



Frodsham Solar

Environmental Statement: Volume 2

Appendix 6-10: Influence of Lighting Conditions

May 2025



PINS Ref: EN010153

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

Revision P01

Appendix 6-10

Influence of Light Conditions

Prepared for: Frodsham Solar Ltd

May 2025

EN010153/DR/6.2

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 The purpose of this Appendix to the Environmental Statement ('ES') is to provide further information regarding the influence of light conditions upon the visibility of the Proposed Development.
- 1.1.2 Engagement with Cheshire West and Chester Council ('CWaCC') undertaken in January 2025 following statutory pre-application consultation raised a question regarding the rendering of the proposed Solar PV Modules in the preliminary photomontages. Solar PV Modules are not all identical. The preliminary photomontages were prepared on the basis that Solar PV Modules would be dark blue. However, grey or black Solar PV Modules are also available.
- 1.1.3 Subsequent work has been established that in terms of visual appearance, black is likely to be the worst-case option in terms of colour, as a black Solar PV Module would provide the greatest degree of contrast with its surroundings. All final visualisation material has thus been prepared on the basis that the Solar PV Modules would be black.
- 1.1.4 Irrespective of the colour of the Solar PV modules, the degree to which these would be visible would be influenced by prevailing light conditions. Light conditions vary with the time of day and with the weather and this can often have result in very noticeable changes in how particular features appear when viewed at different times from the same location.

- 1.1.5 In relation to the Proposed Development, particular concerns were raised by CWaCC in respect of the potential visual effects from Frodsham War Memorial (Viewpoint 9 as described in **ES Volume 1 Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Amenity [EN010153/DR/6.1]**). As such, a series of photographs have been taken from Frodsham War Memorial in order to illustrate how views can change in different light conditions. These photographs are presented on the accompanying Figures 1a-1b.
- 1.1.6 Image A is a photograph taken in bright conditions, at approximately 8:20 am in late April 2023. Image B is a photograph taken in bright, but cloudy conditions, at approximately 10:12 am in late March 2024. Image C is a photograph taken in hazy conditions, at approximately 9:50am in early April 2025. Image D is a photograph taken just prior to sunset, at approximately 8:15pm in late April 2025. Image E is a photograph taken in the middle of the day in mid May 2025.
- 1.1.7 In each instance whilst overall visibility is good, the light conditions present when the different photographs were taken do have an obvious influence upon the colour of the features that are visible. The colour of the fields within the Solar Array Development Area and the colour of buildings in Frodsham located towards the foreground of the view differs from photograph to photograph, as does the colour of the sky. More distant features, such as industrial development at Runcorn, the towers and cable stays on the Mersey Gateway bridge, and the former Fiddlers Ferry Power Station at Warrington (now partially demolished) also differ in appearance from image to image.
- 1.1.8 Views across the landscape, especially when experienced from elevated locations such as at Frodsham War Memorial, are inherently dynamic and changeable due to the nature of light conditions, which are infinitely varied. It can thus be concluded that the appearance of the Proposed Development (and in particular of the Solar PV Modules) within these views would vary depending upon light conditions. This would affect its prominence in the view, which would therefore not be consistent. This change would occur independently of the colour of the proposed Solar PV Modules.



Image A: Shot 20th April 2023, at 08:20



Image B: Shot 22nd March 2024, at 10:12



Image C: Shot 4th April 2025, at 09:50

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Regulation 5(2)(a) Infrastructure Planning
(Applications: Prescribed Forms and
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Figure Number
Appendix 6-10: Figure 1a

Figure Title
**Light Conditions Photography:
Sheet 1**

Scale
N/a

Date
May 2025



Image D: Shot 24th April 2025, at 20:13



Image E: Shot 09th May 2025, at 13:40

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Regulation 5(2)(a) Infrastructure Planning
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Figure Number
Appendix 6-10: Figure 1b

Figure Title
**Light Conditions Photography:
Sheet 2**

Scale
N/a

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