



Meridian Solar Farm

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Volume 6

Environmental Statement

6.3 ES Appendix 12-5: Visual
Baseline

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

Infrastructure Planning (Applications:
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1. Visual Baseline

1.1. Introduction

1.1.1. This Appendix to **ES Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual** (Doc Ref. 6.1) presents details of each representative viewpoint and visual receptor group. It includes consideration of the visual value of the view based on the methodology provided in **ES Appendix 12-2: LVIA Methodology** (Doc Ref. 6.3).

1.1.2. The locations of the representative viewpoints are shown on **ES Figure 12-19** and **ES Figure 12-20** (Doc Ref. 6.2). They are provided as follows, with reference to LI Technical Advice Note (TGN) 06/19 Visual Representation of Development Proposals:

- 'Type 1' baseline view with annotations indicating Scheme elements: **ES Figure 12-21: Photosheets 1-30** and **ES Figure 12-22: Photosheets LCC 1-11** (Doc Ref. 6.2).
- Baseline View existing summer and existing winter (where available).
- 'Type 3' visualisations at Year 1 and Year 15 (with proposed landscape mitigation measures).
- 'Type 3' cumulative visualisations at Year 1 together with the proposed National Grid Grimsby to Walpole and Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire 400kV overhead line schemes including the proposed Weston Marsh 400kV Substations in relevant views: **ES Figure 12-21: Photosheets 1-30** and **ES Figure 12-22: Photosheets LCC 1-11** (Doc Ref. 6.2).

1.1.3. Elevations provided are in metres Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The proposed On-Site Substation Compounds as well as the proposed National Grid Weston Marsh 400kV Substations are illustrated as red wirelines where visible in all relevant 'Type 3' visualisations.

1.2. Representative Viewpoints

1.2.1. 42 representative viewpoints have been selected to assist in illustrating the effects on visual receptors. These viewpoints represent the experience of different types of visual receptor groups.

1.2.2. Representative viewpoints are also referred to in the case of private views, for example the views of residents from properties where it has not been possible to access or where large numbers of viewpoints cannot all be included

individually. In such cases reference is made to viewpoints located on public land, such as roads, or Public Rights of Way (PRoW).

- 1.2.3. The selection of viewpoints has been informed by the Zone of Theoretical Visibility analysis, fieldwork, desk-based research and consultations with Lincolnshire County Council, Boston Borough Council and South Holland District Council as stated in **ES Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual** (Doc Ref. 6.1).
- 1.2.4. In some cases, viewpoints have been chosen specifically to demonstrate a particular effect or specific issue, for example where visibility is restricted by intervening vegetation or buildings.
- 1.2.5. The following text describes the baseline view from each viewpoint that would exist without the Scheme. However, a brief overview about the potential visibility of the Scheme has been included for orientation. It should be read in conjunction with **ES Figure 12-21: Photosheets 1-30** and **ES Figure 12-22: Photosheets LCC 1-11** (Doc Ref. 6.2). Reference also should be made to **ES Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual** (Doc Ref. 6.1), which provides further detail on visual receptor groups.

Viewpoint 1: View northeast from Clout Drove just north of Crowland

- 1.2.6. The view is representative of vehicle users travelling on Clout Drove, residents on the northern edge of Crowland, and outdoor workers/ farmers. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel.
- 1.2.7. This is a long-distance open view to the northeast across a flat rural fenland landscape along the road with grassy embankments, and lined by a drainage channel to the east. Large-scale arable fields bound by drainage channels extent from the foreground to the middle ground, and further to the background only sporadically interrupted by some shrubs or clusters of trees. Low-voltage overhead power lines recede into the distance along the road and are also visible in the background. The flat topography affords long-distance views of fields, hedgerows, and dispersed farmsteads with pockets of woodland and bands of trees creating a wooded horizon line with large open skies. The view does not have a particular focus.
- 1.2.8. The Scheme's Solar Development Area would be visible in the middle ground. Views of the substations and overhead cables associated with the Grid Connection in the background would also be possible.

- 1.2.9. The view consists of common landscape elements such as fields, clusters of trees, isolated farmsteads, and is crossed by small-scale overhead power lines. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 2: View northeast from Clout Drove on the southern edge of Parcel A

- 1.2.10. The view is representative of vehicle users travelling along the northern section of Clout Drove. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel. It is also representative of outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.11. The view is located on the southern edge of Parcel A. It is oriented northeast at the junction between Clout Drove and the access track to Lodge Farm across an open flat fenland landscape with big skies. Beyond the shrub-lined drainage channels, the foreground view consists of large-scale arable fields bound by drainage channels stretching into the middle ground. The airfield and related buildings of the Peterborough & Spalding Gliding Club are visible in the distance. The horizon line is marked by the slightly elevated position of the embankment along the River Welland, pockets of woodland, cluster, or bands of trees, as well as isolated farmsteads. Low-voltage overhead power lines run across the horizon in the background. The view does not have a particular focus.
- 1.2.12. The Scheme, consisting in this view of Solar Development Areas and a substation, would occupy the fields in the middle ground.
- 1.2.13. The view consists of common landscape elements such as fields, bands of trees, and is crossed by overhead power lines. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 3: View southeast from Wash Bank on the northwestern edge of Parcel A

- 1.2.14. This view is representative of recreational users on PRow Crow/7/1 and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.15. The view is located on the north-western edge of Parcel A. It is oriented south-east and taken from a slightly elevated position on the embankment of the River Welland and the New River (Drain) overlooking a flat rural fenland landscape with large open skies. The flatness offers views across fields in the fore-, middle-, and background. The field in the foreground is lined by scattered shrubs while the middle ground is occupied by large arable fields bound by drainage channels with pockets of trees and shrubs. Pockets of trees and shrubs densify towards the background, which also contains pockets of woodland, belts of trees, and isolated farmsteads. Intermittent views of vehicles travelling along the A16 and

overhead power lines in the far distance are filtered by trees and hedges. A number of wind turbines are discernible in the far distance.

- 1.2.16. The Scheme's Solar Development Area and substations would be visible from the foreground to the middle ground.
- 1.2.17. The expansive view is comprised of common rural landscape elements, but it provides a slightly elevated location with good long-distance views across the land. The value attached to the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 4: View southeast from New Road just east of Deeping St Nicholas

- 1.2.18. The view is representative of vehicle users travelling southeast on New Road from Deeping St Nicholas, residents along the southeastern fringe of Deeping St Nicholas, and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.19. This is a long-distance open view to the southeast across a flat rural fen landscape with open skies. The road is flanked by drainage channels and ditches with large fields to either side. The fore-, and middle ground is occupied by the road, low-voltage overhead power lines that recede into the distance along the road, and fields. The background and horizon line is marked by the slightly elevated position of the embankment along the River Welland, pockets, and scattered bands of trees. The bell tower of Crowland Abbey is discernible in the background as well as overhead power lines.
- 1.2.20. The Scheme would be mostly shielded by the embankment in the background, however the substations as well as overhead line from the Grid Connection Route would be visible in the background.
- 1.2.21. The view consists of common landscape elements, such as a large network of fields, bands of trees and areas of woodland, and is crossed by low-voltage overhead power lines. The value attached to the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 5: View south from Wash Bank on the northwestern edge of Parcel A

- 1.2.22. This view is representative of recreational and vehicle users on Wash Bank/ PRow Crow/17/1 and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.23. This is a wide, open, and long-distance view orientated south, taken from a slightly elevated position on the embankment of the River Welland and the New River (Drain) overlooking the fields. The view is located close to the northern edge of Parcel A. The foreground is occupied by agriculture and a plantation of bushes, scattered shrubs, and a low-voltage overhead line. The middle ground is dominated by large-scale, flat arable fields bound by drainage channels and

barely any significant boundary vegetation. Anaerobic digestion plants from Bettaland Products are visible in the background. The elevated view and the flat topography afford long-distance views of fields. The horizon line is marked by clusters and belts of trees from which emerges the bell tower of Crowland Abbey as well as a cluster of wind turbines.

- 1.2.24. The Scheme's Solar Development Area including a substation would be visible across the middle ground of the view.
- 1.2.25. The view consists of common landscape elements such as fields, scattered shrubs, and bands of trees. It also includes a built landmark (Crowland Abbey). The visibility of overhead power infrastructure and anaerobic digestion plants provides a light industrial component to an otherwise agricultural landscape. Crowland Abbey as well as columnar poplar trees along the horizon provide points of focus. The value attached to the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 6: View northeast from A16 rest area southeast of Peak Hill

- 1.2.26. The view is representative of vehicle users travelling along the A16. The view is perpendicular to the direction of travel. It is also representative of outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.27. The view is located on the northwestern edge of Parcel B. This is a long-distance view looking north-east from the lay-by area on the east side of the A16. The Wheat Mere Drain runs along a band of grassland in foreground of the view, while large-scale, flat arable fields bound by embankments and drainage channels recede from the middle ground into the distance. Trees and hedgerows filter views towards small-scale settlements and isolated farmsteads. The horizon is defined by belts of trees and pockets of woodland, as well as high-voltage steel lattice pylons in the left of this view.
- 1.2.28. The Scheme consists in this location of a 400kV substation and the Grid Connection Route with high-voltage overhead wires and steel lattice pylons, and would be visible in the fore-, and middle ground of the view.
- 1.2.29. The view consists of common landscape elements, such as fields, scattered shrubs, and bands of trees in the distance. Some settlements can be identified in the distance. The visibility of high voltage energy infrastructure in the distance is noticeable but not prominent in this panoramic view across an agricultural fenland landscape. The value of the view is low.

Viewpoint 7: View south from Queen's Bank east of Queen's Bank Farm

- 1.2.30. The view is representative of vehicle users travelling along Queen's Bank. The view is perpendicular to the direction of travel. It is also representative of residents living on Queen's Bank and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.31. The view is located outside the northern edge of Parcel B and is oriented to the south. It provides an uninterrupted, long-distance view with large skies across large-scale, open arable fields that recede into the distance. The foreground is occupied by the ditch that delineates the field from Queen's Bank. The middle ground contains fields with scattered shrubs and trees as well as small clusters of trees. The horizon line is defined by belts of trees and pockets of woodland. Low-voltage overhead lines stretching across the view are discernible. Wind turbines emerge at the horizon in the far distance. The view does not have a particular focus apart from the wind turbines which can catch the attention of the viewer if the blades are moving.
- 1.2.32. The Scheme's Solar Development Area including a substation would occupy the field in the background of the view.
- 1.2.33. The view consists of common landscape elements, such as a large arable fields, bands of trees and pockets of woodland, and is crossed by overhead power lines with wind turbines in the far distance. The value attached to the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 8: View west from Martins Road south of Martins Farm

- 1.2.34. This view is representative of vehicle users along Martins Road. The view is perpendicular to the direction of travel. It is also representative of residents on Martins Farm and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.35. The view is located within Parcel C of the Scheme. This is an open, middle-distance view located south of Martins Farm oriented to the west. Reeds from a drainage ditch occupy the foreground while medium-scale arable fields occupy the middle ground receding into the distance. Scattered shrubs and bands of trees form field boundaries in the middle distance. A low-voltage overhead line occupies the middle ground in the left of the view and recedes into the distance. The flat topography with intervening vegetation affords middle-distance views across fields, hedgerows, and bands of trees creating a wooded background under large skies.
- 1.2.36. The Scheme's Solar Development Area, including a substation and overhead line from the Inter-Array Connection, would be visible in the middle distance and background of the view.

- 1.2.37. The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements, with arable fields, groups and bands of trees, scattered shrubs, and overhead lines within a fenland landscape. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 9: View east from Martins Road at the junction with Hardy's Lane

- 1.2.38. This view is representative of vehicle users along Martins Road, nearby residents of Martins Farm as well as outdoor workers / farmers.
- 1.2.39. The view is located within Parcel C of the Scheme and is oriented to the east. The flat topography provides an open, uninterrupted view of the fields in the middle ground and the edge of Whaplode Drove in the background. The foreground is marked by reeds along a drainage channel separating the road from the fields. Medium-scale arable fields bound by drainage channels occupy the middle ground and recede into the distance. Several sets of low-voltage overhead lines can be seen in the fore-, middle- and background. Vegetation in the background becomes dense along the fringe of Whaplode Drove including a number of visually prominent columnar poplars which provide points of focus on the background.
- 1.2.40. Solar Development Areas - Land Parcel C and the Inter-Array Connection overhead line would be visible from the foreground and middle ground towards the background.
- 1.2.41. The view consists of common landscape elements, including arable fields and belts of trees. Existing low-voltage overhead lines and residential properties are visible in the background. The value attached to the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 10: View west from PRow Crow/12/1 on the eastern edge of Parcel C

- 1.2.42. This view is representative of recreational users travelling along the PRow and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.43. The view is located on the eastern edge of Parcel C looking west. This is an open, long-distance view across arable fields. Beyond the drainage ditch and its vegetation in the foreground, medium-scale arable fields stretch into the background. Pockets of shrubs and trees cluster together along the horizon line. They are punctuated by several sets of low-voltage overhead lines that stretch across the view. Isolated farmsteads and a number of wind turbines are discernible in the left of the view.

- 1.2.44. PV modules in the foreground, the Inter-Array overhead line receding from the foreground to the background, and a substation from the Scheme would be visible in the background.
- 1.2.45. The view consists of common landscape elements such as fields and belts of trees in the distance and is crossed by a number of low-voltage overhead lines. The value of the view is therefore considered low.

Viewpoint 11: View northwest from Back Bank just east of Shepeau Stow

- 1.2.46. The view is representative of vehicle users on Back Bank, residential properties along the northern edge of Shepeau Stow, and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.47. This is a wide open view north from Back Bank. A large-scale arable field occupies the foreground, receding into the distance and unbound by vegetation. Intermittent rows of trees in the distance create a sense of a wooded horizon, punctuated by low-voltage overhead lines that stretch in the background across the view. Isolated farmsteads are discernible in the background. The flat topography offers a long-distance view to the horizon with open skies and without intervening vegetation filters.
- 1.2.48. PV modules and Inter-Array overhead line would be visible in the background of the view. Steel lattice pylons from the proposed Grid Connection Route would be visible in the far distance.
- 1.2.49. The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements with fields, bands of trees and isolated farmsteads, and is crossed by overhead power lines. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 12: View west from Green Bank at the junction with Farrow Road

- 1.2.50. The view is representative for vehicle users on Green Bank and Back Bank and emerging at Farrow Road from Whaplode Drove as well as pedestrians, and residential properties on the western edge of Whaplode Drove. It is also representative of outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.51. This is an open, mid-distance view across a flat landscape from Green Bank. Beyond the road and ditch in the foreground, medium-scale arable fields bound by drainage channels occupy the middle ground. A prominent low-voltage overhead line recedes from the foreground into the background. Farmsteads are visible in the background. The horizon consists of bands of trees and hedgerows associated with field boundaries and vegetation in private gardens / farms. A line of poplars punctuate the horizon at almost regular intervals providing interest and points of focus apart from the low-voltage overhead line.

- 1.2.52. The Inter-Array overhead line would be visible in the middle ground. Substations would be visible in the middle distance and background of the view.
- 1.2.53. The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements with fields, shrubs, rows of trees, and is crossed by overhead power lines. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 13: View east from Holbeach Drove Gate/B1168 just north of the Inter-Array Connection

- 1.2.54. This view is representative of vehicle users along Holbeach Drove Gate / B1168, as well as outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.55. The view is located near the western edge of Parcel D and adjacent to the Inter-Array Connection of the Scheme. It illustrates a long-distance view east across a flat fenland landscape. A fallow field stretches from the foreground into the middle distance and is bounded by clusters of shrubs and reeds along drainage channels (not visible). Intervening vegetation is becoming denser in sections of the background. However, the view is extending to a distant horizon with cluster of shrubs and trees located along field boundaries. Intermittent belts of trees form a wooded horizon. Vehicles travelling along Langary Gate Road, isolated farmsteads, and low-voltage overhead lines can be seen in the far distance.
- 1.2.56. A 132kV substation, PV modules, and the proposed Inter-Array overhead line would be visible in middle ground of the view.
- 1.2.57. The view consists of common landscape elements with fields, shrubs, and clusters of trees. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 14: View southwest from Langary Gate Road south of Langary Gate Farm

- 1.2.58. This view is representative of vehicle users on Langary Gate Road, as well as outdoor workers/ farmers. Views experienced whilst travelling along the road are typically framed by intermittent shrubs and trees flanking the west side of this road corridor.
- 1.2.59. The view is located at the edge of Parcel D of the Scheme. This is a long-distance view oriented southwest across flat fallow fields that stretch from the foreground to the background, unbound by any significant intervening vegetation. The horizon line is composed of intermittent bands of trees, including lines of poplars that punctuate the horizon at regular intervals. Farmstead buildings and low-voltage overhead lines are also discernible in the distance.

- 1.2.60. The Scheme's Solar Development Area – Land Parcel D would be visible in from the foreground of the view.
- 1.2.61. The view consists of common landscape elements including fields, bands of shrubs, clusters of trees, and isolated scattered farmsteads. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 15: View northwest from West Drove North just north of Gedney Hill Golf Club

- 1.2.62. The view is representative of vehicle users and residential receptors on West Drove North just north of Gedney Hill Golf Club, and outdoor workers/ farmers. Views experienced whilst travelling along the road are typically framed by intermittent shrubs flanking the road corridor. Residential receptors will be able to see this or similar views from their homes.
- 1.2.63. The viewpoint is located east of the eastern edge of Land Parcel D. It is an open, long-distance view across a flat landscape oriented north-west from West Drove North. Open flat arable fields stretch from the foreground to the middle ground, bound by drainage channels and drains with intermittent shrubs. A low-voltage overhead lines traverses the middle ground. The background contains intermittent bands of and clusters of trees, and isolated farmsteads.
- 1.2.64. PV modules would be visible in the middle ground and background of the view together with the upper sections of a proposed 132kV substation located in Land Parcel D.
- 1.2.65. The view consists of common landscape features such as fields, drainage channels, bands of trees, shrubs, scattered farmsteads, and low-voltage overhead lines. The value of the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 16: View northeast from Mill Lane/B1166 east of the junction with Langary Gate Road

- 1.2.66. The view is representative of vehicle users travelling along Mill Lane/B1166 between Gedney Hill and Holbeach Drove. It also is representative of residential receptors along the northwestern edge of Gedney Hill as well as outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.67. This is a view oriented northeast across a medium-sized arable field that stretches from the foreground to the middle ground. Views beyond are contained by an area of woodland and bands of trees curtailing long-distance views. It also contains a small scale wind turbine and buildings associated with farmsteads.

- 1.2.68. The Scheme would not be visible from the viewpoint as views would be intercepted by the woodland in the background.
- 1.2.69. The view consists of common landscape features such as fields and areas of woodland. The value of the view is low.

Viewpoint 17: View southwest from Luton Gate Road

- 1.2.70. The view is representative of vehicle users on Luton Gate Road as well as outdoor workers / farmers. Views experienced whilst travelling along the road are typically framed by intermittent trees and shrubs flanking the road corridor.
- 1.2.71. This is a long-distance view oriented west from Luton Gate Road. Large-scale, flat arable fields stretch from the foreground into the distance, bound by drainage channels. Views are intercepted by intermittent shrubs in the middle ground. Isolated farmsteads can be discerned in the background. Low-voltage overhead lines stretch across the view in the far distance. Bands of intervening trees and shrubs create a sense of a wooded horizon line, including lines of poplars punctuating the horizon at regular intervals. A number of wind turbines are discernible in the south of the view. The view does not have a particular focus.
- 1.2.72. PV modules of Land Parcel D, and upper sections of the associated 132kV substation would be visible in the background.
- 1.2.73. The view consists of common landscape elements including fields, shrubs, belts of trees, and isolated farmsteads. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 18: View southeast from Lambert Bank just south of Holbeach St John

- 1.2.74. This view is representative of vehicle users along Lambert Bank. It is also representative of outdoor workers/ farmers, and residential properties located along the southern fringe of Holbeach St John.
- 1.2.75. This is an open long-distance view south along Lambert Bank and across a flat arable field within an almost featureless fenland landscape. The road is accompanied by a drainage channel along its western side. Scattered shrubs and trees become discernible in the middle distance and form bands in the background. Vehicles travelling along the roads and isolated farmsteads can be discerned in the background. Overhead lines stretch across the view in the far distance. The view does not have a particular focus.
- 1.2.76. PV modules of Land Parcel D would become discernible in the background.

- 1.2.77. The view consists of common landscape elements including arable fields, bands of shrubs and trees, isolated farmsteads, and overhead lines in the far distance. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 19: View south from Cranesgate South just south of Whaplode St Catherine

- 1.2.78. This view is representative of vehicle users on Cranesgate South. The view is aligned with the direction of travel. It is also representative of residential properties on the southern edge of Whaplode St Catherine and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.79. This is a long-distance view oriented south along Cranesgate South across a flat landscape. The road is framed by drainage channels on both sides. Low-voltage overhead lines run along the road from the foreground to the background. An 132kV overhead line with steel lattice pylons traverses the view in an east–west direction. Beyond the drainage channels, medium-scale, flat arable fields extend into the background. Farm buildings located on both sides of the road as well as pockets of woodland form the middle distance and provide partial screening to long-distance views. Bands of trees are discernible along the horizon line.
- 1.2.80. The Scheme would not be visible from this viewpoint.
- 1.2.81. The view consists of common landscape elements including arable fields, stands and pockets of trees. Overhead line infrastructure, particular a high-voltage overhead line with steel lattice pylons, provide an industrial component and detracting features to the otherwise rural view. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as assessed as low.

Viewpoint 20: View southwest from Barrier Bank at the junction with Blackgate

- 1.2.82. This view is representative of vehicle and recreational users on Blackgate and Barrier Bank, residential properties on the southern tip of Cowbit as well as outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.83. This is a long-distance view oriented southeast along the elevated Barrier Bank. Beyond the road junction in the foreground, the flat landscape includes large-scale lower-level arable fields, above which the embankment carrying Barrier Bank stretches towards the background. The view includes several road signs along the carriageway as well as a street lighting column and Low-voltage overhead line wooden pole. Vehicles travelling along the A16 can be discernible

in the background. Bands of trees in the far distance create wooded horizon. A group of wind turbines is visible in the far distance.

- 1.2.84. The Scheme's Grid Connection Route including substation and steel lattice towers would be visible in the middle ground extending into the background.
- 1.2.85. The view consists of common landscape elements such as fields, bands, and clusters of trees. The overall rural view includes light industrial components (wind turbines) and a strong presence of roads and road signs which are detracting elements. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 21: View northeast from Moulton Chapel Road/B1357 at the junction with Broad Gate

- 1.2.86. This view is representative of vehicle users along Moulton Chapel Road / B1357 and residential receptors located along the eastern edge of Cowbit, and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.87. This long-distance and open view is looking northeast. Beyond the road junction in the foreground, large-scale flat arable fields stretch from the side of the road to the background. Clusters of trees and shrubs can be seen in the middle distance and background. They are often associated with mature vegetation located in private gardens or close to farmsteads in an area with increased density of settlements. Several sets of overhead power lines stretch across the fore-, middle-, and background, while high-voltage cables and pylons become discernible along the horizon.
- 1.2.88. The high-voltage power line from the Scheme's Grid Connection Route would be visible in the middle ground and background.
- 1.2.89. The view consists of common landscape elements such as fields, boundary vegetation of residences, and bands of trees. Low-voltage and high-voltage overhead lines are prominent vertical features in this view adding to the perception of less remoteness and being within an area with increased density of settlements. The value of the view is low.

Viewpoint 22: View west from Fen Gate/B1357 at the junction with Daws Gate

- 1.2.90. The view is representative of vehicle users along Fen Gate / B1357, nearby residential receptors, and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.91. The view is oriented west and looks across a flat agricultural landscape. Large-scale, arable fields stretch from the foreground to the background. A low-voltage overhead line traverses the field in the middle ground. Scattered shrubs and trees

form field boundaries in the middle distance and extend to the background. Scattered farmsteads and houses related to the settlement of Weston Hills extent along the horizon together with bands of trees. Additional sets of low-voltage overhead lines, 132kV high-voltage overhead lines with steel lattice pylons, and a telecom mast are discernible in the far distance. The view does not have a particular focus.

- 1.2.92. Steel lattice pylons and overhead wires of the proposed Grid Connection Route would be visible in the background.
- 1.2.93. The view consists of common landscape elements such as fields, shrubs, scattered trees, overhead lines, and residential buildings. There is a densification of settlement recognisable in the distance. The value of the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 23: View southeast from Fengate Drove just east of Weston Hills

- 1.2.94. This view is representative of vehicle users along Fengate Drove and Broad Gate, residential receptors located on those roads along the eastern fringe of Weston Hills, and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.95. This is a long-distance and open view looking south-east with large skies. Large-scale flat arable fields stretch from the foreground to the background, with little intervening vegetation to intercept views. A number of low-, and high voltage overhead lines are visible in the background together with scattered farmsteads and clusters of residential properties (mainly located along Fen Gate). The horizon line includes bands and clusters of trees often associated with residential properties and farmsteads. The view does not have a particular focus.
- 1.2.96. The proposed 400kV overhead line and Cable Sealing End Compounds of the Grid Connection Route would be visible in the background of this view.
- 1.2.97. The view consists of common landscape elements such as fields crossed by overhead lines, settlement structures, bands of shrubs and trees. The value of the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 24: View northeast from Austendyke Road/B1165 at the junction with Broad Gate

- 1.2.98. The view is representative of vehicle users on Austendyke Road / B1165 and Broad Gate, and residential properties in Weston Hills.
- 1.2.99. This is a short-distance view oriented northeast from within a linear settlement located along the local main roads. Beyond the roads in the foreground, views are intercepted by one- and two-storey residential properties with front gardens

walls and fences. Trees and low-level front garden planting can be seen in front of the houses. Local overhead distribution lines traverse the view.

- 1.2.100. Upper sections of the proposed 400kV overhead line and steel lattice pylons of the Grid Connection Route would be visible in the background above the roofline. Cumulatively, sections of the high-voltage overhead line related to the proposed Grimsby to Walpole scheme may also be visible.
- 1.2.101. The composition of the view contains common built-up elements such as houses, garden walls, and overhead cables. The value of the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 25: View east from the Coronation Channel eastern embankment just north of Low Road Bridge

- 1.2.102. The view is representative of recreational users along the eastern embankment of the Coronation Channel along the eastern edge of Spalding as well as a number of residential properties located on the west side of the Channel (upper floors only).
- 1.2.103. This is a short-distance view oriented east, taken from the elevated pathway along the embankment of the Coronation Channel. The view is framed by trees and shrubs planted along the embankment and along the A16 / Low Road in the middle distance. Intervening vegetation is preventing long distance views across the fenland landscape.
- 1.2.104. Beyond the foreground marked by reeds, a grassy field stretches into the middle ground. The A16 is discernible in the background, with small trees and shrubs partially screening views towards the road. Low-voltage overhead lines stretch across the middle ground and background, and low timber fences and road signs are displayed along the road. Belts of trees beyond the A16 create a wooded horizon.
- 1.2.105. The proposed 400kV overhead line related to the Grid Connection Route would be screened by intervening vegetation. Cumulatively, upper most sections of the 400kV high-voltage overhead line related to the proposed Grimsby to Walpole scheme may also be visible.
- 1.2.106. The composition of this elevated view contains common landscape elements such as fields, shrubs, and belts of trees. Overhead lines and road infrastructure associated with the A16 are distracting elements. The value of the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 26: View west/southwest from Shivean Gate just west of the cemetery

- 1.2.107. The view is representative of vehicle users and residential receptors of houses located along Shivean Gate at the western edge of Moulton, visitors to the cemetery, and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.2.108. This is an open, long-distance view across a flat fenland landscape oriented to the southwest. Large-scale arable fields stretch into the far distance, with little intervening vegetation apart from clusters of trees in the middle distance associated with playing fields of the Moulton Harrox Sports and Social Society. Scattered farmsteads, low voltage overhead lines, a small number of residential buildings, and Spalding Power Station and high-voltage overhead lines are visible in the background. Bands of trees form parts of the horizon line.
- 1.2.109. Sections of the proposed 400kV overhead line and steel lattice pylons of the Grid Connection Route would be visible in the background above the vegetation line. Cumulatively, sections of the high-voltage overhead line related to the proposed Grimsby to Walpole scheme will also be visible.
- 1.2.110. The view contains common landscape elements such as fields, bands of trees, and agricultural buildings. Overhead lines stretch across the view. The value of the view is assessed as low.

Viewpoint 27: View southeast from the River Welland eastern embankment just south of the junction between Marsh Road and The Chase

- 1.2.111. This view is representative of recreational users of PRow Spal/14/1 as well as road users of the adjacent Marsh Road, which is located slightly lower than the PRow.
- 1.2.112. This elevated, open, and long-distance view is oriented southeast. The foreground contains a strip of grassland and a hedge, which conceals Marsh Road running along the hedgerow. A low-voltage overhead line runs along Marsh Road. Large-scale arable fields stretch beyond the hedgerow at lower ground into the background across a flat agricultural landscape. Scattered bands and clusters of trees as well as pockets of woodland intersect the view to the horizon. An existing 400kV overhead line and steel lattice pylons form prominent features in the middle distance and background. A number of residential properties, the spire of All Saints Church in Moulton and Moulton Windmill are visible in the far distance. Bands of intervening trees form a wooded horizon line, above which another existing 400kV overhead line becomes discernible towards the left of the view.

1.2.113. The proposed 400kV overhead line related to the Grid connection Route will be visible in the middle ground. Cumulatively, the proposed Weston Marsh substation in conjunction with the proposed Grimsby to Walpole and Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire 400kV schemes will be visible in the middle distance.

1.2.114. The view contains common landscape elements such as hedgerows, fields, bands of trees, high-voltage overhead lines, as well as two built landmarks in the background. The value of the view is low.

Viewpoint 28: View southwest from A17 at the junction with Old Main Road, Fosdyke

1.2.115. This view is representative of vehicle users along the A17 as well as outdoor/farm workers, and residential properties close to the A17 along Old Main Road at the southern edge of Fosdyke.

1.2.116. This is an open, mid- to long-distance view oriented southwest across a flat landscape structured by low embankments channelling the Five Towns Drain as well as higher and vegetated embankment along the River Welland in the background. The A17 with signage and lighting poles is a prominent feature in the foreground. Small to medium-scale arable fields bound by drains occupy the middle ground along with a groups and bands of trees associated with residences in the background. A telecom mast and a 400kV overhead line are discernible in the far distance.

1.2.117. The proposed 400kV overhead line would be mostly screened or faintly visible on the horizon. The view has been selected to illustrate the cumulative impact of onshore infrastructure associated with the proposed Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Farm and the Eastern Green Link schemes.

1.2.118. The view contains common landscape elements such as fields, drains, and scattered trees and shrubs, settlement structures, as well as distracting elements associated with road and overhead line infrastructure. The value of the view is therefore assessed as low.

Viewpoint 29: View southeast from Mill Lane / B1181 just east of Marsh Mill House

1.2.119. The view is representative of vehicle users and residential properties along Mill Lane / B1181 as well as outdoor workers/ farmers.

1.2.120. The open and long-distance view with large skies is oriented to the southeast. Beyond the carriageway, large-scale arable fields stretch towards the background across a flat landscape with little intervening boundary vegetation.

Scattered bands and clusters of trees form the background. Low and high-voltage overhead lines traverse the view in the background and towards the horizon. Scattered farmsteads are also discernible in the far distance.

- 1.2.121. The Scheme's Grid Connection Route would not be visible from the viewpoint. The Grimsby to Walpole National Grid scheme would become visible on the left and provide a new line of focus.
- 1.2.122. The view contains common landscape elements such as fields, clusters and bands of shrubs and trees, with distracting elements comprising overhead lines. The value of the view is low.

Viewpoint 30: View southeast from PRow Wstn/6/1 at River Welland eastern embankment

- 1.2.123. This view is representative of recreational users of PRow Wstn/6/1.
- 1.2.124. The elevated, open and long distance view is orientated southeast. The foreground contains flat arable farm fields, which extend into the middle ground and background. Scattered trees, groups of trees, large shrubs and some hedgerows are located along field boundaries and the road network. Settlement is sparse and includes isolated farms or farm buildings. A number of low voltage overhead lines run across the fields in the middle ground and background. This is added to by two existing 400kV high voltage overhead lines appearing in the background and above the tree line along the horizon.
- 1.2.125. The proposed 400kV overhead line related to the Grid Connection Route will be visible in the middle ground. Cumulatively, the proposed Weston Marsh substation in conjunction with the proposed Grimsby to Walpole and Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire 400kV schemes will be clearly visible within the view.
- 1.2.126. The open and long distance rural view contains common landscape elements such as fields, bands of trees, shrubs, and isolated farmsteads. Distracting elements include low and high voltage overhead lines. The latter form points of focus across the view. The value of the view is low.

1.3. Viewpoints requested by Lincolnshire County Council

- 1.3.1. The following 12 additional viewpoints have been agreed during consultations with Lincolnshire County Council as detailed in **ES Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual** (Doc Ref. 6.1) to be included in the ES landscape and visual impact assessment.

LCC 1: View north from James Road/B1166

- 1.3.2. This is a view that is representative of vehicle users traveling both into and out of Crowland along James Road. In addition, it is representative of residents and recreational users of 'Wayside Caravan Park' located south of James Road, walkers from nearby PRow Crow/3/1 emerging on to James Road as well as outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.3.3. This is a long-distance, open view with large skies looking north from James Road. The foreground contains large-scale, flat arable farmland which recedes into the background. Apart from significant tree belts associated with an adjacent farmstead in the left of this view, there is little intervening vegetation until reaching the background. There are two low voltage overhead lines running across the view in the midground as well as a scattering of trees and shrubs as well as isolated farmsteads in the background. The view does not have a particular focus.
- 1.3.4. The proposed PV modules and substation of Land Parcel A would become discernible in the background of this view.
- 1.3.5. The view consists of common landscape features such as fields, tree belts and cluster of shrubs and trees as well as a number of overhead lines. The value of the view is assessed as low.

LCC 2-1: View northeast from Wash Bank at the junction with Barrier Bank

- 1.3.6. This view is representative of vehicle users along Wash Bank at the junction with Barrier Bank. It is also a view representative for recreational users of PRow Crow/17/1 and Crowb/1/1 which emerge / start at the junction.
- 1.3.7. This is a long-distance, elevated view from Wash Bank with large skies. The foreground of the view includes Barrier Bank and a grass verge with road signage and a local low-voltage distribution line. The midground contains flat arable fields divided by drainage channels with reeds. Other intervening vegetation is sparse. Running through the centre of the view is the A16 which has high volumes of traffic and no screening along its course in this section. Cluster of trees and shrubs are associated with residences or farms in the left (associated with Peak Hill) and right of the view (along Queen's Bank). Vegetation densifies in the background in form of bands and belts of trees. The view does not have a particular focus. However, the moving vehicles along the A16 draw the attention of the viewer.

- 1.3.8. The proposed substation, BESS compound and 400kV overhead line related to the Grid Connection Route would be visible within the midground and background of this view.
- 1.3.9. The view consists of common landscape features such as fields, drainage channels, bands and belts of trees, overhead lines, road infrastructure, and evidence of scattered settlement. The value of the view assessed is low.

LCC 2-2: View southwest from Wash Bank at the junction with Barrier Bank

- 1.3.10. This view is representative of vehicle users along Wash Bank at the junction with Barrier Bank. It is also a view representative for recreational users of PRow Crow/17/1 and Crowb/1/1 which emerge / start at the junction.
- 1.3.11. This is a semi-open view looking southwest from Wash Bank. The foreground is defined by the road junction, grass verges, a small electrical compound, and pole-sets of low-voltage overhead lines. Scattered shrubs are located along Barrier Bank and trees along Wash Bank. These features frame a middle-distance view where the midground is dominated by flat arable farmland extending into the background. It is partially interrupted by structures and vehicles related to Peterborough & Spalding Gliding Club Airfield and anaerobic digestors in the middle distance and background. The horizon line is populated by isolated farmsteads and bands of trees, from which emerges the tower of Crowland Abbey in the centre of the view. Scattered popular trees break the horizon line.
- 1.3.12. PV modules and the substation of Land Parcel A would become visible in the middle distance.
- 1.3.13. This slightly elevated view consists of common landscape elements including fields, belts of trees, low-voltage overhead lines, isolated agricultural buildings, an airfield for light weight gliders, and a built landmark in the far distance. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

LCC 3: View southwest from PRow Crow/11/1 just east of Queen's Bank

- 1.3.14. This is a view that is representative of recreational users of PRow Crow/11/1, located east of Queens Bank, and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.3.15. This is an open, long-distance view across a fenland landscape. The foreground consists of a band of shrubs, the pathway of the PRow, and reeds along the adjacent drain. The drain borders along an arable field which extents into the middle ground and beyond. Intervening clusters and belts of trees associated with a local farmstead (Martins Farm) break up partially the view. Low-voltage

overhead lines become discernible in the background. The horizon is defined by bands of trees, shrubs, and other deciduous vegetation.

- 1.3.16. The PV modules of Land Parcel C would be visible in close distance from this viewpoint.
- 1.3.17. The view consists of common landscape elements including fields, belts of trees, low-voltage overhead lines, and isolated agricultural buildings. The value attached to the view is therefore assessed as low.

LCC 4: View northeast from Dog Drove North just north of Holbeach Drove

- 1.3.18. This is a view that is representative of vehicle users and residential receptors along Dog Drove North, at the northwestern edge of Holbeach, and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.3.19. This is an open, mid-distance view from Dog Drove North. The foreground is dominated by medium-scale, low-lying flat arable farmland. Low voltage overhead lines run along Dog Drove North and in the background. Residences, farmstead and associated mature vegetation provide screening in the middle distance and background. Bands and individual specimens of poplars provide verticality and focus in the middle distance.
- 1.3.20. The majority of Land Parcel D and the Inter-Array Connection overhead line will be screened by intervening vegetation and built structures (located along Holbeach Drove Gate).
- 1.3.21. This view consists of common landscape features including fields, belts of trees, shrubs, low-voltage overhead lines, and dwellings. The value of the view assessed is low.

LCC 5: View southeast from Peartree Hill Road just south of the South Holland Main Drain

- 1.3.22. This is a view that is representative of vehicle users along Chapel Hill / Peartree Hill Road as well as recreational users along PRoW Whap/6/4 which is located along South Holland Main Drain, and outdoor workers/ farmers.
- 1.3.23. This is a long distance view southwest across flat fenland landscape with arable fields extending from the foreground to the background with little intervening vegetation consisting of scattered shrubs, small trees, and reeds along drainage channels. Isolated farmsteads provide disruptions in the long distance view. A number of wind turbines line sections of the horizon and result in some visual attention when the blades are moving.

- 1.3.24. Proposed PV modules and the substation of Land Parcel D as well as sections of the Inter-Array Connection overhead line would be visible in the background.
- 1.3.25. This view consists of common landscape features including fields, scatterings or bands of shrubs and smaller trees as well as renewable energy infrastructure (wind turbines). The value of the assessed view is low.

LCC 6: View west from Eaugate Road just north of the South Holland Main Drain

- 1.3.26. This is a view that is representative of vehicle users along Eaugate Road, recreational users of PRow Moul/7/1, outdoor workers/ farmers, and views from the curtilage of adjacent residents.
- 1.3.27. The open view is across flat arable fields with the South Holland Main Drain running down the centre between fields. The foreground contains sections of a bridge crossing South Holland Main Drain as well as a wooden pole of an overhead line, timber fencing, and a field gate. Bands and belts of trees define the far middle ground with further intervening vegetation in the background. The A16 is located in the background and is mostly screened. However, moving HGV's can be discernible. A number of wind turbines are also located along the horizon line.
- 1.3.28. Sections of the BESS compound, substation and the 400kV overhead line related to the Grid Connection Route would be visible in the background of this view.
- 1.3.29. This view consists of common landscape features including fields, belts of trees, and renewable energy infrastructure (wind turbines). The value of the view assessed is low.

LCC 7: View southwest from Woodgate Road just south of Moulton Chapel

- 1.3.30. This view is representative of vehicle users along Woodgate Road and outdoor workers/ farmers. Similar views may be available from residential properties along the western side of Woodgate Road north of this viewpoint.
- 1.3.31. The foreground of the view contains an arable field which is traversed by a low-voltage overhead line. The southwards part of the view is cut off by a dense band of shrubs, however there are parts of the view that provide open, long-distance views towards a horizon that is defined by bands of trees, farmsteads, and wind turbines.
- 1.3.32. Sections of the 400kV overhead line related to the Grid Connection Route would be visible in the background of this view.

- 1.3.33. This view consists of common landscape features including fields, bands of shrubs, farmsteads, and renewable energy infrastructure (wind turbines). The value of the view is low.

LCC 8: View northeast from Swindler's Road just north of Low Fulney

- 1.3.34. This is a view that is representative of vehicle users travelling along Swindler's Drove just north of Low Fulney, outdoor workers/ farmers, recreational users on PRow Spal/11/1 and residential receptors along this section of Swindler's Drove. A number of 400kV and low-voltage overhead lines traverse sections of the horizon line which also includes All Saints Church Spire at Moulton and Moulton Windmill.
- 1.3.35. Sections of the 400kV overhead line related to the Grid Connection Route would be visible in the middle ground of this view. Cumulatively, the overhead line of the proposed Grimsby to Walpole scheme would also be visible in the middle ground running in parallel to the Meridian Grid Connection Route.
- 1.3.36. This view consists of common landscape features including fields, band of trees, dwellings, farmsteads, and high and low-voltage overhead lines. It also includes two built landmarks. Despite that, the view does not have a particular focus. The value of the view is low.

LCC 9: View southwest from High Road at the junction with Begger's Bush Lane

- 1.3.37. This view is representative of vehicle users along the High Road at the junction with Beggars Bush Laner on the western edge of Weston, and pedestrians.
- 1.3.38. This is a medium-distance view where the foreground includes the road junction and associated grass verges with reeds along drainage channels. Lighting columns, low voltage overhead lines, large playground structures (related to Fun Farm Spalding), and road signage contribute to visual clutter in this edge of town setting. Tree belts and arable farmland are located in the middle ground. Greenhouses are visible in the background as well as the spire of the Church of St Mary and St Nicholas, which emerges above the tree belts in the background. The horizon is predominantly lined with trees and other forms of deciduous vegetation.
- 1.3.39. Sections of the 400kV overhead line related to the Grid Connection Route would traverse the view in the middle distance. Cumulatively, the overhead line of the proposed Grimsby to Walpole and Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire schemes would also be visible in the middle ground running in parallel to the Meridian Grid Connection Route.

- 1.3.40. The view consists of common landscape features including fields and belts of trees. It also contains a number of detracting features related to road infrastructure and adjacent developments. The value of the assessed view is low to very low.

LCC 10: View northwest from PRow Wstn/3/1 just west of Wiseman's Gate

- 1.3.41. This is a view that is representative of recreational users of PRow Wstn/3/1, vehicle users travelling nearby along Wiseman's Gate, and outdoor workers/farmers.
- 1.3.42. This is an open mid-distance view northwest. The foreground and middle ground consists of flat arable fields and contains an existing 400kV overhead line connecting to Spalding Power Station. Its northern sections joins another 400kV overhead line running above the tree line along the horizon. Clusters of trees and scattered larger shrubs are located along field boundaries and the road network and extend to the horizon. Settlements are sparse and contain isolated farmsteads often surrounded by mature vegetation. A low voltage overhead line runs across fields in the middle distance.
- 1.3.43. Sections of the proposed 400kV overhead line related to the Grid Connection Route would be visible in the middle distance of this view. Cumulatively, sections of the existing 400kV overhead line in the middle ground of this view will be removed. The 400kV overhead line of the proposed Grimsby to Walpole scheme would be visible in the background running northwest. The proposed 400kV overhead line of the Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire cumulative scheme would be visible in the background and middle ground where it would join the proposed Weston Marsh substation and then continues parallel to the Meridian Grid Connection Route before turning west towards Spalding Power Station.
- 1.3.44. The open view consists of common landscape features including fields, belts of trees, scattered shrubs and isolated farmsteads. The high-voltage overhead line infrastructure provides prominent verticality and an industrial layer that detracts from the otherwise rural landscape. The value of the assessed view is low.

LCC 11: View south from PRow Wstn/7/1 west of Bottom Yard

- 1.3.45. This is a view that is representative of recreational users of PRow Wstn/7/1 looking southwest, a residential receptor of the nearby farmstead (Weston Barn House), and outdoor workers/farmers.
- 1.3.46. This view is a long distance open view across flat arable fields and large skies. Framed by roadside trees, the foreground contains arable farmland extending

into the background with little or no intervening vegetation. Rising in the middle ground is an existing 400kV overhead line with large steel lattice pylons. Another 400kV overhead line is located in the background connection to the visible Spalding Power Station. Other distant features include scattered trees and small farmsteads.

- 1.3.47. Sections of the 400kV overhead line related to the Grid Connection Route would be visible near the horizon line beyond the existing distant 400kV overhead line. Cumulatively, the overhead line and Weston Marsh substation of the proposed Grimsby to Walpole scheme and Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire overhead line would also be visible in the background.
- 1.3.48. The view consists of common landscape features including fields, belts of trees, and farmsteads. High voltage overhead lines and the power station infrastructure provide an industrial layer that distracts from the otherwise rural landscape. The value of the assessed view is low.

