



EAST PARK ENERGY

East Park Energy

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Preliminary Environmental Information Report Volume 2 – Technical Appendices

Appendix 5-5: Effects on Visual Receptors

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Appendix 5-5: Effects on Visual Receptors

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 **PEIR Volume 2 Appendix 5-4: Effects at Viewpoints** provides a thorough assessment of visual effects from 82 viewpoint locations within the Study Area of the Scheme. The representative viewpoint assessment therefore provides the basis upon which the overall visual effects of the Scheme have been assessed.

1.1.2 This document, **PEIR Volume 2 Appendix 5-5**, builds on the work carried out in **PEIR Volume 2 Appendix 5-4** by providing a comprehensive schedule of visual receptors within the Study Area. The visual receptors are set out into the following main categories:

- People in residential properties. Within the study area this comprises villages, small groups of properties and individual properties;
- Users of public rights of way. Within the study area this comprises footpaths, bridleways, byways open to all traffic (BOAT) and long-distance designated trails;
- Users of community facilities such as churches and community halls;
- People in employment sites, i.e. at their places of work; and
- People in vehicles when travelling along roads. Within the study area this comprises 'B-roads' or minor roads which connect settlements throughout the study area.

1.1.3 Each receptor, or group of receptors, identified is supported with the following information:

- Name and location;
- Reference to relevant representative viewpoints in **PEIR Volume 2 Appendix 5-4** which represent the view(s) from the receptor or are sufficiently close that they are relevant to the discussion regarding the effects on the receptor; and
- A narrative discussion regarding the likely effects on the receptor(s).

- 1.1.4 The narrative discussion regarding visual effects concerns the effects that receptors are likely to experience during construction, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme.
- 1.1.5 Refer to ***PEIR Volume 3 Figures 5-4a to 5-4c*** (Viewpoint and Receptor Locations) which illustrates the location of the visual receptors.

2.0 VISUAL RECEPTORS

2.1 People in Residential Properties

Table 2.1 – People in Residential Properties

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
R1 - Swineshead Village	0.6km west of Site A	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 4 (Figures 5-8a and Figure 5-8b) and Viewpoint 6 (Figures 5-10a and Figure 5-10b).</p> <p>Views of the Site from Swineshead are screened from view by surrounding tree and hedgerow cover, as is demonstrated in the Viewpoint 4 assessment. There would be No Change to the view from Swineshead during construction and operation of the Scheme.</p> <p>Viewpoint 6 represents views from the vicinity of Swineshead Road, at the eastern extent of the village. Minor Adverse level of effect has been assessed during construction and operation stages from Viewpoint 6, illustrating the likely effects on the periphery of Swineshead.</p>
R2 - Millers Cottage Individual	0.7km west of Site A	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 5 (Figure 5-9).</p> <p>At most there would be a Negligible visual effect on residents of Millers Cottage at construction and operation stages, as is described in Viewpoint 5 which is located slightly further south on Swineshead Road. Screening adjacent to the road and intervening landform undulations would screen.</p>
R3 - Coldham Lodge Farm Individual	0.9km south-west of Site A	<p>Views of the Scheme would not be possible from this property due to screening by intervening landform and vegetation.</p>
R4 - Grange Farm Small group	Adjacent to Site A	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 18 (Figures 5-22a and 5-22b).</p> <p>Views from Grange Farm would likely be similar to those described from Viewpoint 18, as would the effects: Moderate Adverse (Significant) during construction; Moderate Adverse (Significant) at Year 0; and Minor-Moderate Adverse (Not Significant) at Year 10.</p> <p>At Year 0, Site A would form a reasonably conspicuous element within the view and result in some noticeable change to the quality and character of the available view. However, the effect would reduce following the establishment of tree and hedgerow planting on the northern boundary of Site A, which would integrate the Scheme into the view, particularly during summer months.</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
R5 - Pertenhall Village	0.1km north of Site A	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 20 (Figures 5-24a and Figure 5-24b) and Viewpoint 22 (Figures 5-26a and Figure 5-26b).</p> <p>Despite being in relatively proximity to Sites A and B, views of the Scheme from within Pertenhall would be largely screened from view by surrounding tree cover and landform undulations.</p> <p>From Viewpoint 22, which is within the southern extent of Pertenhall, beside Church of St Peter, views out are entirely screened by buildings and tree cover and there would be No Change.</p> <p>However, from the northern extent of the village, in the vicinity of Viewpoint 20 and the Wood End part of the village which is slightly more elevated, the addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Site B, would form visible but minor element within the view, resulting in a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) visual effect at Construction, Year 0 and Year 10 of Operation.</p>
R6 - Green End Small group	0.1km north of Site A	<p>This small cluster of properties located to the south of Pertenhall includes College Cottages and Manor Farm and is in a low position between Sites A and B.</p> <p>Views out are screened by surrounding tree cover and visual effects are unlikely.</p>
R7 – Chadwell Farmhouse, west of Pertenhall Small group	0.2km east of Site A	<p>This small cluster of properties located at the western extent of Pertenhall includes Chadwell Farmhouse and is in a low position between Sites A and B.</p> <p>Views out are screened by surrounding tree cover and adjacent agricultural buildings and visual effects are unlikely, however there is a possibility of some views from the western-most property. The addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Site B, would form visible but minor element within the view, resulting in a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) visual effect at Construction, Year 0 and Year 10 of Operation.</p>
R8 - Gunnersby Cottage Individual	0.6km north of Site A	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 23 (Figures 5-27a and Figure 5-27f).</p> <p>Viewpoint 23 is located near to this receptor, however it is in a more elevated position than the property, which is also surrounded by some tree cover, restricting views out. Receptor R7 is evident in the foreground of Figures 5-27b and 5-27e.</p> <p>While a Moderate Adverse level of effect has been identified at construction and operation stages of</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		Viewpoint 23, the lower set position of Gunnersby Cottage and the surrounding trees provide screening and would result in a lower level of effect, such that a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect is predicted at Year 10.
R9 – Properties on Great Staughton Road, east of Green End	0.2km north of Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 24 (Figures 5-28a to Figure 5-28c). Viewpoint 23 is located beside this receptor and therefore it represents views of the Site from these receptors, at which a Moderate-Major level of visual effect (Significant) has been assessed at construction. A Moderate adverse level of effect (Not Significant) has been identified at Year 10 following the establishment of mitigation planting.
R10 - Hoo Farm Small group	0.9km north of Site A	Refer to Viewpoint 23 (Figures 5-27a to Figure 5-27f). Viewpoint 23 is located near to this receptor, at a broadly similar elevation. Hoo Farm and adjacent properties are in a slightly elevated position to the north of Sites A and B, with potential views out towards the Scheme, particularly from upper storey windows. Reflecting on the assessment from Viewpoint 23, it is also likely that there would be Moderate-Major Adverse (Significant) levels of effect at construction and Year 0 of the operation of the Scheme, albeit the Scheme would be evident at long-distance and below the visible horizon. At Year 10, the level of effect would reduce slightly to Moderate Adverse (Significant) following the establishment of mitigation planting.
R11 – Keysoe / Brook End Village	0.1km south of Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 28 (Figures 5-32) and Viewpoint 31 (Figures 5-35). Views of the Site from Keysoe are likely to be similar to the views from Viewpoints 28 and 31, at which Negligible levels of visual effect have been assessed at construction and operation stages. However, there is potential for a Minor Adverse level of effect during construction and operation from the upper storey windows of some properties with views orientated to the north.
R12 – The Grange Small group	Adjacent to the south of Site A	Refer to Viewpoint 27 (Figures 5-31a to Figure 5-31d). Viewpoint 27 is located close to this group of receptors and therefore it represents views of the Site. A Major level of visual effect (Significant) has been assessed at construction and Year 0. A

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		Moderate adverse level of effect (Not Significant) has been identified at Year 10 following the establishment of mitigation planting.
R13 - Temple Farm Individual	0.1km south of Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 31 (Figure 5-35). Views of the Site from Temple Farm are likely to be similar to the views from Viewpoint 31, at which a Negligible level of visual effect has been assessed at construction and operation stages. Intervening landform and vegetation would screen the Site.
R14 - Keysoe Row Village	0.5km south of Site B	Views of the Scheme from Keysoe Row would be screened by intervening landform and vegetation, with at most upper storey glimpsed views at long-range.
R15 - The Bungalow and West End Small group	Adjacent to south of Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 38 (Figures 5-42a to 5-42c). Viewpoint 38 is located next to these properties, however they are surrounded by trees which would restrict views out, albeit some windows have views out across the Site. Therefore, the assessment of effects on these properties is: Minor Adverse (Not Significant) at construction and also at Year 0 and Year 10 of operation
R16 - Little Staughton Village	Adjacent to south of Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 44 (Figures 5-48a to 5-48c) and Viewpoint 45 (Figures 5-49a and 5-49b). Little Staughton is a long settlement which is orientated north to south, just to the south of Site B. Overall, visual effects on receptors in Little Staughton are likely to be Negligible. As assessed in Viewpoints 44 and 45, the Scheme would be screened by surrounding tree and hedgerow cover within Little Staughton.
R17 – Northern extent of Green End (road) Small group	0.1km south of Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 44 (Figures 5-48a to 5-48c). Green End road passes through a small and sinuous settlement at the northern extent of Little Staughton, just to the south of Site B. Viewpoint 44 is located close to this group of receptors, however views of the Site would be more open than from the viewpoint, albeit at an oblique angle. A Major level of visual effect (Significant) has been assessed at construction and Year 0. A Moderate adverse level of effect (Not Significant) has been identified at Year 10 following the establishment of mitigation planting and the retention of openness immediately adjacent to the property given the separation of the Scheme from these properties.

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
R18 – Southern extent of Green End (road) Small group	0.5km south of Site B	Views of the Scheme from the southern extent of Green End would be screened by intervening landform and vegetation, with at most upper storey glimpsed views at long-range.
R19 - Lodge Farm Small Group	Adjacent to Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 42 (Figures 5-46a to 5-46f). Viewpoint 42 is located near to Lodge Farm but is not entirely representative of the views from Lodge Farm. Lodge Farm will have views out across the Scheme to the north and south from differing upper storey windows. The assessment at Viewpoint 42 is considered to be informative to the assessment of the visual effect on these properties which is: Major Adverse (Significant) at construction and Year 0, but with the establishment of mitigation planting the effect on the view from these properties would reduce to Moderate Adverse (Significant) by Year 10 of operation.
R20 - Rectory Farm Individual	Adjacent to Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 42 (Figures 5-46a to 5-46f). Viewpoint 42 is located near to Rectory Farm and is relevant to the assessment of effects on Rectory Farm, although this it is not entirely representative of the specific views experienced. There would be ground floor views of the Scheme to the south-west aspect of Rectory Farm, albeit not from the eastern aspect. There would be upper storey views to the south-west and east. The assessment of levels of visual effect at Viewpoint 42 is considered to be valid for these properties: Major Adverse (Significant) at construction and both Years 0 and 10 of operation.
R21 – Little Hollow Cottage Small Group	Adjacent to Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 46 (Figures 5-50a to 5-50d). Viewpoint 46 is located further north than Little Hollow Cottage and is not entirely representative of views from the property, however it informs the assessment. Ground floor views of the Scheme would be screened by mature vegetation along the road, with filtered upper storey views likely over the top of the roadside hedgerow. During construction and at Year 0 there would be a Moderate Adverse (Significant) effect, reducing to Minor-Moderate Adverse (Not Significant) at Year 10.
R22 - The Kangaroo Individual	Adjacent to Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 46 (Figures 5-50a to 5-50d). Viewpoint 46 is representative of views from The Kangaroo and visual effects identified are: a Moderate-Major Adverse level of effect during

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		<p>construction (Significant); and during operation at Year 0 a Minor-Moderate Adverse level of effect (Not Significant); with a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect at Year 10 following the establishment of mitigation planting.</p>
<p>R23 – New Farm Individual</p>	<p>0.1km east of Site B</p>	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 48 (Figures 5-52a to 5-52d). Viewpoint 48 is representative of views from a footpath in the vicinity of New Farm and, while views from the property would be orientated north, due to screening to the south, visual effects identified are: a Moderate Adverse level of effect during construction and at Year 0 of operation (Significant); with a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect at Year 10 following the establishment of mitigation planting.</p>
<p>R24 - Newpond Farm, Manor Farm and Hawthorn Lodge Small group</p>	<p>0.2km north of the cable route connection between Sites B and C</p>	<p>This group of properties are located close to the section of the Site which comprises the proposed underground cable route between Sites B and C. The properties typically have some tree and hedgerow cover surrounding them, limiting views out. Therefore, a Minor Adverse level of visual effect (Not Significant) has been assessed at construction and a Negligible (Not Significant) level of effect at Years 0 and 10 of operation.</p>
<p>R25 – Garden Farm and Garden Cottage Small group</p>		<p>Refer to Viewpoint 60 (Figures 5-64a and 5-64b). This group of properties are located close to the section of the Site which comprises the proposed underground cable route between Sites B and C. The properties typically have some tree and hedgerow cover surrounding them, limiting views out. However, referring to Viewpoint 60, which is located close to these receptors, there would potentially be close-range views of Site C and as such the assessment of Moderate Adverse (Significant) levels of effect during construction and at Year 0 of operation would apply as a worst-case assessment from this group of properties. At Year 10, mitigation planting would benefit the Scheme and reduce the change to this view, with the level of effect reducing to Minor-Moderate Adverse (Not Significant).</p>
<p>R26 - Great Staughton Village</p>	<p>0.2km north of Site C</p>	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 61 (Figures 5-65) and Viewpoint 64 (Figures 5-68a and 5-68b). Viewpoint 61 informs the assessment of effects on Great Staughton, however overall, views of the Scheme from Great Staughton village would be limited. There is a reasonable separation between the village and the nearest part of the Site, Site C. The conclusion of the Year 0 visual assessment of</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		effects at Viewpoint 64 is that the addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Site C would form a visible but only very minor element within the view, without materially affecting the overall quality and character of the available view. Overall, there would be at most a Minor Adverse level of effect (Not Significant) on receptors within Great Staughton village.
R27 - Rushey Farm and Roman Field Farm Small group	Adjacent to Site C	Refer to Viewpoint 67 (Figures 5-71a to 5-71c). Rushey Farm is predominantly an employment site, including a farm, however there is a residential property at the centre of the site, beside Moor Road, and it is two storey therefore upper storey views are likely across the Site. Viewpoint 67 is directly adjacent to Roman Field Farm and the assessment of effects identified that the addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Sites C and D, would form a reasonably conspicuous element within the view. The assessment of effects on Viewpoint 67 identifies a Moderate Adverse (Significant) level of visual effect during construction and Year 0 of operation stages of the Scheme. At Year 10 the level of effect at Year 10 would reduce to as Minor Adverse (Not Significant) as mitigation planting would reduce the level of effect on the view.
R28 - Moor Farm Cottages	0.4km south of Site C	This group of properties are located in a slight dip in the landform which would likely screen much of the Site from view, in addition to some boundary tree cover which restricts views out. However, there are likely to be some upper storey views of the Site D in a north-easterly direction. A Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect is likely at construction and operation stages of the Scheme.
R29 – Mill View Individual property		Refer to Viewpoint 66 (Figures 5-70a and 5-70b). Viewpoint 66 is representative of views from a footpath in the vicinity of New Farm and, while views from the property would be orientated north, due to screening to the south, visual effects identified are: a Moderate Adverse level of effect during construction and at Year 0 of operation (Significant); with a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect at Year 10 following the establishment of mitigation planting.
R30 - Wood View Small group	0.2km north of Site D	Refer to Viewpoint 76 (Figures 5-80a to 5-80d). Viewpoint 67 is directly adjacent to this receptor and the assessment of effects identified that the addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Site D, would form a reasonably

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		conspicuous element within the view. The assessment of effects on Viewpoint 76 identifies a Minor-Moderate Adverse (Not Significant) level of visual effect during construction and operation stages of the Scheme.
R31 - The Cottage and Pastures Farm Small group	Directly to the east of Site D	Refer to Viewpoint 77 (Figures 5-81a to 5-81d). Viewpoint 77 is located in relative proximity to adjacent to this receptor, however the residential properties have a slightly less open aspect due to the screening effect of adjacent shelterbelts of trees and agricultural buildings. However, it is assessed that this receptor would be subject to a Moderate Adverse (Significant) level of visual effect during construction and operation stages of the Scheme.
R32 - Wood Farm Individual	0.4km east of Site D	While there would likely be some oblique upper storey views of the Scheme from this property, the Scheme would likely form a small part of the wider view due to landform undulations. In addition, there are lines of pylons in close proximity which would remain the most prominent features in the view. It is therefore assessed that there would be a Minor Adverse level of visual effect on Wood Farm.
R33 - Brickfield House and Bungalow Small group	0.7km east of Site D	It is likely that the tree cover adjacent to the receptor and undulations in the intervening landform would restrict views of the Site and Scheme to a Negligible level of visual effect.
R34 - Meagre Farm and Meagre Cottages Small group	0.8km north-east of Site D	While it is located in a slightly elevated position, it is likely that the tree cover adjacent to the receptor and undulations in the wider intervening landform would restrict views of the Site and Scheme to a Negligible level of visual effect.
R35 - Hail Weston Village	0.5km north-east of the cable route connection at the eastern extent of the site	Refer to Viewpoint 79 (Figure 5-83). Viewpoint 79 is located on the road outside Hail Weston. However, from within the village it is unlikely that there are views out due to the screening effect of tree cover and buildings on the boundary, beside the B645. A worst-case assessment of visual effects during construction would be a Negligible visual effect, while there would be No Change to the view during operation.
R36 - Duloe Village	Adjacent to the cable route connection at the eastern	Refer to Viewpoint 80 (Figure 5-84). Viewpoint 80 is located on the road outside Duloe, at its eastern extent. However, from within the village it is unlikely that there are views out due to the screening effect of tree cover and buildings on the boundary. A worst-case assessment of visual

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
	extent of the site	effects during construction would be a Negligible visual effect, while there would be No Change to the view during operation.
R37 - Field Farm Individual	0.3km west of the point of connection at the eastern extent of the site	Refer to Viewpoint 82 (Figure 5-86). Viewpoint 82 is located near to this receptor. It is unlikely that there are views out towards the Site due to the screening effect of tree cover and buildings on the boundary. A worst-case assessment of visual effects during construction would be a Negligible visual effect, while there would be No Change to the view during operation.

2.2 People on Public Rights of Way

Table 2.2 – People on Public Rights of Way

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
North Bedfordshire Heritage Trail	Located on footpaths within the south-western extent of the study area, between Riseley and Keysoe Row villages	Refer to Viewpoints 10 (Figure 5-14), 11 (Figure 5-15) and 40 (Figure 5-44). This is a large circular route that passes into the very south-western extent of the study area. Overall, there would be occasional long-range views of the Scheme from the part of the Trail which passes into the study area. However, there is a reasonable separation from the site and there is screening along the route provided by adjacent tree cover and undulations in the landform. Where there are possible long-range views out, the addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Sites A and B, would form a visible but minor element within the view, without materially affecting the overall quality and/or character of the available view. It is therefore concluded that there would be a worst-case Minor Adverse level of effect on users of North Bedfordshire Heritage Trail in a relatively small number of locations along the route, during both construction and operation.
The Three Shires Way	Located on footpaths within the northern extent of the study area, just to	Refer to Viewpoints 72 (Figure 5-76), 73 (Figure 5-77), 74 (Figure 5-78) and 75 (Figure 5-79). This is a large circular route that passes into the northern extent of the study area. Overall, there would be occasional long-range views of the Scheme from the part of the Trail

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
	the north-east of Great Staughton	which passes into the study area. However, there is a reasonable separation from the site and there is screening along the route provided by adjacent tree cover and undulations in the landform. Where there are possible long-range views out, the addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Sites C and D, it would form a visible but minor element within the view, without materially affecting the overall quality and/or character of the available view. It is therefore concluded that there would be a worst-case Minor Adverse level of effect on users of The Three Shires Way in a relatively small number of locations along the route, during both construction and operation.
Footpaths A3, 2, 32, 11 and 12	This network of rights of way are located directly within the northern extent of Site A	<p>Refer to Viewpoints 7 (Figures 5-11a and 5-11b), 15 (Figures 5-19a to 5-19d) and 16 (Figure 5-20a to 5-20c).</p> <p>From these rights of way, the rising landform to the south would screen some of Site A, while the northern extent of Site A would be visible within short-distance range.</p> <p>Sites B, C and D would not be visible due to the screening effect of vegetation within the Pertenhall area.</p> <p>Given that these rights of way are located within the Site, the visual changes associated with the construction of the Scheme would form a highly prominent element within the view at close-distance and result in substantial change to the quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual change would therefore be High and the level of visual effect on these rights of way during construction and at Year 0 of operation would be Moderate-Major Adverse (Significant).</p> <p>At Year 10, once mitigation planting has established, the visual change would reduce to Medium and there would be a Moderate Adverse (Not significant) level of effect on these receptors. Refer to Illustrative Environmental Masterplan, Sheet 1, which illustrates the mitigation proposed.</p>
Bridleway 40 and Footpaths 34, 35 and 37	This network of rights of way are located directly within the southern extent of Site A	<p>Refer to Viewpoints 8 (Figures 5-12a to 5-12c), 12 (Figures 5-16a to 5-16c), 13 (Figure 5-17a to 5-17d) and 14 (Figure 5-18a to 5-18d).</p> <p>From these rights of way, the southern extents of Site A and B in particular would be visible, located at short-distance and on a rising</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		<p>landform which would elevate the solar array at close-range.</p> <p>The northern extent of Site A and the majority of Site B, C and D are unlikely to be visible due to the screening effect of landform undulations and intervening tree and hedgerow cover..</p> <p>Given that these rights of way are located within the Site, the visual changes associated with the construction of the Scheme would form a highly prominent element within the view at close-distance and result in substantial change to the quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual change would therefore be High and the level of visual effect on these rights of way during construction and at Year 0 of operation would be Major Adverse (Significant).</p> <p>At Year 10, once mitigation planting has established, the visual change would reduce to Medium and there would be a Moderate Adverse (Not significant) level of effect on these receptors. Refer to Illustrative Environmental Masterplan, Sheets 1 and 2, which illustrates the mitigation proposed.</p>
Footpaths 4, 8, 13, 26, 47	This network of rights of way are located directly within Site B	<p>Refer to Viewpoints 32 (Figure 5-36a to 5-36c) and 33 (Figure 5-37a to 5-37d).</p> <p>From these rights of way, Site B would be visible at close-range. Sites A, C and D would be glimpsed at most due to the screening effect of landform undulations and intervening tree and hedgerow cover.</p> <p>Given that these rights of way are located within the Site, the visual changes associated with the construction of the Scheme would form a highly prominent element within the view at close-distance and result in substantial change to the quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual change would therefore be High and the level of visual effect on these rights of way during construction and at Year 0 of operation would be Major Adverse (Significant).</p> <p>At Year 10, once mitigation planting has established, the visual change would reduce to Medium and there would be a Moderate Adverse (Significant) level of effect on these receptors. The mitigation planting would benefit the Scheme and reduce the change to this view from the paths, however a Significant effect would remain, in particular on Footpath 13, due to the extent of enclosure of the footpath network through the Scheme, albeit views would typically be of hedgerow lined 'green</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		lanes' and not of infrastructure. Refer to Illustrative Environmental Masterplan, Sheets 3, 4, 5 and 6, which illustrates the mitigation proposed.
Footpath 5 (Pertenhall parish) and 20	Located on rights of way situated on slightly elevated ground, close to Pertenhall, at least 1km north of Sites A and B	<p>Refer to Viewpoints 21 (Figures 5-25a to 5-25d) and 23 (Figures 5-27a to 5-27f).</p> <p>From these rights of way, Sites A and B would be set at a lower position within the landscape, with low hills behind creating a backcloth effect which would limit the visual influence.</p> <p>The addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Site D, would form a reasonably conspicuous element within the view and result in some noticeable change to the quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual change would therefore be Medium during construction and at Year 0 of operation, and the overall level of effect would be Moderate Adverse (Significant).</p> <p>At Year 10, once mitigation planting has established, the visual change would reduce to Medium and there would remain a Moderate Adverse (Significant) level of effect on these receptors due to the extent of the Scheme visible.</p>
Footpaths 1, 5, 19	This north-south orientated connected set of footpaths passes directly within the eastern extent of Site B	<p>Refer to Viewpoints 48 (Figure 5-52), 49 (Figure 5-52) and 50 (Figure 5-52).</p> <p>From these rights of way, Site B would be visible at close-range. Sites A, C and D would be glimpsed at most due to the screening effect of landform undulations and intervening tree and hedgerow cover.</p> <p>The visual changes associated with the construction of the Scheme would form a reasonably conspicuous element within the view and result in some noticeable change to the quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual change would therefore be Medium during construction and at Year 0 of operation the level of effect would be Moderate Adverse (Significant).</p> <p>At Year 10, once mitigation planting has established, the visual change would reduce to Medium and there would be a Minor Adverse (Not significant) level of effect on these receptors. Refer to Illustrative Environmental Masterplan, Sheets 5, 6 and 7, which illustrates the mitigation proposed.</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
Footpaths 213/2 and 213/23	Located on the perimeter of Site C	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 57 (Figure 5-61).</p> <p>From these rights of way, Site C would be visible at close-range. Sites D would be glimpsed at most, with Sites A and B screened, due to the screening effect of landform undulations and intervening tree and hedgerow cover.</p> <p>The addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Site C, would form a reasonably conspicuous element within the view and result in some noticeable change to the quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual change would therefore be Medium during construction and at Year 0 of operation, and the overall level of effect would be Moderate Adverse (Significant).</p> <p>At Year 10, once mitigation planting has established, the visual change would reduce to Medium and there would be a Minor-Moderate Adverse (Not significant) level of effect on these receptors. Refer to Illustrative Environmental Masterplan, Sheet 9, which illustrates the mitigation proposed.</p>
Footpaths 213/3 and 213/28	Located on the northern boundary of Site C	<p>Refer to Viewpoints 64 (Figures 5-68a and 5-68b) and 67 (Figures 5-71a to 5-71c).</p> <p>From these rights of way, Sites C and D would be visible at close-range. Sites A and B would be screened, due to intervening landform undulations and intervening tree and hedgerow cover.</p> <p>The addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Sites C and D, would form a reasonably conspicuous element within the view and result in some noticeable change to the quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual change would therefore be Medium during construction and at Year 0 of operation, and the overall level of effect would be Moderate Adverse (Significant).</p> <p>At Year 10, once mitigation planting has established, the visual change would remain Medium and there would be a Minor-Moderate Adverse (Not significant) level of effect on these receptors. Refer to Illustrative Environmental Masterplan, Sheets 8 and 9, which illustrate the mitigation proposed.</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
Footpaths 5 (Little Staughton parish) and 213/1	Located on rights of way situated on slightly elevated ground, close to Little Staughton, within 1km south of Site B	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 51 (Figures 5-75a to 5-75c).</p> <p>From these rights of way, Sites B would be set at a lower position within the landscape, with low hills behind creating a backcloth effect which would limit the visual influence.</p> <p>The visual changes associated with the Scheme would form a prominent element within the view and result in noticeable change to the quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual effect would therefore be High. during construction and at Year 0 of operation, and the overall level of effect would be Major Adverse (Significant).</p> <p>At Year 10, once mitigation planting has established, the visual change would reduce to Medium-High and there would remain a Moderate-Major Adverse (Significant) level of effect on these receptors due to the extent of the Scheme visible.</p>
Footpaths 112/5, 112/6, 112/7 and 112/8	Located within Site D	<p>Refer to Viewpoints 71 (Figures 5-75a to 5-75c), 77 (Figures 5-81a to 5-81d) and 78 (Figures 5-82a and 5-82b).</p> <p>From these rights of way, Site D would be visible at close-range. Sites A, B and C would largely be screened, due to intervening landform undulations and intervening tree and hedgerow cover.</p> <p>The addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Site D, would form a highly prominent element within the view and result in substantial change to the quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual change would therefore be Medium-High during construction and at Year 0 of operation, and the overall level of effect would be Moderate Adverse (Significant).</p> <p>At Year 10, once mitigation planting has established, the visual change would reduce to Medium and there would remain a Moderate Adverse (Significant) level of effect on these receptors due to the extent of the Scheme visible. Refer to Illustrative Environmental Masterplan, Sheets 10 and 11, which illustrate the mitigation proposed.</p>
<p>Public rights of way which cross the very eastern extent of the scheme would likely be subject to temporary visual effects due to the construction of the cable route. However, these effects would be short in duration and no greater than Minor Adverse. There would</p>		

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
<p>be no permanent visual effects due to the construction of the cable route and so there would be No Change during operation.</p> <p>Public rights of way which cross the eastern extent of the Site comprise: Footpaths 4, 5, 6, 8 16 and 43.</p>		
Footpaths in the vicinity of Swineshead	Located within the western extent of the study area, directly to the west of Site A	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 6 (Figures 5-10a and Figure 5-10b).</p> <p>Views of the Site from publicly accessible routes within Swineshead are largely screened from view by surrounding tree and hedgerow cover. However, from footpaths on the southern and eastern periphery of Swineshead, views would be similar to those assessed at Viewpoint 6, located at the eastern extent of the village. A Minor Adverse level of effect has been assessed during construction and operation stages from Viewpoint 6, illustrating the overall effects on footpaths located on the periphery of Swineshead.</p>
Footpaths in the vicinity of Riseley	Located within the south-western extent of the study area, directly to the south-west of Site A	<p>The solar array within Sites A and B would be evident at long-distance from parts of the right of way network around Riseley, however the vast majority would be screened by intervening topographic undulations and hedgerow and tree cover. A low ridge located on the southern extent of Site A would screen the majority of Site A from view with only possibly glimpsed views, however it would set the very southern extent of the array at a slightly higher position within the landscape than this viewpoint. Associated infrastructure, such as roads and fencing, is unlikely to be identifiable at this distance from the Site.</p> <p>The addition of the Scheme to the existing view from rights of way around Riseley at operation may form a very minor element within the view and a worst-case Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect. During operation, the Scheme would form a barely discernible change to the view and the scale of visual effect would therefore be Negligible, which is Not Significant.</p>
Footpaths in the vicinity of Pertenhall	Located within the north-western extent of the study area, directly to the north of Sites A and B	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 20 (Figures 5-24a and Figure 5-24b) and Viewpoint 22 (Figures 5-26a and Figure 5-26b).</p> <p>Despite being in relatively close proximity to Sites A and B, views of the Scheme from rights of way within Pertenhall would be largely screened from view by surrounding tree cover and landform undulations. From Viewpoint 22, which is located within the southern extent of</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		<p>Pertenhall, located beside Church of St Peter and adjacent to rights of way, views out are entirely screened by buildings and tree cover and there would be No Change.</p> <p>However, from the northern extent of the village, in the vicinity of Viewpoint 20 which represents slightly more elevated rights of way, the addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Site B, would form visible but minor element within the view, resulting in a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) visual effect at Construction, Year 0 and Year 10 of Operation.</p>
Footpaths in the vicinity of Keysoe / Brook End	Located within the south-western extent of the study area, directly to the south of Sites A and B	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 28 (Figures 5-32) and Viewpoint 31 (Figures 5-35).</p> <p>Views of the Site from rights of way within Keysoe / Brook End are represented by the views from Viewpoints 28 and 31, at which Negligible levels of visual effect have been assessed at construction and operation stages.</p>
Footpaths in the vicinity of Little Staughton / Green End	Located within the southern extent of the study area, directly to the south of Site B	<p>There are various viewpoints located in the vicinity of Little Staughton / Green End, however selected viewpoints which aid the description of effects on rights of way in the vicinity of this settlement are: Viewpoint 42 (Figures 5-46a to 5-46f); Viewpoint 44 (Figures 5-48a to 5-48c) and Viewpoint 51 (Figures 5-49a and 5-49b).</p> <p>Overall, visual effects on receptors on footpaths located directly within Little Staughton are likely to be Negligible. As assessed in Viewpoint 44, the Scheme would be screened by surrounding tree and hedgerow cover within Little Staughton. However, from locations on the periphery, there would be more available views of the Scheme.</p> <p>Viewpoint 42 represents views from Footpath 4 which is located on the north-western extent of Little Staughton. There would be close-distance views of the construction and operation of Site B and a Major Adverse (Significant) level of effect has been assessed at construction and operation stages of the Scheme.</p> <p>Viewpoint 51 represents views from Footpath 5 which is located on the eastern extent of Little Staughton, close to All Saints Church and on elevated ground. There would be medium-distance views of the construction and operation of Site B and a Major Adverse (Significant) level of effect has been assessed at construction. At operation, the level of effect</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		<p>assessed would remain significant, however it would reduce to Moderate-Major Adverse at Year 0 and Moderate Adverse at Year 10 following the establishment of mitigation planting.</p>
Footpaths in the vicinity of Great Staughton	Located within the northern extent of the study area, directly to the north of Site C	<p>There are various viewpoints located in the vicinity of Great Staughton, however selected viewpoints which aid the description of effects on rights of way in the vicinity of this settlement are: Viewpoint 64 (Figures 5-68a to 5-46f); and Viewpoint 65 (Figures 5-69a to 5-69f).</p> <p>Overall, visual effects on receptors on footpaths located directly within Great Staughton are likely to be Negligible. The Scheme would be screened by surrounding tree and hedgerow cover within Great Staughton. However, from locations on the periphery, there would be more available views of the Scheme.</p> <p>Viewpoint 64 represents views from Footpath 213/3 which is located on the southern extent of Great Staughton. There would be long-distance views of the construction and operation of Site C and a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect has been assessed at construction and operation stages of the Scheme.</p> <p>Viewpoint 65 represents views from Footpath 213/28 which is located on the south-eastern extent of Great Staughton. There would be long-distance views of the construction and operation of Site C and a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect has been assessed at construction and operation stages of the Scheme.</p> <p>Overall, there is sufficient separation and intervening screening between the Scheme and rights of way on the periphery of Great Staughton such that overall visual effects would be limited.</p>
Footpaths in the vicinity of Staughton Moor	Located within the southern extent of the study area, directly to the south of Site D	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 69 (Figures 5-73a and 5-73b).</p> <p>Views of the Site from rights of way on the periphery of Staughton Moor are represented by the views from Viewpoint 69, at which Minor Adverse levels of visual effect have been assessed at construction and operation stages.</p>
Footpaths in the vicinity of Duloe	Located within the eastern extent of the study area, close to the tie-in	Refer to Viewpoint 70 (Figures 5-74a and 5-73b).

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
	point at Eaton Socon Substation	Views of the Site from rights of way on the periphery of Duloe are represented by the views from Viewpoint 70, at which Negligible levels of visual effect have been assessed at construction and operation stages.

2.3 People Using Community Facilities

Table 2.3 – People Using Community Facilities

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
C1 - All Saints Church in Riseley	Located approximately 2km south-west of Site A	There would be No Change to the view from Riseley during construction and operation of the Scheme.
C2 - Church of St Nicholas in Swineshead	Located approximately 0.6km west of Site A	Refer to Viewpoint 4 (Figures 5-8a and Figure 5-8b). Views of the Site from Swineshead are screened from view by surrounding tree and hedgerow cover, as is demonstrated in the Viewpoint 4 assessment. There would be No Change to the view from this receptor during construction and operation of the Scheme.
C3 - Church of St Peter in Pertenhall	0.4km north-east of Site A	Refer to Viewpoint 22 (Figures 5-26a and Figure 5-26b). Views of the Site from the vicinity of Church of St Peter in Pertenhall are screened from view by surrounding tree and hedgerow cover, as is demonstrated in the Viewpoint 22 assessment. There would be No Change to the view from this receptor during construction and operation of the Scheme.
C4 - Church of St Mary the Virgin in Keysoe	1.4km south-west of Site B	Refer to Viewpoint 29 (Figure 5-33). Views of the Site from the vicinity of Church of St Mary the Virgin in Keysoe are screened from view by surrounding tree and hedgerow cover, as is demonstrated in the Viewpoint 29 assessment. There would be No Change to the view from this receptor during construction and operation of the Scheme.

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
C5 - Church of All Saints at Little Staughton	0.5km south-east of Site B	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 52 (Figures 5-56a, 5-56b and 5-56c).</p> <p>There would likely be views of the solar array (and its construction) within Site B, glimpsed through boundary tree cover at medium-distance. Sites C and D would be screened by a combination of landform undulations and intervening tree and hedgerow cover, while Site A would be glimpsed at most, behind Site B.</p> <p>The solar array in Site B would be set at a lower height within the landscape, with low hills behind creating a backcloth effect which would limit the visual influence. The addition of the Scheme to the existing view, in particular Site B would form a visible but only very minor element within the view, without materially affecting the overall quality and character of the available view. The scale of visual change at both construction and operation (Year 0 and Year 10) would be Low and the level of effect would be Minor Adverse.</p>
C6 - Little Staughton Baptist Church	0.4km south-east of Site B	There would be No Change to the view from Little Staughton Baptist Church during construction and operation of the Scheme.
C7 - Church of St Andrew in Great Staughton	0.3km north-west from Site C	<p>Refer to Viewpoint 61 (Figure 5-65).</p> <p>Views of the Site from the vicinity of Church of St Andrew in Great Staughton are largely screened from view by surrounding tree and hedgerow cover, as is demonstrated in the Viewpoint 61 assessment. There would be a Negligible level of effect on this receptor during construction and operation of the Scheme.</p>
C8 - Pertenhall Village Hall	0.6km north-east of Site A	There would be No Change to the view from Pertenhall Village Hall during construction and operation of the Scheme due to screening by surrounding trees and hedgerow.

2.4 People in Vehicles on Local Roads

2.4.1 The following roads have been selected for consideration in the visual assessment as they are the key local roads which connect settlements and

are therefore representative of the highest number of road users within the study area.

2.4.2 In each case, representative viewpoints located on or adjacent to the roads are listed to support the assessment of effects. However, they are static positions, often positioned just off the road on a right of way, whereas users of the roads would have their views focused onto the road and would be typically travelling at relatively high speed. In addition, there is hedgerow and tree cover beside the majority of the roads, further limiting views out, which is not necessarily evident in the viewpoint photography which is typically taken at the point at which the clearest view of the Site can be obtained.

2.4.3 Typically road users within the study area are considered to be of Low sensitivity to visual change as their views are fleeting and their focus is on the road, not the wider landscape.

Table 2.4 – People in Vehicles on Local Roads

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
LR1 – Swineshead Road	Adjacent to the northern extent of Site A at its closest point	Viewpoints 5 (Figure 5-9), 6 (Figure 5-10), 7 (Figure 5-11) and 17 (Figure 5-21) are locations on, or in close proximity to, Swineshead Road. Swineshead Road passes close to the western extent of Site A and then passes eastwards along the northern extent of Site A. Typically the view from vehicles on Swineshead Road would be orientated away from Site and at most there would be Negligible visual effects on road users during construction and operation. However, at the northern extent of Site there would likely be a Minor Adverse level of effect on road users passing Site A directly during the construction phase. At operation, once construction activities have completed, the level of effect on road users would likely reduce to Negligible and this would be emphasised at Year 10, following the establishment of mitigation planting on the northern and eastern extents of Site A.
LR2 – B660 (Kimbolton Road) in Pertenhall	Passes through Site B at its closest point	The B660 passes directly through Site B and is orientated north-south. There are no viewpoints directly representative of this road, with Viewpoint 27 (Figure 5-9) the nearest, however

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		<p>it is located on an adjacent footpath and demonstrates more open views of the Site.</p> <p>There is a relatively open aspect to the road, particularly on its eastern side, allowing open views of Site B in particular.</p> <p>Road users are considered to be of Low sensitivity, however the open aspect of views onto the construction operations would give rise to a Minor-Moderate Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect during the construction stage. At operation, a Minor-Moderate Adverse level of effect would remain during Year 0 as longer range views from the road are restricted by the solar array. At Year 10, proposed mitigation planting on the western extent of Site B would restrict views of the solar array and reduce the level of effect on road users to Minor Adverse, (Not Significant) reflecting the residual change to the view and restriction of long-range views.</p>
LR3 – Great Staughton Road	Passes through the northern extent of Site B at its closest point	<p>Viewpoints 25 (Figure 5-29), 46 (Figure 5-50) and 48 (Figure 5-52) are locations on, or in close proximity to, Great Staughton Road.</p> <p>Great Staughton Road passes directly through the northern extent of Site B and is orientated east-west. There is a relatively open aspect to the road on both sides with only intermittent hedgerow and trees, allowing open views of Site B in particular.</p> <p>Road users are considered to be of Low sensitivity, however the open aspect of views onto the construction operations would give rise to a Minor-Moderate Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect during the construction stage. At operation, a Minor-Moderate Adverse level of effect would remain during Year 0 as longer range views from the road are restricted by the solar array. At Year 10, proposed mitigation planting on the northern extent of Site B would restrict views of the solar array and reduce the level of effect on road users to Minor Adverse, (Not Significant) reflecting the residual change to the view and restriction of long-range views.</p>
LR4 – Green End, connecting Great Staughton Road and Green End	Passes through Site B at its closest point	<p>Viewpoints 42 (Figure 5-46) and 44 (Figure 5-48) are locations on, or in close proximity to Green End.</p> <p>Green End passes directly through the eastern extent of Site B and is orientated broadly north-south. There is a broadly continuous line of hedgerow cover on both sides with only</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		<p>intermittent gaps, restricting views of the adjacent Site B.</p> <p>Road users are considered to be of Low sensitivity, and views out would be generally restricted by adjacent hedgerow, including winter months when not in leaf, therefore the construction operations would give rise to a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect during the construction stage. At operation, a worst-case Minor Adverse level of effect would remain during Years 0 and 10.</p>
LR5 – Moor Road	Passes alongside Site C at its closest point	<p>Viewpoint 67 (Figures 5-71a, 5-71b and 5-71c) are locations on, or in close proximity to Moor Road.</p> <p>While there would be some glimpsed views of Site C (both construction and operation stage of the Scheme) from Moor Road, views of the Scheme would be limited by hedgerow and tree cover beside the road and in the most part there would be at most a Negligible level of effect on users of Moor Road.</p> <p>However, at the very eastern extent of the road there are slightly more open views, as is partly represented by Viewpoint 67, and the level of effect would be Minor Adverse (Not Significant) during construction and Year 0 of operation. Mitigation planting on the eastern extent of Site C would reduce the level of effect to Negligible at Year 10 of operation.</p>
LR6 – B645 between Staughton Highway and Hail Weston	0.2km north of Site C at its closest point	<p>Viewpoint 76 (5-80a, 5-80b, 5-80c and 5-80d). The B645 is located 0.2km north of Site C at its closest point.</p> <p>Typically the view from vehicles on the B645 would be orientated away from Site and at most there would be Negligible visual effects on road users during construction and operation. However, the open aspect from the vicinity of Viewpoint 76 results in the assessment of a Minor-Moderate Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect at this point along the road and this has been assessed at construction and Years 0 and 10 of operation.</p>
LR7 – Duloe Road	Crosses the very eastern extent of the Site	<p>Viewpoint 80 (Figure 5-84).</p> <p>From Duloe Road, which is located at the very eastern extent of the Site, the construction operations related to the cable route would be evident at close-range and would give rise to a Minor Adverse (Not Significant) level of effect</p>

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
		during construction. However, at operation this part of the Site would be restored back to agricultural land and there would be No Change to the view during operation.

2.5 People at Employment Sites

Table 2.4 – People at Employment Sites

Receptor	Location	Reference to Relevant Representative Viewpoints and Likely Visual Effects
E1 – C & P Bird Bros, Pertenhall Road, near to Swineshead	Close to the northern boundary of Site A	There is sufficient screening on the boundary of this employment site and it is unlikely that there would be views out to the south and across Site A. There would therefore be No Change to the view experienced by receptors within this employment site.
E2 - Garden Farm Small Industrial Units, Great Staughton	Close to the northern boundary of Site C	The aspect to the east of this employment site is relatively open and therefore there would be fleeting glimpses of Site C as receptors travel into and out of this site, however it is unlikely that there would be views out from within the site and as such there would be at most a Negligible to the view experienced by receptors within this employment site during construction and operation stages.
E3 - MJS Express, Moor Road, near to Great Staughton	Close to the eastern boundary of Site C	There is sufficient screening on the boundary of this employment site and it is set away from Sites C and D, therefore it is unlikely that there would be views out of the Site. There would therefore be No Change to the view experienced by receptors within this employment site.