Meridian Solar Farm

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Volume 6

Environmental Statement

6.3 ES Appendix 12-4: Landscape Assessment

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

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1. Landscape Assessment

1.1. Introduction

1.1.1. The Scheme as outlined in **ES Chapter 2: The Scheme** (Doc Ref. 6.1) and associated figures, **ES Figure 2-1** to **ES Figure 2-7** (Doc Ref. 6.2), have been considered in assessing the likely impacts and effects of the Scheme, whilst taking into account the embedded mitigation.

1.1.2. Embedded mitigation measures are illustrated on **Figure 1: Outline Landscape Masterplan** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (OLEMP)** (Doc Ref. 7.16) and summarised in Section 12.7 of **ES Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual** (Doc Ref. 6.1).

1.1.3. Embedded mitigation measures to be implemented during the construction and decommissioning of the Scheme are described in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (OCEMP)** (Doc Ref. 7.10) and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (ODEMP)** (Doc Ref. 7.12) respectively.

1.1.4. Landscape effects (beneficial, neutral, and adverse) associated with the construction, operation (including maintenance) year 1 and year 15, and decommissioning of the Scheme, are outlined below. All likely effects presented within Table 1 are adverse, unless otherwise stated. The types and duration of effects would be different during the different phases of the Scheme.

1.1.5. The assessment of likely landscape effects, including consideration of susceptibility and sensitivity, has been undertaken with reference to the baseline Landscape Character Areas (LCA), Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA), and Historic Landscape Character Zones (HLCZ) described in the baseline description presented in **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3) and summarised in Section 12.6 of **ES Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual** (Doc Ref. 6.1). The methodology is presented in **ES Appendix 12-2: LVIA Methodology** (Doc Ref. 6.3). The landscape character areas and zones are illustrated on **ES Figures 12-5** and **12-6** (Doc Ref. 6.2).

1.2. Landscape Sensitivity

Lincolnshire County Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA) and Historic Landscape Character Zones (HLCZ)

The Fens (HLCA 9)

1.2.1. The value of HLCA 9 is Medium, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.2. This HLCA is mainly flat and has an open character that is largely rural with rectilinear fields, with boundaries formed from drains rather than hedges or trees resulting in long-range views, which are only interrupted by occasional small blocks of woodland, raised roads or tracks and scattered farmsteads or residential dwellings.

1.2.3. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation (hedges, shrubs, or trees), and open views with big skies increase perception of development.
- Existing 132kV overhead line and other smaller scale overhead distribution lines as well as wind turbines (Deeping St Nicholas Wind Farm, north-west of Deeping St Nicholas) and existing solar farms (Decoy Farm, north-east of Crowland).
- Traffic movement and noise along the A16 and A1175, but becoming more tranquil away from these main routes.
- Dominance of intensive agriculture, with few elements of biodiversity.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.

1.2.4. On balance, susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Medium. Taking Medium value and Medium susceptibility into account, HLCA 9 is assessed to be Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

The Witham Fens (HLCZ FEN1)

1.2.5. The value of HLCZ FEN1 is Medium, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.6. The south-eastern section of the HLCZ FEN1, 'The Witham Fens' is located within the 5km and 10km study areas west of the Scheme. The majority of this

HLCZ is located outside the study areas. The landscape of the study area located within this HLCZ is flat, and has large skies, an open character that is largely rural with rectilinear fields. Field boundaries are mainly formed by drains. Significant vertical vegetation is sparse and consists of small blocks of woodland or clusters / bands of trees resulting in overall long-range views intersected only by isolated farmsteads.

1.2.7. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation (hedges, shrubs, or trees), and open views with big skies increase perception of development.
- Existing wind turbines at Deeping St Nicholas Wind Farm, north-west of Deeping St Nicholas.
- Dominance of intensive agriculture, with few elements of biodiversity.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.

1.2.8. Susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Medium. Taking Medium value and Medium susceptibility into account, HLCZ FEN1 is assessed to be Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

The Eastern Fens (HLCZ FEN2)

1.2.9. The value of HLCZ FEN2 is Medium, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.10. The Solar Development Area Land Parcels A-D and the southern section of the Grid Connection Route are located within this HLCZ. The character zone contains an expansive flat landscape with a field pattern defined by drainage systems. Views across the character zone are still open with big skies but less long distance due to a higher density of intervening settlements, associated vegetation as well as clusters of trees and woodland. Overall, agriculture is still a defining land use.

1.2.11. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation (hedges, shrubs, or trees), and open views with big skies increase perception of development.

- Existing 132kV overhead line and other smaller scale overhead distribution lines as well as existing solar farms (Decoy Farm, north-east of Crowland).
- Traffic movement and noise along the A16 and A1175, but becoming more tranquil away from these main routes.
- Dominance of intensive agriculture, with few elements of biodiversity.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.
- Relatively high settlement density.

1.2.12. Susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Medium. Taking Medium value and Medium susceptibility into account, HLCZ FEN2 is assessed to be Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

The Wash (HLCA 10)

1.2.13. The value of HCLA 10 is Medium, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.14. The northernmost section of the Grid Connection Route crosses into 'The Wash' HLCA 10. The area containing sections of the Scheme is located inland in the south-west of this HLCA, which is a large estuarine complex on the east coast of Lincolnshire. The character area contains the town of Spalding and Holbeach as well as a number of smaller settlements particularly in the area surrounding the Scheme. Nevertheless, the landscape outside of the settlements is rural and offers open views, large skies and middle to long distance views. Field boundaries are mainly formed by drains. Significant vertical vegetation consists of small blocks or bands of trees.

1.2.15. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation (hedges, shrubs, or trees), and open views with big skies increase perception of development.
- Existing 400kV and 132kV overhead lines and other smaller scale overhead distribution lines.
- Traffic movement and noise along the A16, A151 and A17 but becoming more tranquil away from these main routes.
- Dominance of intensive agriculture outside of settlements, with few elements of biodiversity in a modified landscape.

- Largely intact historic drainage network.
- Relatively high density of settlements, particularly in the southern section of this HLCA.

1.2.16. On balance, susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Low. Taking Medium value and Low susceptibility into account, HLCA 10 is assessed to be Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

Reclaimed Coastal Fringe (WSH1)

1.2.17. The value of WSH1 is Medium, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.18. The Scheme would not be located within WSH1. The southwestern section is covered by the 10km study area. The Reclaimed Coastal Fringe is a flat, and expansive landscape characterised rural fenland and marshland which is part of the estuary of the canalised River Welland. Views are wide with middle to long distance vistas, large skies, small to medium large-scale field patterns defined by drainage systems. Settlement is sparse. Clusters or bands of trees provide limited visual interruption. Significant vertical elements include existing 132kV overhead line infrastructure.

1.2.19. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation (hedges, shrubs, or trees), and open views with big skies increase perception of development.
- Existing 132kV overhead lines and other smaller scale overhead distribution lines.
- Traffic movement and noise along the A17 but becoming more tranquil and remote away from this main route.
- Dominance of intensive agriculture with few elements of biodiversity in a modified landscape.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.

1.2.20. Susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Medium. Taking Medium value and Medium susceptibility into account, WSH1 is assessed as having a Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

Reclaimed Wash Farmlands (HLCZ WSH4)

1.2.21. The value of WSH4 is Medium, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.22. The northern extremity of the Grid Connection Route extends just across the border of the WSH6 into the southwestern section of HLCZ WSH4. The western section of this HLCZ is covered by the 10km study area. The landscape is flat, with open middle to long distance views, large skies, and small to medium large-scale field patterns defined by drainage systems. Settlement is overall sparse consisting of scattered farmsteads and dwellings but form small villages along the southern boundary of this HLCZ. Clusters or bands of trees provide limited visual interruption. The HLCZ is traversed by an existing 400kV overhead line, which forms a significant vertical element.

1.2.23. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation (hedges, shrubs, or trees), and open views with big skies increase perception of development.
- Existing 400kV overhead line and other smaller scale overhead distribution lines.
- Traffic movement and noise along the A17 but becoming more tranquil away from this main route.
- Dominance of intensive agriculture with few elements of biodiversity in a modified landscape.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.

1.2.24. Susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Medium. Taking Medium value and Medium susceptibility into account, WSH4 is assessed as having a Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

Bicker Haven (WSH5)

1.2.25. The value of WSH5 is Medium, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.26. The Scheme would not be located within WSH5. The majority of this HLCZ is covered by the northern section of the 10km study area. The landscape is flat, with open middle to long distance views, large skies, and small to medium large-scale field patterns defined by drainage systems. Settlement is sparse and consists of scattered farmsteads. Clusters or bands of trees provide limited visual

interruption. Denser vegetation in form of large shrubs or trees is located along the A16 corridor crossing this HLCZ. The HLCZ is traversed by an existing 400kV overhead line, which forms a significant vertical element.

1.2.27. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation (hedges, shrubs, or trees), and open views with big skies increase perception of development.
- Existing 400kV overhead line and other smaller scale overhead distribution lines.
- Traffic movement and noise along the A16 but becoming more tranquil away from this main route.
- Dominance of intensive agriculture with few elements of biodiversity in a modified landscape.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.

1.2.28. Susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Medium. Taking Medium value and Medium susceptibility into account, WSH5 is assessed as having a Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

The Townlands (HLCZ WSH6)

1.2.29. The value of WSH6 is Low, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.30. The northern section of the Grid Connection Route would be located within WSH6. The landscape is flat, with open middle to long distance views across a rural landscape once away from settlements with large skies, and medium to large-scale field patterns defined by drainage systems. The section covered by the study area contains a band of settlements consisting of Spalding, Weston, Moulton, Whaplode and Holbeach as well as Spalding Power Station and associated visually prominent 400kV overhead lines. Significant vertical vegetation concentrates around settlements and long the road corridors of the A16, A151 and A17.

1.2.31. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Existing 400kV overhead lines and other smaller scale overhead distribution lines.

- Traffic movement and noise along the A16, A151 and A17.
- Dense band of settlements and intensified agriculture outside settlement areas with few elements of biodiversity in a modified landscape.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.
- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation (hedges, shrubs, or trees), and open views with big skies increase perception of development.

1.2.32. Susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Medium. Taking Low value and Medium susceptibility into account, WSH6 is assessed as having a Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

Peterborough Landscape Character Assessment (2024)

Peterborough Fens (LCT) - 3a: Bedford North Level (LCA)

1.2.33. The value of 3a: Beford North Level (LCA) is Medium, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.34. The Scheme would not be located within this LCA. The northern section of this LCA is covered by the southern sections of the 10km and 5km study areas. The landscape is flat with open and long-distance views. Significant vertical vegetation and dwellings are sparse and scattered. Views are across a rural fenland landscape. Large skies contribute to a Medium landscape tranquillity.

1.2.35. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Traffic movement and noise along the A16 and A47.
- Sparse settlement apart from few scattered farmyards and in the vicinity north of Thorney.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.
- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation resulting in open views with big skies increase perception of development.
- Tree belts or scattered trees along sections of the local road network as well as the A16 and A47.
- Detracting features include wind turbines and overhead line infrastructure.

1.2.36. Susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Medium. Taking Medium value and Medium susceptibility into account, LCA 3a: Bedford North Level is assessed as having a Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

Fen Fringe (LCT) - 4b: Eye Fen Edge (LCA)

1.2.37. The Scheme would not be located within this LCA. The northern section of this LCA is covered by the southern sections of the 10km and 5km study areas. The landscape is flat with open and long-distance views. Significant vertical vegetation and dwellings are sparse and focus in the form of a tree belt along the Cat's Water and the A47/Thorney Road. Views are across a rural fenland landscape. Large skies contribute to a Medium landscape tranquillity and remoteness.

1.2.38. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Traffic movement and noise along the A47.
- Sparse settlement apart from few scattered farmyards.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.
- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation resulting in open views with big skies increase perception of development.
- Tree belt along the course of the Cat's Water, a minor stream is one noticeable feature of this LCA covered by the study area.
- Detracting features include mainly overhead line infrastructure and wind turbines which are perceivable in the distance but the latter are located outside of this LCA.

1.2.39. Susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be High-Medium. Taking Medium value and High-Medium susceptibility into account, LCA 4b: Eye Fen Edge is assessed as having a High-Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

Emerging Fenland Local Plan

The Fens

1.2.40. The value of The Fens is Low-Medium, as described within **ES Appendix 12-3: Landscape Baseline** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.2.41. The sections covered by the 10km and 5km study areas are small and include land west of Tydd St Giles and in the vicinity of Parson Drove within the fenlands.

The landscape is flat and rural in character with open views. Significant vegetation includes clusters of trees, bands, or individual stands of trees. Intervening vegetation curtails often long-distance views. Dwellings and farmsteads are sparse and scattered. Large skies contribute to a medium landscape tranquillity and remoteness. Detracting features which include mainly overhead line infrastructure, settlements, and wind turbines in the distance.

1.2.42. Factors that increase or decrease landscape susceptibility with reference to the Scheme and type of change proposed, include:

- Settlement includes scattered farmyards and dwellings with often mature vegetation belts around them.
- Largely intact historic drainage network.
- Lack of field boundaries with noticeable vertical vegetation resulting in open views with big skies increase perception of development.
- Detracting features include mainly overhead line infrastructure and wind turbines which are perceivable in the distance but the latter are located outside of this LCA.

1.2.43. Susceptibility to the Scheme is considered to be Low-Medium. Taking Low-Medium value and Low-Medium susceptibility into account, sections of The Fens LCA covered by the study area are assessed as having a Low-Medium sensitivity to the Scheme.

1.3. Assessment of Effects on Landscape Character

1.3.1. The following table sets out the effects on the landscape character and associated landscape elements, covering significant and not significant effects resulting from the Scheme with reference to the LCA, LCT, HLCA and HLCZ. The likely impacts and effects are set out as follows:

- Solar Development Areas, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection;
- Overhead Inter-Array Connection; and
- Grid Connection Route and Cable Sealing End Compounds.

Table 1: Assessment of landscape effects – Landscape Character

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
HLCA 9 The Fens	Medium	Construction (winter)	A small proportion of land within this HLCA would be disrupted by construction activities around the Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A-D, the installation of underground cables, temporary access tracks, erection of PV modules, solar stations and construction of the On-Site 132kV Substations, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound changing partially the key characteristic of 'openness'. Direct effects during construction would also involve localised works along sections of roads adjacent to the Land	Direct effects during construction of the single circuit overhead line would involve localised works due to the construction of temporary haul routes, temporary construction compounds, the installation of wooden poles (pole height ranging between 6.7m and 15m above ground, located approximately every 120m), the stringing of overhead wires, and the removal or alteration of existing vegetation along the route corridor. There would be a small amount of existing vegetation removal. There would be no change to topography and a temporary localised change of land use	Within HLCA 9, the proposed 400kV overhead line starts at the On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, close to Peak Hill, and heads north for approximately 6.5km until close to Austendyke Road north of Weston Hills. It would cross a rural landscape with arable fields. Direct effects during the construction of the overhead line would involve localised works due to the construction of temporary haul routes, temporary construction compounds, the installation of steel lattice pylons (maximum height of 66m above ground, accounting for vertical limit of	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			Parcels A -D with limited areas of existing vegetation to be lost to allow for access. There would be no change to topography, except for bunding proposed around the On-Site 400kV Substation, BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations and solar stations, where required, for flood protection. There would be a change of land use from arable to generating renewable energy. A number of additional crossings of existing watercourses / drainage channels are proposed within Land Parcels A-D resulting in localised small	to facilitate construction works. Indirect impacts would include the perception and influence of construction, including traffic movement and temporary night-time lighting within the HLCA; and reduced tranquillity arising from increased traffic around the entrance to construction compounds, access tracks, and the gradual addition of vertical overhead line structures to already existing overhead lines in the vicinity. Construction activities would be short term and reversible.	deviation, with pylons approximately every 350m), the stringing of overhead wires, two Cable Sealing End Compounds to facilitate crossing of an existing NGED 132kV lattice overhead line northwest of Moulton Chapel, and the removal or alteration of limited existing vegetation along the route. There would be no change to topography, except for bunding around the Cable Sealing End Compound South for flood protection, and a temporary localised change of land use to facilitate construction works. The installation of pylons would introduce additional steel lattice infrastructure within this		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			amendments to existing character of drainage channels. Indirect impacts would include the perception and influence of construction, including traffic movements, temporary night-time lighting, and the gradual massing of solar, BESS, and substation infrastructure, within the HLCA; and reduced tranquillity arising from increased traffic around the entrance to construction compounds and access tracks. Construction activities would be short term and reversible.		HLCA, at a scale which is not currently present. Indirect impacts would include the perception and influence of construction, including traffic movements and temporary night-time lighting within the HLCA; and reduced tranquillity arising from increased traffic around the entrance to construction compounds and access tracks, and the gradual addition of tall vertical overhead line structures intensifying the prominence of existing overhead lines in the vicinity. Construction activities would be short term and reversible.		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
		Operation (Year 1, winter)	Direct effects during operation would arise from localised changes to the landscape character due to the introduction of light industrial features in a currently rural landscape. The land use would change from arable to generating renewable energy. There would be areas of mitigation planting and habitat management areas. Additional crossings of existing watercourses / drainage channels would remain. Proposed landscape mitigation planting in form of trees, shrubs along field boundaries and adjacent to existing arable farmland, as well as grassland under and	Direct effects during operation would arise from the addition of further overhead line infrastructure, which is, however, not uncharacteristic to the locality and within the southeastern area of this HLCA. The addition of the Overhead Inter-Array Connection would not change the landscape character, land use (apart from the footprint of the wooden poles) or character of the drainage layout but intensify the prominence of local overhead distribution lines within this section of the HLCA. Proposed landscape mitigation planting in form of trees and	Direct effects during operation would arise from the addition of further large scale overhead line infrastructure, which is not entirely uncharacteristic to the locality considering the existing NGED 132kV overhead line within the southeastern area of this HLCA. Associated lighting with bird flight diverters proposed for 2 sections along the Grid Connection Route within this HLCA would have a low glow and reflective properties at low light and would have a localised effect on the perceptual properties of the HLCA, albeit within the context of nearby road network. The addition of the	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			around the solar PV modules, and the establishment of habitat enhancement buffers around proposed watercourse crossings, would not have established yet. Indirect effects would include the perception and influence of extensive solar infrastructure within the southeastern section of this HLCA with a partial alteration of the inherent characteristics of the open views. Such changes would largely be restricted to areas adjacent to Land Parcels A-D and recede with distance. Traffic movement along farm access tracks would	shrubs would focus on the screening of the Solar Development Areas and not the Overhead Inter-Array Connection given the height and nature of the overhead line. Indirect effects would include the perception and influence of additional overhead line infrastructure between Land Parcels C and D, in particular in the vicinity of the northern end of Whaplode Drove and along sections of B1168 Holbeach Drove Gate, Dog Drove North, Chapel Gate, Junction Farrow Gate with Green Bank (Whaplode Drove), Chapel Hill, Eaugate Road, Martins Road and	Grid Connection Route would partially alter the landscape character further towards an area containing high voltage transmission line infrastructure intensifying the prominence of tall steel lattice pylons and overhead lines within this section of the HLCA. There would be no change to land use (apart from the footprint of the steel lattice towers and Cable Sealing End Compounds and associated assess tracks) or character of the drainage layout. Proposed landscape mitigation planting in form of shrubs would focus on the screening of the Cable Sealing End Compounds. Given the scale and nature of the		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			change to occasional maintenance vehicles. Lighting would be limited to the On-Site 400kV Substation, On-Site 132kV Substations and the BESS Compounds and largely operated through motion sensors, downwards directed and away from compound boundaries. The change would be long-term and reversible. Boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.	Hardy's Lane and PRoW Crow/12/1. The change would be long-term and reversible.	proposed 400kV overhead line, effective landscape mitigation in the form of planting is not feasible. Indirect effects would include the perception and influence of additional tall overhead line infrastructure in a north-south orientation for approximately 6.5km, crossing Roman Road, the main road between Cowbit and Moulton Chapel and West Gate road south-east of Weston Hills. It would not cross any existing PRoW. The change would be long-term and reversible.		
		Operation (Year 15, summer) Residual, with established	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Mitigation planting would have established within this HLCA, enhancing and	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Landscape effects would be similar as described at Year 1.	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Landscape effects would be similar as described at Year 1. The change would be long-	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
		proposed landscape mitigation	extending existing vegetation patterns areas along field boundaries and watercourses. This would increase the overall tree and shrub coverage within this HLCA, reducing some of the 'openness' but still providing gaps in planting to retain long distance views. There would be a greater degree of enclosure in the vicinity of Land Parcels A-D but no change to perceptual qualities of the general openness of the HLCA. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.	The change would be long-term and reversible.	term and reversible. Mitigation planting along the Cable Sealing End Compounds would have matured and provide screening of the lower elements. However, the prominence of the 400kV steel lattice pylons and overhead wiring would remain as in Year 1.		
		Decommissioning (winter)	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			be broadly similar as described at construction. However, established landscape mitigation planting, not available at construction, would screen decommissioning works partially. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible. The retention of landscape mitigation planting would continue to provide a greater degree of enclosure in areas close to Land Parcels A-D.	be broadly similar as described at construction. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible.	be broadly similar as described at construction. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible.		
HLCZ FEN 1 The Witham Fens	Medium	All Stages	There would be no direct effects at all stages of the Scheme. There would be limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences, particularly from publicly accessible areas. The LCA is located outside the 5km study area for the Inter-Array Connection Route. A small section of the 5km Solar Development Area study area covers the southeastern corner of this HLCZ which also contains existing wind turbines. It is located within the			Low - Very Low	Minor - Negligible (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			southwestern section of the 10km study area of the Grid Connection Route. The Solar Development Areas, in particular Land Parcel A would be absorbed by the low-lying land and intervening dyke infrastructures along the River Welland resulting in limited or no intervisibility. The upper sections of the proposed On-Site Substations and the 400kV overhead line may be perceivable and add a light industrial component in the distance but would not alter or influence the perception of the landscape character of this HLCZ.				
HLCZ FEN 2 The Eastern Fens	Medium	Construction (winter)	A moderate proportion of land within this HLCZ would be disrupted by construction activities around the Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A-D, the installation of underground cables, temporary access tracks, erection of PV modules, solar stations, and construction of the On-Site 132kV Substations, 400kV Substation and BESS Compounds, changing	Direct effects during construction of the single circuit overhead line would involve localised works due to the construction of temporary haul routes, temporary construction compounds, the installation of wooden poles (pole height ranging between 6.7m and 15m above ground, located approximately every 120m), the stringing of overhead wires, and the removal or alteration of existing vegetation along the route corridor. There would	Within HLCZ FEN 2, the proposed 400kV overhead line starts at the On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, close to Peak Hill, and heads north for approximately 6.5km until close to Austendyke Road north of Weston Hills. It would cross a rural landscape with arable fields. Direct effects during construction of the overhead line would involve localised works due to the construction of temporary haul routes,	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			partially the key characteristic of 'openness'. Direct effects during construction would also involve localised works along sections of roads adjacent to the Land Parcels A -D with limited areas of existing vegetation to be lost to allow for access. There would be no change to topography, except for bunding proposed around the On Site 400kV Substation, BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations and solar stations, where required, for flood protection. There would be a change of land use from arable to generating	be a small amount of existing vegetation removal. There would be no change to topography and a temporary localised change of land use to facilitate construction works. Indirect impacts would include the perception and influence of construction, including traffic movement and temporary night-time lighting within the HLCZ; and reduced tranquillity arising from increased traffic around the entrance to construction compounds, access tracks, and the gradual addition of vertical overhead line structures to already existing overhead lines in the vicinity.	temporary construction compounds, the installation of steel lattice pylons (maximum height of 66m above ground, accounting for the vertical limit of deviation, with pylons approximately every 350m), the stringing of overhead wires, two Cable Sealing End Compounds to facilitate crossing of an existing NGED 132kV lattice overhead line north-west of Moulton Chapel, and the removal or alteration of limited existing vegetation along the route. There would be no change to topography, except for bunding the Cable Sealing End Compound South for flood protection, and a temporary localised change of		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			renewable energy. A number of additional crossings of existing watercourses / drainage channels are proposed within Land Parcels A-D resulting in localised small amendments to existing character of drainage channels. Indirect impacts would include the perception and influence of construction, including traffic movements, temporary night-time lighting, and the gradual massing of solar, BESS, and substation infrastructure, within the HLCZ; and reduced tranquillity arising from increased traffic around the	Construction activities would be short- term and reversible.	land use to facilitate construction works. The installation of pylons would introduce additional steel lattice infrastructure within this HLCZ, at a scale which is not currently present. Indirect impacts would include the perception and influence of construction, including traffic movements and temporary night-time lighting within the HLCZ; and reduced tranquillity arising from increased traffic around the entrance to construction compounds and access tracks, and the gradual addition of tall vertical overhead line structures intensifying the prominence of existing overhead lines in		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			entrance to construction compounds and access tracks. Construction activities would be short term and reversible.		the vicinity. Construction activities would be short term and reversible.		
		Operation (Year 1, winter)	Direct effects during operation would arise from localised changes to the landscape character due to the introduction of light industrial features in a currently rural landscape. Proposed landscape mitigation planting in the form of trees, shrubs, and grassland along field boundaries and adjacent to existing arable farmland would not have established yet. Indirect effects would	Direct effects during operation would arise from the addition of further overhead line infrastructure, which is, however, not uncharacteristic to the locality and within the southeastern area of this HLCZ. The addition of the Overhead Inter-Array Connection would not change the landscape character but intensify the prominence of local overhead distribution lines within this section of the	Direct effects during operation would arise from the addition of further large scale overhead line infrastructure, which is not entirely uncharacteristic to the locality considering the existing NGED 132kV overhead line within the southeastern area of this HLCZ. Associated lighting with bird flight diverters proposed for 2 sections along the Grid Connection Route within this HLCZ would have a low glow and reflective	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			include the perception and influence of extensive solar infrastructure within the southeastern section of this HLCZ with a partial alteration of the inherent characteristics of the open views. Such changes would largely be restricted to areas adjacent to Land Parcels A-D and recede with distance. Traffic movement along farm access tracks would change to occasional maintenance vehicles. Lighting would be limited to the On-Site 400kV Substation, On-Site 132kV Substations and BESS Compounds and largely operated through motion sensors, downwards	HLCZ. Proposed landscape mitigation planting in form of trees, shrubs would focus on the screening of the Solar Development Areas and not the Overhead Inter-Array Connection given the height and nature of the overhead line. Indirect effects would include the perception and influence of additional overhead line infrastructure between Land Parcels C and D, in particular in the vicinity of the northern end of Whaplode Drove and along sections of B1168 Holbeach Drove Gate, Dog Drove North, Chapel Gate, Junction Farrow Gate with Green Bank (Whaplode	properties at low light and would have a localised effect on the perceptual properties of the HLCZ, albeit within the context of nearby road network. The addition of the Grid Connection Route would partially alter the landscape character further towards an area containing high voltage transmission line infrastructure intensifying the prominence of tall steel lattice pylons and overhead wires within this section of the HLCZ. Proposed landscape mitigation planting in form of shrubs would focus on the screening of the Cable Sealing End Compounds. Given the scale and nature of the proposed 400kV overhead		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			directed and away from boundaries. The change would be long-term and reversible, boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.	Drove), Chapel Hill, Eaugate Road, Martins Road and Hardy's Lane and PRoW Crow/12/1. The change would be long-term and reversible.	line, effective landscape mitigation in form of planting is not feasible. Indirect effects would include the perception and influence of additional tall overhead line infrastructure in a north-south orientation for approximately 6.5km, crossing Roman Road, the main road between Cowbit and Moulton Chapel and West Gate road south-east of Weston Hills. It would not cross any existing PRoW. The change would be long-term and reversible.		
		Operation (Year 15, summer) Residual, with established proposed	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Mitigation planting along field boundaries and along permeable corridors within each Solar Development Area	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Landscape effects would be similar as described at Year 1. The change would be long-term and reversible.	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Landscape effects would be similar as described at Year 1. The change would be long-term and reversible.	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
		landscape mitigation	Land Parcel would have established within this HLCZ, enhancing and extending existing vegetation patterns areas along field boundaries. This would increase the overall tree and shrub coverage within this HLCZ, reducing some of the 'openness' but still providing gaps in planting to retain long distance views. There would be a greater degree of enclosure in the vicinity of Land Parcels A-D but no change to perceptual qualities of the general openness of the HLCZ. The change would be long-term and reversible; planting has been assumed to be permanent.		Mitigation planting along the Cable Sealing End Compounds would have matured and provide screening of the lower elements. However, the prominence of the 400kV steel lattice pylons and overhead wiring would remain as in Year 1.		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
		Decommissioning (winter)	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described at construction. However, established landscape mitigation planting, not available at construction, would screen partially decommissioning works. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible. The retention of landscape mitigation planting would continue to provide a greater degree of enclosure in areas close to Land Parcels A-D.	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described at construction. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible.	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described at construction. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible.	Medium	Moderate (Significant)
HLCA 10 The Wash	Medium	Construction (winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise from the influence of	The HLCA is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	Within HLCA 10, the proposed 400kV overhead line crosses Austendyke Road north-east of Weston Hills	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			construction works on perceptual qualities due to distant intervisibility from the southeastern section of this HLCA west / south-west towards Solar Development Area – Land Parcel D. Perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, clusters and bands of dwellings and their garden vegetation, which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.		and heads north-west towards Spalding before it turns north crossing High Road west of Weston and ends at the proposed National Grid Weston Marsh substation. It would cross a rural landscape with arable fields. Direct effects during construction of the overhead line would involve localised works due to the construction of temporary haul routes, temporary construction compounds, the installation of steel lattice pylons (maximum height of 66m above ground, accounting for the vertical limit of deviation, with pylons approximately every 350m), the stringing of overhead		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
					wires, and the removal or alteration of limited existing vegetation along the route. There would be no change to topography, watercourses, and a temporary localised change of land use to facilitate construction works. The installation of pylons would introduce additional steel lattice infrastructure within this HLCA, at a scale which is not uncharacteristic due to a number of other existing 400kV overhead lines located in HLCA 10. Indirect impacts would include the perception and influence of construction, including traffic movements and temporary night-time lighting within the HLCA; and		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
					reduced tranquillity arising from increased traffic, and the gradual addition of tall vertical overhead line structures intensifying the prominence of 400kV overhead lines in the vicinity. Construction activities would be short term and reversible.		
		Operation (Year 1, winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise due to distant and very limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences of the upper sections of the On-Site 400kV Substation and On-Site 132kV Substation Compounds. These perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of	The HLCA is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	Direct effects during operation would arise from the addition of further large scale overhead line infrastructure, which is not uncharacteristic to the locality considering existing 400kV overhead lines within the southwestern area of this HLCA. The addition of the Grid Connection Route would partially alter the landscape character by adding further	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			intervening bands of vegetation, intervening settlements such as Sutton St James, Holbeach St Johns, Whaplode Fen, Moulton Chapel, Weston Hill, the town of Spalding and clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation, which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. The change would be long-term and reversible; planting has been assumed to be permanent.		high voltage transmission line infrastructure intensifying the prominence of tall steel lattice pylons and overhead wires within this section of the HLCA. There would be no change to land use (apart from the footprint of the steel lattice towers) or character of the drainage layout. Given the scale and nature of the proposed 400kV overhead line, effective landscape mitigation in form of planting would not be effective. Indirect effects would include the perception and influence of additional tall overhead line infrastructure in a north-south orientation for approximately 5.5km, crossing Austendyke Road, Delgate		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
					Bank, High Road west of Weston, and Runway as well as a section of PRoW Wstn/3/1.		
		Operation (Year 15, summer) Residual, with established proposed landscape mitigation	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as described for Year 1 apart from proposed mitigation planting adding to the screening in the distance. The change would be long-term and reversible; planting has been assumed to be permanent.	The HLCA is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as described for Year 1. The change would be long-term and reversible.	Medium	Moderate (Significant)
		Decommissioning (winter)	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described at construction. However, established landscape mitigation planting, not available at	The HLCA is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described at construction. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible.	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			construction, would screen decommissioning works partially. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible. The retention of landscape mitigation planting would continue to provide a greater degree of enclosure in areas close to Land Parcels A-D.				
HLCZ WSH 1 Reclaimed Coastal Fringe	High-Medium	All Stages	There would be no direct effects at all stages of the Scheme. There would be limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences, particularly from publicly accessible areas. The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area for the Solar Development Areas and Inter-Array Connection Route. It is located within the northeastern corner of the 10km study area of the Grid Connection Route. There would be no perceivable intervisibility with the Solar Development Area, BESS, and Inter-Array Connections. Potential distant intervisibility with the Grid Connection Route would be in conjunction with existing 400kV overhead line infrastructure located closer to HLCZ WSH 1 and not alter the landscape character further.			Very Low	Negligible Neutral (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
HLCZ WSH 4 Reclaimed Wash Farmlands	Medium	Construction (winter)	The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects resulting from intervisibility and resulting perceptual qualities are unlikely due to the effects of distance. Perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, settlements including towns such as Holbeach, Spalding, Whaplode, Moulton, and bands, clusters or individual dwellings / farmsteads and their garden vegetation as well as main road corridors, which would result in no	The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	The HLCZ is located in the northern section of the Grid Connection Route and 10km study area radius. The direct effects at this stage include localised works associated with the construction of the temporary haul routes, construction compounds and steel lattice pylons. There would be no change to the land use other than the footprint of the pylons. Given the scale and nature of the proposed 400kV overhead line, effective landscape mitigation in form of planting would not be effective. Indirect impacts would include the perception and influence of construction,	Low	Minor (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.		including traffic movement and temporary night-time lighting locally within the HLCZ; and reduced tranquillity arising from increased traffic along the main road network. Two existing 400kV overhead lines already traverse and join each other within the western section of this HLCZ. The gradual addition of another tall vertical overhead line structures would intensify the prominence of 400kV overhead lines in the area but not alter the landscape character further. Construction activities would be short term and reversible.		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
		Operation (Year 1, winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise due to distant and very limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences of the upper sections of the On-Site 400kV Substation, and On-Site 132kV Substation Compounds. These perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, intervening settlements such as Sutton St James, Holbeach St Johns, Whaplode Fen, Moulton Chapel, Weston Hill, the town of Spalding and clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation, which would	The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	Direct effects during operation would arise from the addition of further large scale overhead line infrastructure. The addition of the Grid Connection Route would partially alter the landscape character by adding further high voltage transmission line infrastructure and intensifying this element of the landscape. There would be no change to the land use other than the footprint of the pylons. Given the scale and nature of the proposed 400kV overhead line, effective landscape mitigation in form of planting would not be effective. Indirect effects would include the perception and influence	Low	Minor (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.		of tall 400kV overhead line infrastructure in addition to existing 400kV overhead lines infrastructure. The prominence of 400kV overhead line structures would intensify in the area but not alter the landscape character further. The change would be long-term and reversible.		
		Operation (Year 15, summer) Residual, with established proposed landscape mitigation	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as described for Year 1 apart from proposed mitigation planting adding to intervening screening in the distance. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.	The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as described for Year 1. The change would be long-term and reversible.	Low	Minor (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
		Decommissioning (winter)	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described at construction. However, established landscape mitigation planting, not available at construction, would partially screen decommissioning works. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible. The retention of landscape mitigation planting would continue to provide a greater degree of enclosure in areas close to Land Parcels A-D.	The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described at construction. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible.	Low	Minor (Not Significant)
HLCZ WSH 5	Medium	All Stages	There would be no direct effects at all stages of the Scheme. There would be limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences, particularly from publicly			Very Low	Negligible Neutral

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
Bicker Haven			accessible areas. The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area for the Solar Development Areas and Inter-Array Connection Route. It is located within the northern section of the 10km study area of the Grid Connection Corridor. There would be no perceivable intervisibility with the Solar Development Area and Inter-Array Connections. Potential distant intervisibility with the Grid Connection Route would be in conjunction with intervening existing 132kV and 400kV overhead line infrastructure located closer to HLCZ WSH 5 and not alter the landscape character further.				(Not Significant)
HLCZ WSH 6 Townlands	Medium	Construction (winter)	The majority of this HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise from the influence of construction works on perceptual qualities due to distant intervisibility from the southeastern section of this HLCZ west / southwest towards Solar Development Area – Land Parcel D as well as the On-Site 400kV	The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	Within HLCZ WSH 6, the proposed 400kV overhead line crosses Austendyke Road north-east of Weston Hills and heads north-west towards Spalding before it turns north crossing High Road west of Weston and ends at the proposed National Grid Weston Marsh substation. It would cross a rural landscape with arable fields. Direct effects during construction of the overhead	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			Substation, and On-Site 132kV Substation Compounds. Perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, clusters and bands of dwellings and their garden vegetation, which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.		line would involve localised works due to the construction of temporary haul routes, temporary construction compounds, the installation of steel lattice pylons (maximum height of 66m above ground, accounting for the vertical limit of deviation, with pylons approximately every 350m), the stringing of overhead wires, and the removal or alteration of limited existing vegetation along the route. There would be no change to land use (apart from the footprint of the steel lattice towers) or character of the drainage layout. Given the scale and nature of the proposed 400kV overhead line, effective landscape		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
					mitigation in the form of planting would not be effective. The installation of pylons would introduce additional steel lattice infrastructure within this HLCZ, at a scale which is not uncharacteristic due to a number of other existing 400kV overhead lines located in this HLCZ. Indirect impacts would include the perception and influence of construction, including traffic movements and temporary night-time lighting within the HLCZ; and reduced tranquillity arising from increased traffic around the entrance to construction compounds and access tracks, and the gradual		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
					addition of tall vertical overhead line structures intensifying the prominence of 400kV overhead lines in the vicinity. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.		
		Operation (Year 1, winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise due to distant and very limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences of the upper sections of the On-Site 400kV Substation, and On-Site 132kV Substation Compounds. These perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, intervening	The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	Direct effects during operation would arise from the addition of further largescale overhead line infrastructure, which is part of the existing landscape characteristic in the locality considering existing two 400kV overhead lines within the southwestern area of this HLCZ. The addition of the Grid Connection Route would partially alter the landscape character by adding further high voltage	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			settlements such as Sutton St James, Holbeach St Johns, Whaplode Fen, Moulton Chapel, Weston Hill, the town of Spalding and clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation, which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.		transmission line infrastructure intensifying the prominence of tall steel lattice pylons and overhead wires within this section of the HLCZ. It would reduce perceived tranquility due to skyline-breaking structures. There would be no change to land use (apart from the footprint of the steel lattice towers) or character of the drainage layout. Given the scale and nature of the proposed 400kV overhead line, effective landscape mitigation in form of planting would not be effective. Indirect effects would include the perception and influence of additional tall		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
					overhead line infrastructure in a north-south orientation for approximately 5.5km, crossing Austendyke Road, Delgate Bank, High Road west of Weston, and Runway as well as a section of PRoW Wstn/3/1.		
		Operation (Year 15, summer) Residual, with established proposed landscape mitigation	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as described for Year 1 apart from proposed mitigation planting adding to intervening screening in the distance. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.	The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as described for Year 1. The change would be long-term and reversible.	Medium	Moderate (Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
		Decommissioning (winter)	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described at construction. However, established landscape mitigation planting, not available at construction, would partially screen decommissioning works. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible. The retention of landscape mitigation planting would continue to provide a greater degree of enclosure in areas close to Land Parcels A-D.	The HLCZ is located outside the 5km study area radius. Landscape effects have therefore not been assessed.	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described at construction. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible.	Medium	Moderate (Significant)
Peter-borough Fens (LCT) 3a	Medium	Construction (winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise from the influence of construction works, and an	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise from the influence of	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise from the potential long	Very Low	Negligible (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
Bedford North Level (LCA)			increase in vehicular traffic along the A16, Thorney Road / Bypass and other main roads on perceptual qualities, predominantly for views north and north-east from areas in the vicinity north Newborough and Thorney. However, these perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, Crowland, and clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation, which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.	construction works, and an increase in vehicular traffic on perceptual qualities, predominantly for views north of Thorney. However, these perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, the settlements of Shepeau Stow, Whaplode Drove, and Holbeach Drove, and other clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation, which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.	distance intervisibility of construction works on perceptual qualities, predominantly for views north, northwest, or west from areas in the vicinity north of Newborough and Thorney. However, these perceptual influences would be very limited due to the effects of distance and intervening screening elements including bands of vegetation, Crowland, Shepeau Stow and other settlements which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.		

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
		Operation (Year 1, winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise due to distant and very limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences to the upper sections of the On-Site 400kV Substation, and On-Site 132kV Substation Compounds. These perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, Crowland, the settlements of Shepeau Stow and Holbeach Drove, and other clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise due to distant and very limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences to the upper sections of overhead line. These perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, Crowland, the settlements of Shepeau Stow and Holbeach Drove, other clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation as well as an intervening 132kV overhead line and wind turbines. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise due to distant and very limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences to the upper sections of overhead line. These perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, Crowland, the settlement of Shepeau Stow, and other clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation. Long distance visibility would not further change the perception of the landscape character due to other intervening 132kV overhead line infrastructure	Very Low	Negligible (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			planting has been assumed to be permanent.	planting of the Solar Development Area, which would also screen the Inter-Array from views, has been assumed to be permanent.	and wind turbines. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting of the Solar Development Area, which would also screen the Grid Connection from views, has been assumed to be permanent.		
		Operation (Year 15, summer) Residual, with established proposed landscape mitigation	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as for Year 1. However, mitigation planting along the southern boundaries of the Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A-D would increase the intermittent screening in views north from this LCT / LCA. Potential intervisibility and hence perceptual	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as for Year 1. However, mitigation planting along the southern boundaries of the Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A-D would increase the intermittent screening in views north from this LCT / LCA. Potential intervisibility and hence perceptual	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as for Year 1. However, mitigation planting along the southern boundaries of the Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A-D would increase the intermittent screening in views north from this LCT / LCA. Potential intervisibility and hence perceptual	Very Low	Negligible (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			influences would be very limited and may include the upper sections of the On-Site 400kV Substation, and On-Site 132kV Substation Compounds. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.	influences would be very limited and may include the upper sections of the overhead line. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting of Solar Development Areas has been assumed to be permanent.	influences would be very limited and may include the upper sections of the overhead line. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting of Solar Development Areas has been assumed to be permanent.		
		Decommissioning (winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar to those noted at construction above apart from proposed mitigation planting adding to intervening screening in the distance. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible; boundary planting of Solar Development Areas has been assumed to be permanent.			Very Low	Negligible (Not Significant)
Fen Fringe (LCT) 4b Eye Fen	High-Medium	All Stages	There would be no direct effects at all stages of the Scheme. There would be limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences, particularly from publicly accessible areas. The LCA is located outside the 5km study area for the Solar Development Areas and Inter-Array Connection Route. It is located within the southern end of the 10km			Very Low	Negligible Neutral (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
Fringe (LCA)			study area of the Grid Connection Route. There would be no perceivable intervisibility with the Solar Development Area, and Inter-Array Connections. The uppermost sections of the 400kV steel lattice pylons may be perceivable in the far distance but would not influence or change the landscape character and the perception of this LCT / LCA.				
The Fens (Fenland District)	Low-Medium	Construction (winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise from the influence of construction works on perceptual qualities, predominantly for views north, north-west, or west from areas in the vicinity north of Parson Drove and west of Tydd St Giles. However, these perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, the settlement of Gedney Hill,	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise from the influence of construction works on perceptual qualities, predominantly for views north, north-west, or west from areas in the vicinity north of Parson Drove and west of Tydd St Giles. However, these perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of vegetation, the	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise from the potential long distance intervisibility of construction works on perceptual qualities, predominantly for views north, north-west, or west from areas in the vicinity north of Parson Drove and west of Tydd St Giles. However, these perceptual influences would be very limited due to the effects of distance and intervening	Very Low	Negligible Neutral (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			and other clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation, which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.	settlement of Gedney Hill, and other clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation, which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.	screening elements which would result in no alteration of the landscape character and its perceptual qualities. Construction activities would be short-term and reversible.		
		Operation (Year 1, winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise due to distant and very limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences of the upper sections of the substations. These perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise due to distant and very limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences of the upper sections of overhead line. These perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would arise due to distant and very limited intervisibility and hence perceptual influences of the upper sections of overhead line. These perceptual influences would be very limited due to screening effects of intervening bands of	Very Low	Negligible Neutral (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			vegetation, the settlement of Gedney Hill, and other clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.	bands of vegetation, the settlement of Gedney Hill, other clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation. The change would be long-term and reversible; boundary planting of the Solar Development Area, which would also screen the Inter-Array from views, has been assumed to be permanent.	vegetation, the settlement of Gedney Hill, and other clusters of dwellings and their garden vegetation. Long distance visibility would not further change the perception of the landscape character due to other intervening 132kV overhead line infrastructure. The change would be long-term and reversible.		
		Operation (Year 15, summer) Residual, with established proposed landscape mitigation	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as described for Year 1 apart from proposed mitigation planting adding to the screening in the distance. The change would be long-term and reversible;	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as described for Year 1 apart from proposed mitigation planting adding to the screening in the distance. The change would be long-term and reversible;	There would be no new direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar as described for Year 1 apart from proposed mitigation planting adding to the screening in the distance. The change would be long-term and reversible;	Very Low	Negligible Neutral (Not Significant)

Landscape Receptors	Sensitivity	Stage of Works	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Solar Development Areas – Land Parcels A - D, On-Site 400kV Substation and BESS Compound, On-Site 132kV Substations, and Underground Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels A and B (approximately 1.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Overhead Inter-Array Connection between Land Parcels C and D (approximately 3.1km long)	Potential Landscape Effects resulting from: Grid Connection Route (approximately 13km long) and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Magnitude of Landscape Effects	Likely significance of effect (Significant / Not Significant) *Adverse unless otherwise stated*
			boundary planting has been assumed to be permanent.	boundary planting of the Solar Development Area, which would also screen the Inter-Array from views, has been assumed to be permanent.	boundary planting of the Solar Development Area, which would also screen the Grid Connection from views, has been assumed to be permanent.		
		Decommissioning (winter)	There would be no direct effects at this stage. Indirect effects would be similar to those noted at construction above apart from proposed mitigation planting adding to intervening screening in the distance. The decommissioning phase would be short-term and reversible; boundary planting of the Solar Development Area has been assumed to be permanent.			Very Low	Negligible Neutral (Not Significant)