landscape treatments would be introduced to provide screening of views from the M56 and the edge of Frodsham to the south-east and to provide landscape and biodiversity enhancements elsewhere.</p>	
Level and Significance of Effect	
<p>A <b>moderate to major</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would result in a notable change in the character of that part of the LCA within and in close proximity to the Solar Array Development Area. This part of the LCA is already influenced strongly by the presence of large-scale built infrastructure development, but this influence would increase perceptibly due to both the physical extent of the solar farm and its visibility from locations within and outside the LCA. The underlying character of a very flat, low-lying salt marsh where large-scale industry and infrastructure development exerts a strong influence would remain. The Proposed Development would also include measures to enhance peoples' experience and understanding of the landscape and to enhance landscape features and biodiversity. Effects would be <b>significant</b>.</p> <p>Outside of the Solar Array Development Area within the central and south-western parts of the LCA, character would not change appreciably from baseline.</p>	
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial	
<p>The effects of the Proposed Development would generally be <b>adverse</b>. The landscape and biodiversity enhancements and enhancements to public access and interpretation would have a <b>beneficial</b> effect.</p>	

Effects on CWaCC LCA 5b: Frodsham to Northwich					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics, and key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Medium scale landscape of enclosed fields. Nature of views varies with landform. Vegetation, buildings and traffic are scale indicators. Regular field pattern		■		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overlaps ASCV.</li><li>• North Cheshire Way and Eddisbury Way long-distance paths.</li><li>• Designated heritage interest is sparse.</li></ul>
Landform	Eastern slopes of the Sandstone Ridge, incised with tributary valleys and subject to localised variations		■		
Land cover	Predominantly agriculture, with village at Kingsley (at the edge of the Study Area)		■		
Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural activities predominate. Settlement concentrated at Kingsley and scattered elsewhere		■		
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Relatively typical rural landscape, with some occasional noise and movement, but generally peaceful. A more remote feel than more developed areas to the north and north-west		■		
Visual	Views tend to be open, with outward views across adjacent LCAs to the east available. Strong relationship with the valley of the River Weaver immediately to the east.			■	
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA is a landscape of medium scale fields, which are relatively open and exposed with long views outwards to the east. The availability of such views into and out of the LCA is the key component of character that is susceptible to change from solar development. Susceptibility to change is medium.</p> <p>The eastern fringe of the LCA area is located within the Weaver Valley ASCV. The majority of the LCA lies outside any landscape designations. The Eddisbury Way and North Cheshire Way are notable promoted long-distance routes. Designated heritage interest is sparse. Value is medium</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Predicted theoretical visibility is virtually nil.</li><li>• No change in character</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• n/a.</li></ul>			
Duration		Reversibility			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/a.</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/a.</li></ul>			
Magnitude					
No Change.					

The predicted theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development would be virtually nil. Any very localised change in view that may occur would not be sufficient to result in any change in character.
Level and Significance of Effect
As there would be no change in character, there would <b>be no effect</b> upon the LCA
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial
N/a

Effects on CWaCC LCA 5f: Helsby to Frodsham					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics, and key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Medium to large scale and relatively regular field pattern located within a valley defined on either side by Frodsham and Helsby Hills. Many scale indicators, including buildings, vegetation and traffic. Views are typically expansive to the north. The limited physical extent of the LCA limits overall scale.		■		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overlaps extents of potential National Landscape.</li><li>• Overlaps ASCV.</li><li>• North Cheshire Way.</li><li>• Foxhill House overlaps LCA boundary.</li><li>• Very sparse designated heritage interest.</li></ul>
Landform	Distinctive valley landform, opening out into the fringes of the marshes to the north. The adjacent hills are distinctive skyline features		■		
Land cover	Predominantly agricultural with patches of scattered settlement		■		
Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural practices. Built development around the fringes of Frodsham and Helsby. A56. Often clear views of development along the Mersey estuary to the north	■			
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Increasingly less remote and tranquil from south to north	■			
Visual	Strong intervisibility with the adjacent hills and with the Mersey Estuary. Localised screening by vegetation		■		
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA extends over a small valley between Frodsham Hill and Helsby Hill. The small physical extent of the LCA limits its perceived scale. The distinctive landform of the LCA and the strong visual relationship with adjacent LCAs are the key components of character that are susceptible to change. Susceptibility to change is medium to high.</p> <p>The southern and eastern parts of the LCA overlap the assumed boundary of the potential Sandstone Ridge National Landscape. The same areas are located within the Helsby and Frodsham Hills ASCV. The parts of the LCA north of the A56 lie outside any existing or potential landscape designation. The North Cheshire Way is a notable promoted long-distance route. Foxhill House overlaps the LCA boundary and has recreational interest. Designated heritage interest is very sparse. Value is medium to high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The majority of the LCA is located within the ZTV of the Proposed Development.</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Change across the majority of the LCA.</li></ul>			



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outward views to the north are characterised by prominent development within the Mersey Estuary, including wind turbines and pylons.</li> <li>• The further presence of the Proposed Development, which is likely to be less evident due to its far lower height, would result in only incremental change to these views.</li> <li>• There would be limited change to the visual context of the LCA.</li> <li>• Underlying characteristics would remain.</li> </ul>	
Duration	Reversibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>
Magnitude	
<p><b>Small.</b></p> <p>The Proposed Development would be theoretically visible from the majority of the LCA. The outward views looking north across the Mersey Estuary including towards the Solar Array Development Area are characterised by the presence of prominent development, including wind turbines and electricity pylons. The M56 is also a prominent feature. The introduction of the Proposed Development into such view, comprising far smaller and hence less evident structures (albeit with a larger footprint), would only give rise to incremental change in these views. There would be limited change to the visual context of the LCA, with underlying landscape characteristics remaining unchanged</p>	
Level and Significance of Effect	
<p>A <b>minor to moderate</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The presence of the Proposed Development would result in some change to the views available looking out of the LCA across the Mersey Estuary to the north. The presence of prominent built development in these views is well-established, and the addition of the Proposed Development would only result in small scale further change which would not result in any notable effects upon landscape character.</p> <p>Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>	
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial	
<p>The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b>.</p>	

Effects on CWaCC LCA 8a: Aston					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics, and key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Large scale regular shaped fields superimposed on a localised ridge east of the valley of the River Weaver. Broad views out from more exposed locations. relatively simple uniform pattern. Scale indicators include buildings, vegetation and traffic.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overlaps ASCV.</li><li>• National Cycle Route 5</li><li>• Areas of Ancient Woodland.</li><li>• Designated heritage interest scattered throughout</li></ul>
Landform	Low undulating ridge, which forms the skyline in views from adjacent valley areas				
Land cover	Predominantly agricultural, with several large woodlands on the western slopes				
Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural practices and large farm holdings. Large areas of woodland. Suburban development at the edge of Runcorn, scattered rural properties elsewhere. Crossed by the M56. Pylons.				
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Less busy and noisy than adjacent areas to the north and west, but not somewhere that could reasonably be consider tranquil or remote				
Visual	Open views outwards from much of the LCA. Very significant localised screening from vegetation. Intervisibility with Weaver Valley to the west and with developed areas around Runcorn and on Frodsham Marshes				
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA is a landscape of large regular shaped field located on the ridge east of the River Weaver and south-east of Runcorn. It is relatively open, but with some large areas of woodland cover. Outward views include built development and transport infrastructure, which limits the susceptibility to change from development located outside the LCA. Susceptibility to change is medium</p> <p>Approx. half the LCA lies within the Weaver Valley ASCV. National Cycle Route 5 runs through the LCA and there are large areas of Ancient Woodland present. designated heritage interest is scattered throughout the LCA. Value is medium to high</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Localised theoretical visibility.</li> <li>• Any change in outward views would be in the context of existing views of urban/industrial/infrastructure development to the north and west.</li> <li>• As such only very limited change in visual context would occur</li> <li>• Underlying characteristics would be unaffected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change in visual context on west facing slopes east of the Weaver Valley.</li> </ul>
Duration	Reversibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>
Magnitude	
<p><b>Negligible.</b></p> <p>The would be localised theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development, which would occur on the west facing slopes along the eastern side of the Weaver Valley. Any change in views experienced from these areas would occur in the context of the well-established presence of extensive urban/industrial/infrastructure development to the north and west of the LCA including at Runcorn and on Frodsham Marshes. Any further change in visual context would be very limited. The underlying characteristics of the landscape would be unaffected.</p>	
Level and Significance of Effect	
<p>A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be theoretically visible from some locations within the LCA, in a context where extensive built development is already a well-established presence in outward views. The further presence of the Proposed Development would not lead to any appreciable change in character from baseline.</p> <p>Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>	
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial	
<p>The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance, nor detract from the character of the landscape and of the LCA. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b>.</p>	

Effects on CWaCC LCA 9a: Dunham to Tarvin Plain					
Key Characteristics					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics, and key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Extensive landscape of small, geometric shaped but irregularly patterned fields, superimposed on a flat low-lying landform. Views tend be broad, but can be restricted by vegetation cover. Buildings vegetation and traffic are scale indicators.		■		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No landscape designations.</li><li>• National Cycle Route 5.</li><li>• Scattered designated heritage interest.</li></ul>
Landform	Flat, low-lying landform, rising slightly to the south and east. Little variation.	■			
Land cover	Predominantly agricultural. Motorway services and junction, small settlement at Hapsford. Helsby Golf Club.				
Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural practices. Major motorway corridor.	■			
Remoteness and Tranquillity	The area north of Ince has a relatively remote feel. The majority of the LCA within the Study Area is neither remote not tranquil.		■		
Visual	Views out to higher ground and to areas of prominent/large-scale development in surrounding areas. Vegetation often provides significant screening in the context of the flat low-lying landform.		■		
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA is a low-lying landscape of small, geometric but irregular fields. It is relatively open, but with visual screening by vegetation often significant. Built development in surrounding areas is often clearly visible, and the M56 is a strong influence, which limits the susceptibility to change from development located outside the LCA. Susceptibility to change is low to medium.</p> <p>The LCA is not subject to any landscape designations. National Cycle Route 5 runs through the LCA close to Ince. Designated heritage interest is scattered throughout. Value is low to medium</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>low to medium</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proposed Access Route would skirt the edge of the LCA but would follow Grinsome Road and no physical change would occur.</li><li>• Localised theoretical visibility.</li><li>• Any change in outward views would be in the context of existing views of</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Very limited change in visual context around Ince and along the A5177.</li></ul>			

<p>urban/industrial/infrastructure development to the north and west.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As such only very limited change in visual context would occur</li> <li>• Underlying characteristics would be unaffected</li> </ul>	
Duration	Reversibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>
Magnitude	
<p><b>Negligible.</b></p> <p>The Proposed Access Route would skirt the edge of the LCA but would follow Grinsome Road and no physical change would occur. There would be localised theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development, which would occur around Ince and along the A5177 corridor at the edges of the Study Area. Any change in views experienced from these areas would occur in the context of the well-established presence of extensive urban/industrial/infrastructure development to the north and north-east of the LCA. Any further change in visual context would be very limited. The underlying characteristics of the landscape would be unaffected.</p>	
Level and Significance of Effect	
<p>A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be theoretically visible from some locations within the LCA, in a context where extensive built development is already a well-established presence in outward views. The further presence of the Proposed Development would not lead to any appreciable change in character from baseline.</p> <p>Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>	
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial	
<p>The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance, nor detract from the character of the landscape and of the LCA. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b>.</p>	

Effects on CWaCC LCA 15c: Lower Weaver Valley					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics, and key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Valley landscape with enclosure provided by the surrounding landform, by areas of dense vegetation cover and by a series of bridges. Generally large scale. Vegetation and built structures are scale indicators. Broad views across/along the valley are typical.			<div></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mostly within ASCV.</li><li>• National Cycle Route 5</li><li>• North Cheshire Way</li><li>• Weaver Navigation.</li><li>• Ancient Woodland and SSSIs.</li><li>• Scattered designated heritage interest</li></ul>
Landform	Low lying and fairly uniform valley landform. Skylines formed by the higher ground to east and west			<div></div>	
Land cover	Predominantly agricultural. Built infrastructure is the main landuse in the north-westernmost part of the LCA	<div></div>			
Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural practices. Prominent overbridges carrying the M56, A56 and railway. Weaver Navigation is a man-made watercourse. Large substation north-west of the M56. Views of industrial/infrastructure development at Runcorn and Frodsham Marshes from the north-western part of the LCA		<div></div>		
Remoteness and Tranquillity	The majority of the LCA has a relatively remote an tranquil feel due largely to very limited presence of roads in the valley. The north-westernmost part of the LCA is busy and noisy.			<div></div>	
Visual	Typically views along and across the valley area available. A series of bridges carrying roads and railways across the River and canal provide visual separate between the majority of the LCA and the north-westernmost part of it			<div></div>	
Sensitivity					



<p>The LCA is a low-lying and relatively open valley bottom landscape, with little built development and a relatively remote and tranquil feel. Susceptibility to change is medium to high. The north-westernmost part of the LVIA is visually segregated from the majority by a series of bridges that carry roads and railways across the valley. This area is also strongly influence by the presence of industry/infrastructure further to the north and west.</p> <p>Most the LCA is located within the Weaver Valley ASCV. National Cycle Route 5 and the North Cheshire Way cross the LCA, and the Weaver Navigation runs along the valley floor. Several large areas of Ancient Woodland are present along the edges of the LCA, and some of these are also designated as SSSIs. Designated heritage interest is scattered throughout. Value is medium to high</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b>.</p>	
Size/Scale of Effect	Geographical Extent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Order Limits include parts of the LCA, but the only physical change would be an additional overhead connection running from the Solar Array Development Area into the Substation</li> <li>Very localised theoretical visibility.</li> <li>The majority of the LCA would be unaffected.</li> <li>Change would occur in an area where the influence of industry/infrastructure is already strong.</li> <li>The underlying characteristics of the landscape would not change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very localised visibility within the north-westernmost part of the LCA, largely west of railway.</li> </ul>
Duration	Reversibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>
Magnitude	
<p><b>Negligible.</b></p> <p>The Order Limits include parts of the LCA, but the only physical change would be an additional overhead connection running from the Solar Array Development Area into the Substation. There would be localised theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development, which would occur in the north-westernmost part of the LCA. Any change in views experienced from these areas would occur in the context of the well-established presence of extensive urban/industrial/infrastructure development to the north and north-east of the LCA. Any further change in visual context would be very limited. The underlying characteristics of the landscape would be unaffected</p>	
Level and Significance of Effect	
<p>A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be theoretically visible from some locations within the LCA, in a context where extensive built development is already a well-established presence in outward views, and which are not typical of the LCA as a whole. The further presence of the Proposed Development would not lead to any appreciable change in character from baseline.</p> <p>Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>	
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial	
<p>The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance, nor detract from the character of the landscape and of the LCA. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b>.</p>	

Effects on CWaCC LCA 16a: Stanlow and Ince Banks					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics, and key landscape sensitivities, qualities and values.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Large scale, open, exposed. Simplistic and uniform pattern of water and mudflats. Featureless				<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No landscape designations.</li><li>• Multiple national and international nature conservation designations</li><li>• Very localised designated heritage interest</li><li>• Manchester Ship Canal is not a recreational route</li><li>• Distinctive landscape/seascape defined by water and tidal processes and highly visible from adjacent LCAs</li></ul>
Landform	Very flat and low-lying. Parts wholly underwater, parts subject to tides				
Land cover	Estuary land cover – open water and mudflats				
Settlement & Human Influence	Natural influences overwhelmingly predominate. Built features in surrounding areas are prominent. Unsettled. Manchester Ship Canal is the main built feature.				
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Remote, empty and isolated when contrasted with surrounding areas				
Visual	No screening features, strong intervisibility with surrounding areas. Open and exposed visually				
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA is a large scale open and exposed landscape/seascape defined by open water, mudflats and the tides. Built development in surrounding areas is prominent. Susceptibility to change is high</p> <p>The LCA is not subject to any landscape designations. It is however subject to multiple national and international nature conservation designation. There is very localised designated heritage interest around the fringes of the LCA. The Manchester Ship Canal is not a recreational route and there is no public access elsewhere. The LCA is very distinctive due to the influence of water and the tides, and is highly visible from adjacent areas. Value is medium to high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theoretical visibility would extend across the majority of the LCA.</li><li>• Views of the Proposed Development on Frodsham Marshes would occur in the context of existing, well-established and far more prominent structures.</li><li>• The presence of built development in landwards areas adjacent to the LCA is already strong.</li><li>• The underlying character of what is a tidal/estuary landscape/seascape would not change</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Change across the majority of the LCA.</li></ul>			
Duration		Reversibility			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reversible following decommissioning.</li></ul>			
Magnitude					
<b>Negligible.</b>					

<p>The Proposed Development would be theoretically visible across the majority of the LCA. However, change in view would occur in the context of existing, well-established and far more prominent structures such as Frodsham Wind Farm, Stanlow Oil refinery, Protos, industry at Runcorn and development on the northern side of the River. The presence of such development in the landward areas adjacent to the LCA is already a strong influence on character. The underlying character of what is a tidal/estuary landscape/seascape would not change as a result of the Proposed Development.</p>
Level and Significance of Effect
<p>A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be visible from within the LCA but its presence would not result in any appreciable effect upon the character of any area defined by open water, tidal processes and the presence of large-scale prominent built development in landward views.</p> <p>Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial
<p>The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance, nor detract from the character of the landscape and of the LCA. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b>.</p>

Effects on HBC LCA 3: Moore Village and Keckwick Brook Valley					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Medium scale, relatively open internally but enclosed as a whole by landform and built development. Buildings, vegetation and vehicles are scale indicators		■		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No landscape designations.</li><li>• Cheshire Ring Canal Walk and Mersey Valley Trail long-distance paths.</li><li>• Bridgewater Canal</li></ul>
Landform	Valley landform, with steep slopes on the eastern side		■		
Land cover	Chiefly agriculture and tree belts	■			
Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural practices. Major road and rail corridors. Bridgewater Canal runs through the LCA. Views of adjacent development within Runcorn	■			
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Relatively tranquil away from the motorway. Not remote		■		
Visual	Landform and built pattern limit outward views.		■		
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA is located at the edge of Runcorn. The principal susceptible component of character is the nature of the landform which reduces the scale of the LCA and would accentuate any change within it. Value is medium to high</p> <p>The LCA is not subject to any landscape designations. The Cheshire Ring Canal Walk and Mersey Valley Trail or long-distance paths. The Bridgewater Canal is a further important recreational route. Value is medium.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No predicted theoretical visibility.</li><li>• No change in character</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• n/a.</li></ul>			
Duration		Reversibility			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/a.</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/a.</li></ul>			
Magnitude					
<b>No Change.</b> <p>The LCA is wholly outside the ZTV of the Proposed Development. There would be no change in character.</p>					
Level and Significance of Effect					
As there would be no change in character, there would <b>be no effect</b> upon the LCA					
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial					
N/a					

Effects on HBC LCA 4: Upper Mersey Valley					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Large scale open and exposed with simple pattern of open water and saltmarsh. Buildings and traffic in the surrounding area and on the Mersey Gateway are scale indicators				<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No landscape designations.</li><li>• Mersey Way National Trail skirts the edge of the LCA</li><li>• Wigg Island Nature Reserve</li></ul>
Landform	Very flat and low-lying. Parts wholly underwater, parts subject to tides				
Land cover	Estuary land cover – open water and mudflats				
Settlement & Human Influence	Natural influences overwhelmingly predominate. Built features in surrounding areas are prominent. Unsettled. Mersey Gateway is the main built feature.				
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Not an area than could be reasonably considered to be remote, tranquil, empty or isolated due to the strong influence of surrounding built development				
Visual	No screening features, strong intervisibility with surrounding areas. Open and exposed visually				
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA is subject to a variety of influences, some of which are highly susceptible to change, and others that have a low susceptibility. Whilst an open and exposed area defined largely by open water and marshland, the influence of the surrounding urban areas and the Mersey Gateway is very strong. On balance, susceptibility to change is medium.</p> <p>No landscape designations. The Mersey Way runs around the northern edge of the LCA. Wigg Island Nature reserve on the southern side of the Mersey. Value is medium.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No predicted theoretical visibility.</li><li>• No change in character</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• n/a.</li></ul>			
Duration		Reversibility			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/a.</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/a.</li></ul>			
Magnitude					
<b>No Change.</b> <p>The LCA is wholly outside the ZTV of the Proposed Development. There would be no change in character.</p>					
Level and Significance of Effect					
As there would be no change in character, there would <b>be no effect</b> upon the LCA					
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial					
N/a					

Effects on HBC LCA 5: Norton Wooded Farmland					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Small scale landscape. A mix of open areas and woodland. Enclosed by surrounding built development. Buildings, traffic and vegetation are scale indicators			■	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No landscape designations.</li><li>• Mersey Valley Trail long-distance path</li><li>• Norton Priory (schedule monument and listed buildings).</li><li>• Ancient Woodland at Murdishaw Wood</li><li>• Dry ski slope</li><li>• Phoenix Park</li><li>• Miniature railway</li><li>• Windmill Hill (Woodland Trust site)</li></ul>
Landform	Varied and undulating			■	
Land cover	Woodland, open spaces (grassland), and occasional built structures			■	
Settlement & Human Influence	A belt of greenspace within urban Runcorn. Very obvious human influences. Some historic buildings	■			
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Not remote or tranquil, but offers a contrast with adjacent urban areas		■		
Visual	Views limited by a combination of landform, vegetation and cover and the surrounding built pattern.	■			
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA comprises a belt of green space within the Runcorn urban area. It is small in scale and largely enclosed visually by the surrounding built development. Land cover relates largely to amenity uses. Susceptibility to change is high.</p> <p>The LCA is not subject to any landscape designations. There are many amenity/recreational features present including the Mersey Valley Trail, Norton Priory, Windmill Hill, Phoenix Park, a dry ski slope and a miniature railway. Norton Priory also includes several designated heritage assets. There is an Ancient Woodland at Murdishaw Wood. Value is high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No predicted theoretical visibility.</li><li>• No change in character</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• n/a.</li></ul>			
Duration		Reversibility			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/a.</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/a.</li></ul>			
Magnitude					
<b>No Change.</b> <p>The LCA is wholly outside the ZTV of the Proposed Development. There would be no change in character.</p>					
Level and Significance of Effect					
As there would be no change in character, there would <b>be no effect</b> upon the LCA					
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial					
N/a					



Effects on HBC LCA 6: Runcorn Hill and Heath Parkland					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Small scale landscape. A mix of open areas and tree cover. Enclosed by surrounding built development, but with longer views out available. Buildings, traffic and vegetation are scale indicators			■	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No landscape designations.</li><li>• Runcorn Hill.</li><li>• Heath Park</li><li>• Golf course.</li><li>• Rock Savage (listed building)</li></ul>
Landform	Edge of a hillside elevated above the Mersey estuary			■	
Land cover	Woodland, open spaces (grassland), and occasional built structures	■			
Settlement & Human Influence	A belt of greenspace within urban Runcorn. Very obvious human influences. Major road corridors and extensive industrial development nearby.		■		
Remoteness and Tranquillity	Not remote or tranquil	■			
Visual	Some long views out over the Mersey Estuary.		■		
Sensitivity					
<p>The LCA comprises a belt of green space within the Runcorn urban area. It is small in scale and largely enclosed visually by the surrounding built development. Land cover relates largely to amenity uses. The influence of industrial and infrastructure development in adjacent parts of Runcorn is very strong. Susceptibility to change is medium.</p> <p>The LCA is not subject to any landscape designations. Runcorn Hill and Heath Park are areas of public open space. A golf course also occupies much of the LCA. Rock Savage is a designated heritage asset (listed building). Value is medium to high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect			Geographical Extent		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Localised theoretical visibility.</li><li>• Any change in outward views would be in the context of existing views of urban/industrial/infrastructure development to the south and west.</li><li>• As such only very limited change in visual context would occur</li><li>• Underlying characteristics would be unaffected</li></ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Change in view around the southern fringes of the LCA.</li></ul>		
Duration			Reversibility		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li></ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reversible following decommissioning.</li></ul>		
Magnitude					
<b>Negligible.</b>					
There would be localised theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development, which would occur at the southern edge of the LCA. Any change in views experienced from these areas would occur in the context of the well-established presence of extensive urban/industrial/infrastructure development to the south and south-west and further afield on Frodsham Marshes. Any further					

change in visual context would be very limited. The underlying characteristics of the landscape would be unaffected
Level and Significance of Effect
A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur. The Proposed Development would be theoretically visible from some locations within the LCA, in a context where extensive built development is already a well-established presence in outward views. The further presence of the Proposed Development would not lead to any appreciable change in character from baseline. Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .
Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial
The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance, nor detract from the character of the landscape and of the LCA. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b> .

Effects on HBC LCA 7: Hale Shore and Farmland					
Refer to Appendix 6-6 for details of key characteristics.					
Susceptibility to Change		Lower	↔	Higher	Value
Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Large scale open and exposed landscape. Regular geometric field pattern. Estuarine marshes/salt flats and open water. Vegetation, buildings and traffic are scale indicators		■		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No landscape designation.</li><li>• Mersey Way long distance trail.</li><li>• Designated heritage interest concentrated in Hale</li></ul>
Landform	Very flat and low lying coastal plain. Parts of the estuary are wholly underwater, parts subject to tides.			■	
Land cover	Enclosed agriculture. Open water. Saltmarsh. Hale village	■			
Settlement & Human Influence	Contemporary agricultural practices. Built development outside the LCA on either side of the Mersey Estuary is clearly visible. Settlement concentrated in Hale.		■		
Remoteness and Tranquillity	A remote feel along the coast and an obvious contrast with the far more developed surrounding areas.			■	
Visual	Few screening features and string intervisibility with surrounding areas			■	
Sensitivity					
<p>A large scale open and exposed estuary landscape comprising enclosed fields, areas of coastal saltmarsh, and open water. The presence of built development along other parts of the Mersey Estuary is an obvious one. A remote feel and contrast with nearby urban and industrial areas. Susceptibility is medium to high.</p> <p>The LCA is not subject to any landscape designations. The Mersey Way long-distance trail runs through the LCA. Designated heritage interest is concentrated in Hale. Value is medium.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b>.</p>					
Size/Scale of Effect		Geographical Extent			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theoretical visibility from much of the LCA.</li><li>• Any change in outward views would be in the context of existing views of urban/industrial/infrastructure development to elsewhere along the Mersey Estuary.</li><li>• As such only very limited change in visual context would occur</li><li>• Underlying characteristics would be unaffected</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The southern and eastern parts of the LCA (including areas of open water).</li></ul>			
Duration		Reversibility			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reversible following decommissioning.</li></ul>			
Magnitude					

<p><b>Negligible.</b></p> <p>There would be theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development from the southern and eastern parts of the LCA (including from areas of open water). Any change in views experienced from these areas would occur in the context of the well-established presence of extensive urban/industrial/infrastructure development elsewhere along the Mersey Estuary, including on Frodsham Marshes. Any further change in visual context would be very limited. The underlying characteristics of the landscape would be unaffected</p>
<p><b>Level and Significance of Effect</b></p> <p>A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be theoretically visible from some locations within the LCA, in a context where extensive built development is already a well-established presence in outward views. The further presence of the Proposed Development would not lead to any appreciable change in character from baseline.</p> <p>Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>
<p><b>Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial</b></p> <p>The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance, nor detract from the character of the landscape and of the LCA. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b>.</p>