Dean Moor
Solar Farm

Environmental Statement: Appendix 7.2 – Schedule of Landscape Effects

on behalf of **FVS Dean Moor Limited**

~~March~~ 25 November 2025
Prepared by: Stantec UK Ltd
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DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

APPENDIX 7.2 – SCHEDULE OF LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE EN010155

PREPARED ON BEHALF OF FVS DEAN MOOR LIMITED

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009, Regulation 5(2)(a)

Project Ref:	**EN010155/ES/Appendix 7.2: Schedule of Landscape Effects**
Status:	Final
Issue/ Rev:	2~~1~~
Date:	~~March~~ November 2025

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Landscape Character						
Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit Landscape Character Type (LCT): **LCT 9: Intermediate Moorland & Plateau – Sub-type 9a: Open Moorlands** **This LCT covers the northern part of Site C.*	The sub-type lies between Kershope Forest and Spadeadam Forest near Bewcastle in the north, and to the east of Distington and Frizington on the west coast. Key characteristics include: • *"High mostly open landscapes;* • *Undulating semi-improved and unimproved pasture;* • *Open rough moorland;* • *Areas of deciduous woodland; and* • *Areas of peat and raised mire."* Guidelines within the character assessment discuss development, with suggestions including: • *"Avoid siting development on prominent edges of the plateau taking advantage of the natural containment offered by intermediate ridges and horizons;* • *Minimise the impact of development by careful siting and design and seek environmental gains such as heather moorland restoration; and* *Ensure new development respects the local landscape character and vernacular."*	**Value of LCT:** Medium **Susceptibility to Change:** Medium **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM**	**Likely Significant Effects** **During Construction:** This LCT would experience direct change within its north-eastern part as a result of the various elements of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure being introduced into the agricultural and moorland areas. There would also be an increase in traffic movements associated with HGV deliveries to Site using the local routes. There would be limited change to the key characteristic of undulating land as earthworks required to facilitate the various ancillary elements would be minimal. Areas of woodland within the LCT would see no change also as suitable buffers are implemented, with hedgerows within the Site also largely protected. The construction activity within, or visible from the LCT, would occur over a short-term period (18 months) and result in the following: • Very small-scale loss of field boundary hedgerows to facilitate site access. • Small-scale loss of arable farmland during the installation of the substation, inverters and POC masts, and introduction of areas of landscape planting (woodland / scrub planting, hedgerow, and riparian planting). • Small-scale changes arising from the construction/installation of solar modules, POC masts, substation and inverters, ancillary structures, and access tracks, including visibility of, and noise from construction vehicles, installation and use of task lighting, and temporary fencing. • Small-scale but brief to short term use of arable farmland for construction compounds and material storage, including visibility of, and noise from construction vehicles. The introduction of the various construction activities would incur change resulting from the minor loss of baseline features, and introduction of infrastructure that does not quite fit with the attributes of the receiving landscape, and overall it is considered due to the undulating landscape and vegetation this change would be limited to the part of the LCT within the Site (direct), consequently altering key characteristics, but would not change the key characteristics of the wider LCT. There would be a very limited effect on the indirect qualities such as the perception of the open landscape given the development has been sited away from the elevated positions within the Site, is typically low lying and it would not interrupt the perception of the wider landscape including the high fells.	**During Construction:** **Size/Scale:** Medium **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the landscape sub-type. **Duration/Reversibility:** Construction activities would be short-term (18 months) and reversible. Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules, substation and inverters, POC masts, and ancillary equipment)	Moderate adverse Direct / Indirect	**Moderate Significant**

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
			Operation (Year 1): At Year 1 there would continue to be: • Small-scale loss of arable farmland from the installation of the substation, inverters and POC masts, introduction of areas of landscape planting and access tracks. • Small-scale changes arising from the presence of security fencing / CCTV and modified / proposed site access. • Very small-scale conversion of arable farmland from the current regime to a species rich grassland (rough acid moorland) achieved through relaxed grazing. The proposed mitigation measures broadly reflect the guidelines highlighted within the landscape character assessment noted opposite, albeit landscape planting would not have fully established to provide its environmental function. The design has sought to site development within the natural containment offered by the undulating landform, and away from the plateau to the south. The minor loss of features, and introduction of infrastructure would continue to result in little change to the key characteristics of the overall LCT, with change ultimately being focussed on the area of the LCT within the Site.	**Operation (Year 1):** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the landscape sub-type. **Duration/Reversibility:** Long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules, substation and inverters, POC masts, and ancillary equipment)	~~Moderate~~ ~~Slight~~ adverse Direct	Minor Not significant
			Decommissioning: During Decommissioning, effects are predicted to be similar to those experienced during the construction phase, albeit in reverse, with land within the Site boundaries returned to its former use as far as practicable. Areas of landscape planting are assumed to be permanent and will continue to provide a landscape and biodiversity function.	**Decommissioning:** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the landscape sub-type. **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term, and reversible associated with Decommissioning of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Slight adverse Direct	Minor Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
			Residual Effects			
			During Construction No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**During Construction** As above	As above	As above
			Operation (After 15 Years): By year 15 the proposed mitigation measures such as internal hedgerow planting, woodland and shrub planting would have established to provide its environmental function essentially reducing effects. Measures would also provide some beneficial aspects including enhancement of the landscape character through provision of riparian and scrub planting to watercourses supporting habitat connectivity and biodiversity gains. Areas of species rich grassland achieved through a relaxed grazing regime, would also support biodiversity net gain, and respond positively to the landscape character. The change in character as a result of the Proposed Development will remain; however, this will also remain as a localised change within the wider LCT.	**Operation (After 15yrs):** Size/**Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the landscape sub-type. **Duration/Reversibility:** Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development. Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Slight adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant
			Decommissioning: No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**Decommissioning:** As above	As above	As above
Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit **Landscape Character Type (LCT):** **LCT 9: Intermediate Moorland & Plateau – Sub-type 9d: Ridges**	Key characteristics of the Ridges sub-type include the following: • *"Distinct ridges;* • *Extensive areas of heathland moorland;* • *Improved pasture with distinctive stone walls; and* • *Woodland and small belts of trees form prominent features."* Guidelines within the character assessment discuss development, with suggestions including: • *"Minimise the impact of development*	**Value of LCT:** Medium **Susceptibility to Change:** Medium **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM**	**Likely Significant Effects**			
			During Construction: The extent of the Proposed Development within this area has been restricted, and development within the LCT would be limited to solar modules located to the immediate area west of Branthwaite Road up to the escarpment. Taller features have been excluded from this LCT and development has been fully restricted on the plateau accounting for its elevated position. Overall, this approach limits the potential for direct effects and reduces the potential for indirect effects across a wider area. There would also be an increase in traffic movements associated with HGV deliveries to Site using the local routes. The construction activity within, or visible from the wider LCT, would occur over a short-term period (18 months) and result in the following: • Very small-scale loss of arable farmland following the introduction of areas of landscape planting (woodland / scrub planting, hedgerow, and riparian	**During Construction:** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the wider landscape sub-type. **Duration/Reversibility:** Construction activities would be short-term (18 months) and reversible. Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the	Slight adverse Direct / Indirect	Minor Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
**This LCT covers the southern part of Site C*	*by careful siting and design and seek environmental gains such as heather and moorland restoration."* The majority of land within the Site which is covered by the LCT focuses on the escarpment and plateau to the south of the Site. It covers the elevated area located between the Stone Circle and Cairn SM on the Sites western boundary and Dean Cross / Branthwaite Road on the eastern side.		planting), and changes to the agricultural management practices. • Very small-scale loss of field boundary hedgerows to facilitate site access. • Small-scale but brief to short term visibility of construction compounds, material storage, and construction vehicles. • Very small-scale changes arising from the construction/installation of solar modules, POC masts, substation and inverters, ancillary structures, and access tracks, including visibility of, and noise from construction vehicles, installation and use of task lighting, and temporary fencing. The introduction of the various construction activities would result in some limited change, from the discernible loss of baseline features, and introduction of infrastructure that does not quite fit with the attributes of the receiving landscape. Overall, it is considered due to the undulating landform and vegetation this change would be limited to the part of the LCT within and immediately adjacent to the Site and there would be limited indirect effects on the wider LCT, such as the perception of the distinct ridges, given the development has been sited away from the elevated positions within the Site.	introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment)		
			<u>Operation (Year 1):</u> At Year 1 there would continue to be: • Very small-scale loss of arable farmland resulting from the introduction of areas of landscape planting, and changes to the agricultural management practices. • Very small-scale changes arising from the presence of security fencing, CCTV, proposed / modified site access & access tracks. • Small-scale conversion of arable farmland from the current regime to a species rich grassland (rough acid moorland) achieved through relaxed grazing. The proposed mitigation measures broadly reflect the guidelines highlighted within the landscape character assessment, albeit landscape planting would not have fully established to provide its environmental function. Once construction activity has ceased the effects from the Proposed Development would be reduced from that reported at construction. The design has sought to site development within the natural containment offered by the undulating landform, and away from the plateau to the south. Overall, it is considered the minor loss of features, and introduction of infrastructure would result in barely discernible change to the key characteristics of the overall LCT.	**<u>Operation (Year 1):</u>** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site and within its immediate setting. **Duration/Reversibility:** Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment)	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
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BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
			<u>Decommissioning:</u> During Decommissioning, effects are predicted to be similar to those experienced during the construction phase, albeit in reverse, with land within the Site boundaries returned to its former use as far as practicable. Areas of landscape planting are assumed to be permanent and will continue to provide a landscape and biodiversity function.	**<u>Decommissioning:</u>** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site and within its immediate setting. **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term, and reversible associated with Decommissioning of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Slight adverse Direct	Minor Not significant
			<u>Residual Effects</u>			
			<u>During Construction</u> No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**<u>During Construction</u>** As above	As above	**<u>As</u>** above
			<u>Operation (After 15 Years):</u> By year 15 the proposed mitigation measures such as internal hedgerow planting, woodland and scrub planting would have established to provide its environmental function essentially reducing effects. Measures would also provide some beneficial aspects including enhancement of the landscape character through reinforcement of woodland belts whilst supporting habitat connectivity and supporting biodiversity gains such as through delivering areas of species rich grassland through a relaxed grazing regime, allowing the moorland areas to flourish. The change in character as a result of the Proposed Development will remain, however this will remain as a localised change affecting part of the Site and its immediate setting, and overall, these would not change the key characteristics of the wider LCT.	**<u>Operation (After 15 Years):</u>** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site and within its immediate setting. **Duration/Reversibility:** Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment). Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Negligible adverse Direct	**<u>Negligible</u>** Not significant

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			<u>Decommissioning:</u> No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**<u>Decommissioning:</u>** As above	As above	As above
Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit: **Landscape Character Type (LCT):** **LCT 5: Lowlands – Sub-type 5a: Ridge and Valley** **This LCT broadly covers Sites A and B south of Branthwaite Road and north of Gilgarran Road.*	This LCT covers a large area from Carlisle to Workington, interrupted west of Cockermouth by LCT 8b: Broad Valleys and LCT 5d: Urban Fringe before wrapping around LCTs 9a and 9d which contain the majority of the Site. Key characteristics include: • *"A series of ridges and valleys that rises gently toward the limestone fringes of the Lakeland Fells;* • *Well managed regular shaped medium to large pasture fields;* • *Hedge bound pasture fields dominate, interspersed with native woodland, tree clumps, and plantations;* • *Scattered farms and linear villages found along ridges; and* • *Large scale structures generally scarce."* Guidelines for development within the LCT include: *"Wind turbines and other energy infrastructure should be carefully sited and designed to prevent this sub type becoming an energy landscape."*	**Value of LCT:** Medium **Susceptibility to Change:** Medium **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM**	**<u>Likely Significant Effects</u>**			
			<u>During Construction:</u> This LCT would experience direct change within its southern part, this a result of the various elements of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure being introduced into the agricultural landscape. There would also be an increase in traffic movements associated with HGV deliveries to Site using the local routes. There would be some potential limited changes to landform resulting from earthworks required to facilitate the various ancillary elements. Areas of woodland within the LCT would see no change as suitable buffers are implemented. Existing hedgerows and hedgerow trees would be retained, with minimal widening of hedgerows within the Site required for access, limiting vegetation loss. Existing grassland would also be retained where possible, allowing pastoral activities to resume. The construction activity within, or visible from the LCT, would occur over a short-term period (18 months) and result in the following: • Very small-scale direct loss of field boundary hedgerows to facilitate site access. • Small-scale direct loss of arable farmland from the installation of substation and inverters and POC masts, and installation of access tracks and the introduction of areas of landscape planting (woodland / scrub planting, hedgerow, and species rich grassland). • Small-scale changes arising from the construction/installation of solar modules, including visibility of, and noise from construction vehicles, installation and use of task lighting, and temporary fencing. • Small-scale but brief to short term use of arable farmland for construction compounds and material storage, including visibility of, and noise from construction vehicles. Although the introduction of the various construction activities would incur change resulting from the minor loss of baseline features, and introduction of infrastructure that does not quite fit with the attributes of the receiving landscape, overall it is considered the existing retained vegetation would help integrate this into the landscape and this change would be limited to the part of the LCT within the Site and it this would not change the key characteristics of	**<u>During Construction:</u>** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the wider landscape sub-type. **Duration/Reversibility:** Construction activities would be short-term (18 months) and reversible. Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment.	Slight adverse Direct / Indirect	Minor Not significant

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Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
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			the overall LCT. There would be very limited indirect effects resulting from vehicle movements beyond the Site boundary.			
			<u>Operation (Year 1):</u> Upon completion activity would cease, however the installation of the various elements associated with the Proposed Development would remain a perceptible localised change to landscape character. At Year 1 there would continue to be: • Very small-scale changes arising from the presence of security fencing, CCTV, proposed / modified site access & access tracks. • Small-scale loss of arable farmland resulting from the introduction of areas of landscape planting, and changes to the agricultural management practices accounting for the Proposed Development. The proposed mitigation measures (landscape planting) would not have fully established to provide its environmental function, however the natural containment offered by the vegetation, and the layout responding to the pattern of the landscape protecting hedgerows and field boundary features will aid integration of the Proposed Development into the landscape. It is therefore considered the minor loss of features, and introduction of infrastructure would result in little change to the key characteristics of the overall LCT.	**<u>Operation (Year 1):</u>** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site and within its immediate setting. **Duration/Reversibility:** Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment).	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant
			<u>Decommissioning</u> During Decommissioning, effects are predicted to be similar to those experienced during the construction phase, albeit in reverse, with land within the Site boundaries returned to its former use as far as practicable. Areas of landscape planting are assumed to be permanent and will continue to provide a landscape and biodiversity function.	**<u>Decommissioning:</u>** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site and within its immediate setting. **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term, and reversible associated with Decommissioning of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Slight adverse Direct	Minor Not significant

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			Residual Effects			
			During Construction No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**During Construction** As above	As above	As above
			Operation (After 15 Years): By year 15 the proposed mitigation measures such as internal hedgerow reinforcement, woodland and scrub planting would have established to provide its environmental function essentially reducing effects. Measures would also provide some beneficial aspects including enhancement of the landscape character through reinforcement of woodland belts whilst supporting habitat connectivity and supporting biodiversity gains such as through delivering areas of species rich grassland. The change in character as a result of the Proposed Development will remain, however this will remain as a localised change affecting part of the Site and its immediate setting, and overall, these would not change the key characteristics of the wider LCT.	**Operation (After 15 Years):** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site and within its immediate setting. **Duration/Reversibility:** Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment) Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant
			Decommissioning: No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**Decommissioning:** As above	As above	As above

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
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BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
LDNP Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines (2021) **LDNP Areas of Distinctive Character (ADC) 8: Loweswater** *VL12, VL13a/13b/13c and VL14 lie within this Area of Distinctive Character *This ADC overlaps the following LDNP LCTs: LCT G: Rugged Angular Slate High Fell, LCT H: Upland Valley, LCT I: Upland Limestone Farmland, and LCT J: High Fell Fringe.* The ADC also encroaches on the following Cumbria County Council LCT sub-types within the 7.5km search area: LCT 5a:	Loweswater ADC lies approximately 2.3km east of the Site at its nearest point. The ADC is associated with Landscape Character Types G: Rugged, Angular Slate High Fell, H: Upland Valley, and J: High Fell Fringe, all of which are assessed within this Appendix. Relevant distinctive characteristics of the ADC are: • *"Relatively low, smooth profile open moorland and heather clad fells in the north and south of the area contrasting with the more enclosed, verdant, wooded and intricately patterned Loweswater valley in the centre;* • *The western part of the area has a very different feel with its open views out to the coastal plain and its towns and villages;* • *In contrast to many central parts of the Lake District, the area feels quiet, with relatively few visitors; and* • *Predominantly a very tranquil landscape characterised by scattered settlements."* Relevant landscape sensitivities associated with the ADC include: • *"The western part of the area will be particularly sensitive to developments on the coast;* • *Overall sense of tranquillity, which is vulnerable to potential increases in tourist-related activity and associated traffic; and* • *Significant sensitivity to the cumulative impacts of vertical infrastructure."*	**Value of ADC:** High **Susceptibility to Change:** Medium **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH**	**Likely Significant Effects**			
			During Construction: During construction of the Proposed Development the physical and experiential distinctive characteristics associated with the ADC would remain unaffected, given the non-encroachment of its boundaries. Although the Proposed Development would be relatively close to the western extents of the ADC (2.3km), intervisibility linked with the experiential qualities of the ADC is limited, particularly given the wider scope of visibility available from higher ground (see VLs 12, 13a, 13b, 13c and 14). The low-lying nature of the Proposed Development would result in characteristics of the ADC such as the open views out towards the coastal plain being maintained, and there would be minimal discernible impact on its tranquillity given the overall distance. Consequently, there would be little discernible change overall, and any change as a result of construction would be short-term.	**During Construction:** **Size/Scale:** Very small **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** Construction activities would be short-term (18 months) and reversible. Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment.	Negligible adverse Indirect	Minor Not significant
			Operation (Year 1): During operation, indirect effects would not noticeably alter the distinctive characteristics of the ADC. In relation to the sensitivities associated with the ADC, the Proposed Development would not result in a potential increase in tourist activity, and the verticality of the various elements within the Site would not impact noticeably on available views.	**Operation (Year 1):** **Size/Scale:** Very small **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment).	Indistinct adverse Indirect	Negligible Not significant
			Decommissioning: During Decommissioning, effects are predicted to be similar to those experienced during the construction phase, albeit in reverse, with land within the Site boundaries returned to its former use as far as practicable.	**Decommissioning:** **Size/Scale:** Very small **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term, and reversible associated with Decommissioning of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure. Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Negligible adverse Indirect	Minor Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Ridge and Valley, LCT 11a: Foothills, and LCT 12b: Rolling Fringe.			**Residual Effects**			
			During Construction No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**During Construction** As above	As above	As above
			Operation (After 15 Years): At Year 15 of operation, indirect effects are predicted to be largely similar to those predicted at year 1 of operation, with the Proposed Development having no direct effect on the ADC, and an indistinct effect on its experiential qualities overall. The introduction of additional planting within the Site would result in an increase in visible green infrastructure in views from the ADC, positively enhancing the wider views available.	**Operation (After 15 Years):** **Size/Scale:** Very small **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment). Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Indistinct adverse Indirect	Negligible Not significant
			Decommissioning: No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**Decommissioning:** As above	As above	As above
LDNP Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines (2021) **Landscape Character Type (LCT):**	The LCT is situated approximately 3.2km east and southeast of the Site. Definitive Attributes as described within the LDNP Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines which are relevant to the Proposed Development include: • *"Elevated land within this type includes the summits of Skiddaw, Blencathra, Grisedale Pike, Causey Pike,*	**Value of LCT:** High **Susceptibility to Change:** Medium **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH**	**Likely Significant Effects**			
			During Construction: This LCT would experience a just discernible, indirect change to its definitive attributes in the form of experiential change as a result of increased vehicle movements and the introduction of the solar panels and construction of the ancillary elements given the relatively strong intervisibility with the surrounding area. Although construction activity within the Site would appear barely discernible from this LCT, given the importance associated with the visual experience of the LCT, an indirect, negligible change is predicted.	**During Construction:** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term/Reversible	Negligible adverse Indirect	Minor Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
LCT G: Rugged Angular Slate High Fell **VL12, VL13a/13b/13c and VL14 all lie within this LCT*	• *Grassmoor and Black Combe; and* • *Uplifting panoramic external views from the fell summits, including the Irish Sea, Isle of Man and Morecambe Bay from Black Combe, and the Solway Coast and North Pennines from the northern fells."* Sensitivities and Capacity for Change for this LCT are largely based around intervisibility as a result of its very open character, although areas where there is high visibility can be counter-balanced with areas of limited or no visibility, such as in higher locations where views are screened by elevated topography. The LCT also benefits from rare and fragile natural habitats and a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity. Overall capacity to accommodate change without compromising key characteristics within this LCT is considered by the LDNP Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines to be very limited apart from change which reinforces positive attributes such as habitat enhancements including sensitively placed gill and other woodland.		**Operation (Year 1):** Following completion of the Proposed Development indirect effects are predicted to reduce, resulting in no noticeable change to the LCTs definitive attributes, and no indirect effects on the sensitivities and capacity for change. Although not matured at this early stage, the introduction of woodland within the Site as part of the proposed mitigation measures would enhance views from the LCT, providing positive benefits in line with its Guidelines for change.	**Operation (Year 1):** **Size/Scale:** No change **Geographical Extent:** N/A **Duration/Reversibility:** N/A	No change N/A	No change Not significant
			Decommissioning: During Decommissioning, effects are predicted to be similar to those experienced during the construction phase, albeit in reverse, with land within the Site boundaries returned to its former use as far as practicable.	**Decommissioning:** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term/Reversible	Negligible adverse Indirect	Minor Not significant
			Residual Effects			
			During Construction No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**During Construction** As above	As above	As above
			Operation (After 15 Years): By year 15 of the Proposed Development predicted effects are considered to remain similar to those experienced at year 1 of operation, resulting in no discernible change to the defined attributes, and no indirect effects on the sensitivities and capacity for change. The introduction of woodland within the Site as part of the proposed mitigation measures would however enhance views from the LCT, providing positive benefits in line with its Guidelines for change.	**Operation (After 15yrs):** **Size/Scale:** No change **Geographical Extent:** N/A **Duration/Reversibility:** N/A	No change N/A	No change Not significant
			Decommissioning: No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**Decommissioning:** As above	As above	As above

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
LDNP Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines (2021) Landscape Character Type (LCT): LCT I: Upland Limestone Farmland This LCT overlaps with the following Cumbria County Council LCT sub-types: LCT 12b: Rolling Fringe	This LCT is situated approximately 750m east of the Site at its nearest point, and lies on the western boundary of the LDNP, extending as far as Whitekeld and Glenmore plantation. Definitive Attributes as described within the LDNP Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines which are relevant to the Proposed Development include: • *"Topography is primarily gently rolling, forming a stark contrast with the ruggedness of the neighbouring volcanic rocks of Borrowdale and Skiddaw;* • *The openness of the landscape facilitates panoramic views in places; and* • *Lacking in large expanses of ancient woodland and woodland plantations; ancient woodland, with occasional small copses (both deciduous and coniferous) plantations more of a feature towards the east."* Sensitivities and Capacity for Change concentrates largely on the relatively high ecological sensitivity of the LCT, with overall visual sensitivity regarded as being moderate to high, with higher visual sensitivity attributed to sensitive cultural landscapes coinciding with open landforms. Overall, the LCT was judged to have limited capacity to accommodate change without compromising key characteristics.	**Value of LCT:** High **Susceptibility to Change:** High **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: HIGH**	**<u>Likely Significant Effects</u>**			
			<u>During Construction:</u> Given the LCTs proximity to the Site, it is considered there would be limited, indirect experiential change as a result of construction works. Although there would be no physical change as a result of construction, the LCTs Definitive Attributes include a sense of openness with panoramic views, and a gently rolling character. This change during construction is considered to be very small however, and short-term.	**<u>During Construction:</u>** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term/Reversible	Negligible adverse Indirect	Minor Not Significant
			<u>Operation (Year 1):</u> Following completion of the Proposed Development there would be a reduction in the indirect effects as a result of construction activity ceasing. The Proposed Development would remain partially visible within areas of the LCT, but this would not result in any noticeable experiential change overall.	**<u>Operation (Year 1):</u>** **Size/Scale:** No change **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** N/A	No change N/A	No change Not significant
			Decommissioning: During Decommissioning, effects are predicted to be similar to those experienced during the construction phase, albeit in reverse, with land within the Site boundaries returned to its former use as far as practicable.	**Decommissioning:** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term/Reversible	Negligible adverse Indirect	Minor Not Significant
			<u>Residual Effects</u>			
			<u>During Construction</u> No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**<u>During Construction</u>** As above	As above	As above
			<u>After 15 Years:</u> By year 15 of the Proposed Development proposed mitigation measures such as strengthening of the existing Site boundaries would reduce intervisibility between the LCT and the Site, resulting in no change to the experiential qualities of the LCT.	**<u>After 15yrs:</u>** **Size/Scale:** No change **Geographical Extent:** N/A (Indirect) **Duration/Reversibility:** N/A	No change N/A	No change Not significant
			<u>Decommissioning:</u> No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**<u>Decommissioning:</u>** As above	As above	As above

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Landscape Character of the Site, Green Infrastructure Network, and Landscape Features Within the Site						
Landscape Character of the Site	The site presents an undulating relatively large-scale landscape, falling from a plateau at the southern boundary (approximately 200m AOD) by way of an escarpment within Site C before gently falling to the northeast, broadly plateauing again at some 120m – 100m AOD. Land within the Site boundaries is generally agricultural aside from plots of woodland and a number of watercourses which dissect Site C, the most notable of which is Thief Gill. The Site is further characterised by the verticality of electricity pylons, both low-voltage and high-voltage, largely within Site C, the Potato Pot wind farm which comprises three turbines within Site B, and farm outbuildings associated with Rigg House. Internal tracks are generally well defined, and the northern, eastern, and southern boundaries are defined by minor roads. Part of the western boundary of Site C is defined by the ancient woodland of Struther's Wood. The undulating landscape, in particular the plateau on the Site's southern boundary, results in a level of containment, and aside from the relatively busy minor road which follows the Site's eastern boundary, there is an element of tranquillity available.	**Value of Landscape Character of the Site:** Medium **Susceptibility to Change:** Medium **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: MEDIUM**	**Likely Significant Effects** **During Construction:** The introduction of the Proposed Development would result in a partial change leading to alterations to the landscape character within the Site. This would result from the various elements of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure being introduced into the agricultural landscape, resulting in coverage of the majority of the Site in development. There would also be some limited changes to landform resulting from earthworks required to facilitate the various ancillary elements. Whilst areas of woodland would see no change as suitable buffers are implemented (including from the ancient woodland on the western Site boundary), there would be some very localised loss to existing hedgerows and hedgerow trees for widening required for Site access, although these features will typically be retained and protected. Existing grassland would also be retained where possible, allowing pastoral activities to resume, but there may be short term losses. Areas of exclusion from development include the elevated plateau which marks the majority of the Site's southern boundary, watercourses within Site C; and offsets from residential properties including Wythemoor Sough and Dean Cross, where appropriate landscape buffers are included. The construction activity would occur over a short-term period (18 months) and result in the following: • Very small-scale loss of field boundary hedgerows to facilitate site access. • Small-scale loss of arable farmland from the installation of substation and inverters and POC masts and access tracks, and introduction of areas of landscape planting (woodland / scrub planting, hedgerow, and species rich grassland). • Small-scale changes arising from the construction/installation of solar modules including visibility of, and noise from construction vehicles, installation and use of task lighting, and temporary fencing. • Small-scale but brief to short term use of arable farmland for construction compounds and material storage, including visibility of, and noise from construction vehicles.	**During Construction:** **Size/Scale:** Medium **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site. **Duration/Reversibility:** Construction activities would be short-term (18 months) and reversible. Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment)	Moderate adverse Direct	**Moderate Significant**

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
			<u>Operation (Year 1):</u> The Proposed Development would result in on-going effects after the end of the construction phase. At Year 1 there would be: • Small-scale loss of arable farmland resulting from the introduction of areas of landscape planting, access tracks, POC masts, and substation and inverters, and changes to the agricultural management practices accounting for the Proposed Development. • Small-scale changes arising from the presence of security fencing, CCTV, and proposed site access. • Small-scale conversion of arable farmland from the current regime to a species rich grassland (rough acid moorland) achieved through relaxed grazing (in the southern part of Site C). The proposed mitigation measures (landscape planting) would not have fully established to provide its environmental function, however the natural containment offered by the landform and vegetation, and the layout responding to the pattern of the landscape protecting hedgerows, field boundary features and avoiding elevated locations will aid integration of the Proposed Development into the landscape. A partial change in character would occur a result of a landscape of mainly pastoral fields with livestock to a solar development with less intensive pastoral use and livestock.	**<u>Operation (Year 1):</u>** **Size/Scale:** Medium **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site. **Duration/Reversibility:** Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment). Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Moderate adverse Direct	**Moderate Significant**
			<u>Decommissioning</u> During Decommissioning, effects are predicted to be similar to those experienced during the construction phase, albeit in reverse, with land within the Site boundaries returned to its former use as far as practicable. Areas of landscape planting are assumed to be permanent and will continue to provide a landscape and biodiversity function.	**<u>Decommissioning:</u>** **Size/Scale:** Medium **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site. **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term, and reversible associated with Decommissioning of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure. Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Moderate adverse Direct	**Moderate Significant**

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
			Residual Effects			
			During Construction No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**During Construction** As above	As above	As above
			Operation (After 15 Years): By year 15 the proposed mitigation measures such as internal hedgerow reinforcement, woodland and scrub planting would have established to provide their environmental function essentially helping integrate the development into its setting. Measures would also provide some beneficial aspects including enhancement of the landscape character through reinforcement of woodland belts whilst supporting habitat connectivity and supporting biodiversity gains such as through delivering areas of species rich grassland. The change in character as a result of the Proposed Development will remain, however this will remain as a localised change affecting part of the Site. Overall, it is considered the key characteristics (agricultural landscape and landform) will be preserved albeit these masked by the development. Furthermore, the presence of established mitigation measures, together with retention of existing features will reinforce characteristic features which fit with the prevailing character, and respond positively to overarching landscape guidelines, leading to a reduction in the size and scale of reported effects.	**Operation (After 15yrs):** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Localised change affecting part of the Site. **Duration/Reversibility:** Medium to long term reversible effects associated with the introduction of the Proposed Development (solar modules and ancillary equipment) Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Slight adverse Direct	Minor Not Significant
			Decommissioning: No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**Decommissioning:** As above	As above	As above
Landscape Features: Topography and Site Landform	Landform within the Site is generally undulating, falling from a high plateau at the southern boundary northwards, with undulations and field boundary vegetation often providing visual containment for local road users. This type of landform is broadly characteristic of the surrounding landscape as it makes its way north and westward to the coast from the high fells of the Lake District National Park to the east and south.	**Value of Landscape Feature:** Medium **Susceptibility to Change:** Medium **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: Medium**	**Likely Significant Effects**			
			During Construction: Overall, there will be no noticeable change to landform within the footprint of the Site as a result of the Proposed Development during the construction phase. There will be some very small-scale change resulting from groundworks undertaken during the construction of the substation and inverters, and for the proposed access tracks, to ensure these are on even ground, however the extent of these features is limited, and the POC masts and majority of solar panels will be installed in situ, with minimal earthworks required.	**During Construction:** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level - Limited areas within the Site **Duration/Reversibility:** Construction activities would be short-term (18 months) and reversible. Long-term / Partially reversible associated with groundwork	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
				operations		
			<u>Operation (Year 1):</u> The Scheme would result in on-going effects after the end of the construction phase. At Year 1 there would continue to be very small-scale change to the landform associated with the substation, inverters, and access tracks. At Year 1 there are no further predicted impacts on the landform within the footprint of the Site.	**<u>Operation (Year 1):</u>** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level - Limited areas within the Site **Duration/Reversibility:** Long-term / Partially reversible associated with groundwork operations	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant
			<u>Decommissioning</u> During Decommissioning, effects are predicted to be similar to those experienced during the construction phase, albeit in reverse, with land within the Site boundaries returned to its former state as far as practicable.	**<u>Decommissioning:</u>** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level - Limited areas within the Site **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term, and reversible associated with Decommissioning of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure Long-term / Partially reversible associated with groundwork operations	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant
			<u>Residual Effects</u>			
			<u>During Construction</u> No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**<u>During Construction</u>** As above	As above	As above
			<u>Operation (After 15 Years):</u> At Year 15 impacts would remain as those reported at Year 1, i.e.no further impacts predicted on the landform within the footprint of the Site.	**<u>Operation (After 15yrs):</u>** **Size/Scale:** Very Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level - Limited areas within the Site **Duration/Reversibility:** Long-	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
				term / Partially reversible associated with groundwork operations		
			<u>Decommissioning:</u> No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**<u>Decommissioning:</u>** As above	As above	As above
Green Infrastructure Network	Given the largely pastoral nature of land within the Site, green infrastructure is relatively weak, and confined to field boundaries, recently planted areas of woodland and scrub within Sites B and C, and areas of plantation woodland within Site C which are subject to regular management. The field boundaries do however provide connection functions where they are robust, including to the wider landscape beyond the Site. Vegetation which follows the watercourses within Site C provide some value. There is currently no public access through Public Rights of Way (PRoW) within the Site, although there is commonly used access east of Site B, and PRoW within the wider area. Other public access includes a relatively large area of Countryside Rights of Way (CRoW) land to the south of Site C, although connecting access is poor.	**Value of Landscape Feature:** Medium **Susceptibility to Change:** Medium **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: Medium**	**<u>Likely Significant Effects</u>**			
			<u>During Construction:</u> Existing green infrastructure within the Site is not predicted to experience notable change during the construction phase, as all field boundaries and existing woodland will remain largely intact. Some widening of existing field entrances required for access of large vehicles will result in limited loss of small sections of hedgerow. Existing green infrastructure within the Site would be protected through measures outlined in the Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan (OCEMP), and in addition, the approach taken to provide appropriate offsets from woodland groups and scrubland areas within and adjacent to the Site would also minimise the potential for effects. The construction activity would occur over a short-term period (18 months) and result in the following: • Very small-scale loss of field boundary hedgerows to facilitate site access. • Small-scale introduction of areas of landscape planting (woodland / scrub planting, hedgerow, species rich grassland, and riparian planting adjacent to watercourses). • Introduction of new permissive paths within the Site.	**<u>During Construction:</u>** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level **Duration/Reversibility:** Construction activities would be short-term (18 months) and reversible.	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant
			<u>Operation (Year 1):</u> Following construction, the effects on green infrastructure within the Site would be similar to that experienced during construction, i.e., new planting would provide some benefit in the form of habitat creation and connection, but would not yet be fully established. Following construction, the Proposed Development would result in on-going effects to green infrastructure. At Year 1 there would be: • Small-scale introduction of areas of landscape planting (woodland / scrub planting, hedgerow, species rich grassland, and riparian planting adjacent to watercourses), • Small-scale changes to the agricultural management practices accounting for the Proposed Development, potentially leading to greater diversity of	**<u>Operation (Year 1):</u>** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level **Duration/Reversibility:** Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
			grassland / moorland species. • Small-scale conversion of arable farmland (in the southern part of the Site) from the current regime to a species rich grassland (rough acid moorland) achieved through relaxed grazing. • Enhanced public access through the introduction of permissive paths within Sites B and C, forming connections with existing tracks and providing improved access to the Scheduled Monument. The proposed mitigation measures (landscape planting) would not have fully established to provide its environmental function; however, the layout of the Proposed Development responds to the pattern of the landscape and thus protects baseline green infrastructure assets including the majority of hedgerows, and woodland / scrubland features, and existing gappy field boundary hedgerows would also have been strengthened with additional planting. Whilst the proposed landscape planting has considered habitat connectivity across the Site to link existing features, at Year 1 new planting would have minimal benefit. Overall, therefore it is considered that the retention of the existing features combined with proposed planting will lead to a beneficial change once construction activities have ceased.			
			Decommissioning During Decommissioning, it is predicted that the proposed mitigation measures, at this stage well established, would remain in place in perpetuity, although there is some potential of hedge widening required in a similar manner to the construction phase, and for the same reasons, i.e. vehicle access. Any loss of vegetation however would not materially affect the overall function of the Green Infrastructure Network.	**Decommissioning:** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level (connecting with adjacent green infrastructure) **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term, and reversible associated with Decommissioning of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant
			Residual Effects			
			During Construction No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**During Construction** As above	As above	As above

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
			<u>Operation (After 15 Years):</u> By year 15 the proposed mitigation measures such as internal hedgerow reinforcement, woodland and scrub planting would have established to provide their environmental function in relation to reinforcing and strengthening existing baseline conditions with increased habitat connectivity and biodiversity net gains. Green infrastructure within the Site would be strengthened, with the view to maintaining these beneficial aspects beyond the life of the Proposed Development.	**<u>Operation (After 15yrs):</u>** **Size/Scale:** Medium **Geographical Extent:** Site level (connecting with adjacent green infrastructure assets) **Duration/Reversibility:** Long term permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Moderate beneficial Direct	**Moderate Significant**
			<u>Decommissioning:</u> No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**<u>Decommissioning:</u>** As above	As above	As above
Landscape features: Trees, woodland, and hedgerows within the Site	Vegetation within the Site is relatively sparse, with the majority of land given over to pasture. The fields are generally divided by hedgerow supported by post and wire fencing or dry-stone walls. Areas of scrub are present, particularly along the escarpment within Site C, which is formed as the high plateau to the south drops around 50m before broadly levelling out. Notable blocks of mature coniferous woodland lie within the northern part of the main site (Site A), whilst blocks of young woodland lie along the southern boundary (Site C) and within the central part of the Site (Site B) just north of the minor road which leads to Gilgarran. The Arboricultural Impact Assessment (see Appendix 7.5) identified a total of 260 tree features including: • 168 individual trees; • 30 groups of trees; • 45 hedgerows; and • 17 woodlands. Five trees were categorised as high A	**Value of Landscape Feature:** Medium **Susceptibility to Change:** Medium **OVERALL SENSITIVITY: Medium**	**<u>Likely Significant Effects</u>**			
			<u>During Construction:</u> The proposed mitigation measures outlined in Section 1.7 of the ES advocate the retention of the existing vegetation within the Site wherever possible. Existing vegetation within the Site would be protected through measures defined in the Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan (OCEMP), and in addition, the approach taken to provide appropriate offsets from woodland groups and scrubland areas within the Site (south of Site C and Site B north of Gilgarran Road and scrub vegetation along the escarpment within Site C) and features adjacent to the Site to minimise the potential for effects. The construction activity would occur over a short-term period (18 months) and result in the following: • Very small-scale loss of field boundary hedgerows to facilitate site access, including within Site C and some widening of existing boundary and internal field entrances to allow safe passage of large vehicles transporting the various components of the Proposed Development along Gilgarran Road and within all Sites. • Small-scale introduction of areas of landscape planting (woodland / scrub planting, hedgerow, species rich grassland, and riparian planting adjacent to watercourses). The Outline Arboricultural Impact Assessment (oAIA) identified the complete removal of one Category A tree, three Category B trees, five Category C trees, three Category C tree groups and six Category C hedgerows. In addition, one group of trees, 12 hedgerows and one woodland would be partially removed.	**<u>During Construction:</u>** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level **Duration/Reversibility:** Construction activities would be short-term (18 months) and reversible.	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
	grade, 39 were categorised at moderate B grade, and 211 were categorised as low C grade. Five trees were categorised as very low-quality U grade.		The extent of tree removals may however increase or decrease depending on the final site layout.			
			<u>Operation (Year 1):</u> Following completion, the proposed mitigation measures would seek to integrate the elements which make up the Proposed Development into the surrounding landscape as far as possible. These measures would include: • Small-scale introduction of areas of landscape planting (woodland / scrub planting, hedgerow) • Small-scale strengthening of existing boundary vegetation where required; • Small-scale introduction of species-rich hedgerow planting across the Site to enhance the existing conditions; and • Small-scale introduction of species-rich hedgerow with hedgerow trees to the south-eastern corner of Site C to provide potential screening of the Proposed Development for nearby residents. Given that this would be the opening year of the project, it is expected that the mitigation planting would have minimal effect, however this in combination with the removal of temporary fencing etc. and the retention of existing vegetation would result in reduced effects overall from construction.	**<u>Operation (Year 1):</u>** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level **Duration/Reversibility:** Long term partially reversible and partially permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant
			<u>Decommissioning</u> During Decommissioning, it is predicted that the proposed mitigation measures, at this stage well established, would remain in place in perpetuity, although there is some potential of hedge widening required in a similar manner to the construction phase, and for the same reasons, i.e. vehicle access. Any loss of vegetation however would not materially affect the overall function of the Green Infrastructure Network.	**<u>Decommissioning:</u>** **Size/Scale:** Small **Geographical Extent:** Site level (connecting with adjacent green infrastructure) **Duration/Reversibility:** Short-term, and reversible associated with Decommissioning of the Proposed Development and its infrastructure Long term partially reversible and partially permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Negligible adverse Direct	Negligible Not significant

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant

BASELINE AND SENSITIVITY			CHANGE, MAGNITUDE, AND SIGNIFICANCE			
Landscape Receptor	**Baseline Description: (Key Defining Characteristics)**	**Value of Receptor, Susceptibility to Change, and OVERALL SENSITIVITY**	**Description of Change**	**Size / scale, Geographical Extent and Duration / reversibility.**	**Magnitude & Type of Effect**	**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE**
			Residual Effects			
			During Construction No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**During Construction** As above	As above	As above
			15 Years After Planting: By year 15 the proposed mitigation measures such as internal hedgerow reinforcement, woodland and scrub planting would have established to provide their environmental function in relation to reinforcing and strengthening existing baseline conditions with increased habitat connectivity, and biodiversity net gains. Green infrastructure within the Site would be strengthened, with the view to maintaining these beneficial aspects beyond the life of the Proposed Development.	**15yrs After Planting:** **Size/Scale:** Medium **Geographical Extent:** Site level (connecting with adjacent green infrastructure assets) **Duration/Reversibility:** Long term partially reversible and partially permanent effects associated with vegetation changes / landscape planting.	Moderate beneficial Direct	**Moderate Significant**
			Decommissioning: No change to the conclusions identified during the likely significant effects scenario as the result of implementation of additional mitigation measures.	**Decommissioning:** As above	As above	As above

Terminology for Landscape Effect:

Landscape Value:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Duration:	Long-term, Medium-term, Short-term, Brief
Susceptibility to Change:	High, Medium, Low	Reversibility:	Permanent / Irreversible; Partially Reversible; Reversible
Overall Sensitivity of Receptor:	Very High, High, Medium, Low	Overall Magnitude of Effect:	Major, Moderate, Slight, Negligible, Indistinct, No Change
Size/Scale of Effect:	Very Large, Large, Medium, Small, Very Small, No Change	Direction / Type of Effect:	Adverse, Beneficial, Neutral, Not Applicable, Direct, Indirect, Reversible, Partially Reversible; Permanent
Geographical Extent of Effect:	Wider Landscape, Landscape Character Type/Area; Adjacent/Localised Landscape; Site	Level of Significance:	Substantial, Major, Moderate, Minor, Negligible, No Change / Significant, Not Significant