HELIOS RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT

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Pursuant to:
APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

Environmental Statement Appendix 7.4: Landscape Effects Table

June 2024

SENSITIVITY OF THE SITE	
LANDSCAPE VALUE CONSIDERATIONS	**LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS**
Landscape elements and features	
The Site comprises agricultural land with no landscape designations present within or adjacent to the Site at the national or local scale. Neither does not lie within any ecological designations, the closest being Barlow Common Local Nature Reserve (approximately 480m to the north of the Site). There are no designated heritage assets or Registered Parks and Gardens within the Site or its immediate context. The landform of the Site is flat, with very limited topographic change across its extent. Fields on the Site are mono-cultural with little variation or structure, and with boundaries that are often poorly defined and fragmented, and divided by hedgerows, ditches and post and wire fences. They have little recreational value, with limited public accessibility and being flat and rectilinear are not distinctive, nor do they have an identifiable environmental function beyond agricultural use. Hedgerows are a common and undesignated landscape feature that as a whole are fragmented and therefore in poor overall condition. However, where present, the Site's hedgerows do contribute to landscape character to an extent, through their function of defining field boundaries however due to their condition they are deemed to be of low value. The field boundaries and margins provide a degree of connection with woodlands and other hedgerows in the local landscape, which contribute to the overall landscape framework and pattern. Canopy trees are a common, undesignated feature lining field boundaries and contribute a limited degree of distinctiveness and variation to the landscape, in some places marking historic or fragmented field boundaries. Where present, they are generally in good condition and are often mature, and they assist in defining the structure of the Site's fieldscape. Undesignated woodland blocks within the Site are infrequent but assist in providing landscape structure, containment and contrast with the otherwise open landscape within the Site, however they are often in mixed condition with invasive rhododendron a common feature dominating the understory. Nonetheless, they are likely to be valued at community level for their contribution to semi-natural habitats which are rare within the landscape. Many field boundaries are marked by ditches/watercourses which are common and in the wider landscape of the Humberhead levels and, whilst characteristic of the local landscape, are not distinctive. As part of a rectilinear network of drainage channels they are not natural in appearance, and they do not have strong aesthetic qualities. However, they do have a strong and clearly defined function, managed to ensure drainage of the land is controlled. There is a network of Public Rights of Way within the Site and its immediate context. Overall, this is relatively limited in extent, however it does connect with a network of minor roads/lanes, and collectively they provide opportunities for informal recreation and provide connection between the local settlement pattern.	As a physical feature, intensively farmed arable fields are of low susceptibility Proposed Development which will result in little physical change to the feature itself, particularly with respect to levels and earthworks. The flat landform will also limit the prominence of the solar panels. However, the Proposed Development also includes such elements as a 132kV substation and battery energy storage system (BESS). The nature of the Proposed Development means it will be reversible following the operational phase and the land could revert to arable production. The fields could also be used for grazing during the operational phase, retaining a degree of agricultural use. Hedgerows, where present, define the existing agricultural fields of the Site and will be retained as part of the development type proposed. Due to their fragmented nature, they are more able to accommodate the change proposed without transformational effects. Canopy trees typically follow internal field boundaries which are to be retained as part of the Proposed Development. However, mature isolated trees within field boundaries are potentially physically susceptible to the Proposed Development, including the potential for internal construction/operation/decommissioning access tracks between fields. The Proposed Development will be set within the baseline landscape pattern, avoiding tree and hedgerow loss wherever possible. The landscape strategy will also ensure that the field pattern is enhanced, with gaps in fragmented boundaries restored and field boundaries that comprise post and wire fences will be replanted with hedgerows. A grass sward will be established between the panels, therefore the land can be used for grazing. Blocks of woodland will be retained as part of the Proposed Development and their presence and function in the structure of the landscape will be retained as a result of their form and location, predominantly around the Site's boundaries.. However, there will be no woodland loss within the site and root protection areas around existing trees and woodlands will be established during the construction phase to avoid damage or disturbance. Ditches/ watercourses are entirely confined to field boundaries and have been treated as a constraint as part of development and will be retained as functional elements of the landscape. Overall, it is a relatively large-scale landscape, with a typically large field pattern. Whilst the blocks of woodland provide visual enclosure in places, the fragmented hedgerow pattern frequently gives rise to open views, which will mean the changes to the Site will be conspicuous from certain locations during and following construction. However, the Proposed Development incorporates a landscape strategy, which will help to reverse the degradation of the hedgerow pattern and contribute to a landscape framework to help reduce the effects of the solar farm. All aspects of the Proposed Development will be reversible following the operational phase..
Aesthetic and Perceptual Aspects	
The Site and immediate context comprise countryside typical of the locality. There are no specific elements or features that are particularly distinctive. Visual connections with the wider landscape are limited due to the relatively flat landform. There are intermittent views to a low ridge to the south west of Selby, which includes Brayton Barff. The Site is crossed by overhead electricity transmission lines, with further overhead lines in the surrounding landscape. Drax Power Station is located approximately 1.6km to the north east of the Proposed Development, which forms a conspicuous feature in the local landscape. The Site and immediate context do not exhibit qualities that relate to a sense of wildness. The Site is strongly agricultural, with limited perceived links to nature. However, as an expansive area of agricultural land, the majority of the landscape is peaceful and quiet, albeit there is traffic noise associated with the A1041 on the northern extents of the Site, and occasional passing trains to the south and west of the Site. There is also likely to be intermittent noise associated with agricultural activity on the Site. The area is likely to be used to a limited degree for quiet recreation by the local community.	It is a generally peaceful landscape, with limited settlement. The Site has a clear agricultural function, with fields bounded by a combination of hedgerows and ditches, and the land used for arable crops and grassland. Overhead powerlines and Drax Power Station, together with the A1041 road, adjacent to the north east boundary of the Site, affect tranquillity. Considering the levels of existing tranquillity and the nature of the Proposed Development, the Site is judged to have some ability to accommodate the Proposed Development, albeit the entire receptor will be affected to a greater or lesser degree. Once developed, the Site is likely to still accommodate quiet recreation, albeit there is likely to be some reduced tranquillity.
The Overall Character of the Site	
Taken as a whole, the Site comprises common components and characteristics and is not designated for landscape or scenic qualities. It is strongly agricultural, with limited natural interest. It is also sparse and fragmented, as a result of intensive agricultural practices including historic removal or neglect of field boundaries, with a resulting high level of openness. Elements of the landscape are considered to be in poor condition. There are opportunities for quiet recreation on the network of lanes and PRoW and these provide a degree of connection between local settlements. The dominant and distinctive features that influence the perceptual aspects of the area are Drax Power Station and associated overhead power lines. However, these are primarily located outside the Site itself, which is primarily an undeveloped landscape.	The landscape of the Site is simple in terms of pattern and landform, with an open nature that will result in development within it being perceived from publicly accessible locations. However, the landscape structure is also fragmented and denuded as a result of human influences and re-establishment of structure is a recurring theme within the published landscape character guidance for the Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) in which the Site is located. A landscape strategy for the Site forms an integral part of the Proposed Development, this will help to reduce its potential landscape effects and restore/introduce landscape elements that will contribute to improving the condition of the landscape. The landscape strategy will also contribute to the regional green infrastructure corridor (identified in the Selby District Core Strategy, October 2013) which overlaps with the southern part of the Site. The reversibility of the Proposed Development is a key consideration, allowing the land to return to arable agricultural use, following decommissioning of the Proposed Development. On balance,

	and considering the nature of the Proposed Development, the Site is considered to have ability to accommodate the Proposed Development without transformational Negative effects.
LANDSCAPE VALUE OF THE SITE	**Community**
LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY OF THE SITE	**Medium**
LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY OF THE SITE	**Medium**

SENSITIVTY OF LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS					
RECEPTOR	**VALUE**		**SUSCEPTIBILITY**		**SENSITIVITY**
LCA 7: Aire Valley	**Community**	The LCA is not designated for landscape or scenic beauty. It is noted as being a river corridor landscape with a strong association with the River Aire and a variety of wetland habitats that contribute to conservation value. However, there is also limited access for recreation, as well as indistinct skylines as noted in the landscape character assessment. The LCA is also noted as largely rural and tranquil in most places, however there are also strong associations with power stations, power lines and numerous road bridges, which reduce tranquillity and impact negatively on scenic qualities. Nonetheless, the association with the River Aire is such that it is judged to be of community value.	**Low / medium**	The landscape of the LCA is largely flat, with areas of wetlands and marshy grassland. The pattern of the LCA, as an elongated river corridor, results in reduced ability to accommodate large scale development in general. The flat landform will limit the prominence of solar development. However, it is a landscape with a sense of exposure, with limited enclosure and open views. There are influences from surrounding large scale infrastructure, including Drax Power Station and overhead transmission lines. The Proposed Development will occupy a small part on the fringe of the LCA, with the majority of the Proposed Development located in the adjacent Camblesforth Farmland LCA. The flat landform restricts intervisibility with surrounding LCAs and therefore limits its susceptibility to changes that will be concentrated beyond it. The nature of the Proposed Development means it will be reversible following the operational phase. The fields could also be used for grazing during the operational phase, retaining a degree of agricultural use.	**Low/medium**
LCA 13: Haddlesey Farmland	**Community**	An undesignated landscape composed of intensively farmed landscapes, containing few areas of semi natural character and limited time depth, with very sporadic settlement and only occasional listed buildings, which are remote from the Site and confined to villages. A distinct lack of hedgerows and trees is notable, resulting in a degraded monocultural character. Skylines are described as indistinct. There are relatively limited recreation opportunities, there is a network of PRoW, including part of the Trans Pennine Trail, within the LCA. The Selby Canal is distinctive element of the landscape and contributes to opportunities for recreation. The LCA has associations with large scale infrastructure, although this has changed in recent years through the demolition of Eggborough and Ferrybridge Power Stations. It is agricultural landscape, with rural character, and away from the A19 there is a degree of tranquillity.	**Low / medium**	As an open, flat landscape with little enclosure, the LCA is potentially vulnerable to development. However, the flat landscape and limited height of the Proposed Development will limit the prominence of the solar panels, and new planting could be effective in mitigating potential adverse effects. There are influences from existing infrastructure, including Drax Power Station and overhead transmission lines. However, the Proposed Development also provides opportunities to implement changes that link with the management guidelines set out in the published Landscape Character Assessment, including re-establishment of hedgerows and shelter belts. In so doing, characteristic and desirable features will be reinstated. These features will gradually reduce landscape susceptibility due to greater enclosure. Furthermore, the Proposed Development occupies a limited extent of the LCA, on its south-eastern fringe, with the majority of the Proposed Development located in the adjacent Camblesforth Farmland LCA. The flat landform restricts intervisibility with surrounding LCAs and therefore limits its susceptibility to changes that will be concentrated beyond it. The nature of the Proposed Development means it will be reversible following the operational phase. The fields could also be used for grazing during the operational phase, retaining a degree of agricultural use.	**Low/medium**
LCA 15: Camblesforth Farmland	**Community**	A landscape that is not designated in landscape terms and is primarily composed of arable land with limited and indistinct semi-natural components, albeit there is a Local Nature Reserve located approximately 480m north of the Site. There is a network of PRoW, including footpaths and “Other Routes with Public Access”, which connect with a network of small, quiet lanes to provide connectivity between settlements and offering opportunities for recreation. Scenic qualities are also limited, with strong visual influences of infrastructure, most notably including Drax Power Station, which comprises a dominant structure in the landscape, and alongside associated power lines/pylons is a visually intrusive element. In physical terms, the Drax Power Station and associated elements occupies a large footprint in the north eastern part of the LCA. However, away from Drax the landscape is rural in character and largely undeveloped within the settlements of Camblesforth and	**Medium**	A broad, flat landscape primarily under intensive arable agricultural use. An eroded hedgerow pattern gives rise to a degree of openness at a local level. However, the LCA also contains existing tree belts and blocks of woodland, which provide a degree of enclosure. The existing influences of infrastructure are strong, particularly associated with Drax Power Station and overhead transmission lines. The flat landform will limit the relative prominence of the proposed solar panels. The scale of the landscape and relatively large field pattern will help to reduce the susceptibility of the LCA. The openness of the landscape, largely resulting from the limited and fragmented hedgerow pattern means any change has the potential to be conspicuous, at least at a local level. Therefore, the LCA is considered to have capacity to accommodate the Proposed Development without transformational negative effects. The Site occupies a sizeable extent of the LCA, however, there are considerable opportunities to incorporate characteristic mitigation including the retention and reinforcement of hedgerows, enhancement of access and improved management to encourage natural regeneration, in accordance with the management guidelines in the published Landscape Character Assessment.	**Medium**

		Carlton there are listed buildings within the settlements and scheduled monuments to the north and east of the LCA, however these are remote from the Site. There are some woodlands and hedgerow trees which contribute to a sense of enclosure and add to the condition and quality of the landscape, however due to detractive elements the LCA is not likely to have wider recognition of value.		

MAGNITUDE OF LANDSCAPE CHANGE – *The Site and its Character*					
ASSESSMENT PHASE	**SIZE AND SCALE**	**GEOGRAPHICAL EXTENT**	**DURATION/ REVERSIBILITY**	**NOTES**	**MAGNITUDE**
Construction	**Medium**	**Large**	**Short Term**	Principal activities relating to the construction of the Proposed Development will occur on existing fields that are already subject to intensive arable farming. The retention of the existing structure of field boundary trees and hedgerows is such that in physical terms the overall landscape framework of the Site will not be fundamentally altered. There will be limited localised loss of short sections of hedgerow to facilitate access, but this will be offset by the landscape strategy proposed for the Site. The Proposed Development will not require the complete removal of trees, groups of trees or hedgerows as a result of the construction phase. However, small breaks for access tracks, security fencing and cable routing may also be required. The proposed security fencing (deer fencing on timber posts) will provide an effective tree protection barrier across the majority of the Site, with temporary fencing used in peripheral parts of the site where required. The Proposed Development largely leaves the existing network of ditches and watercourses untouched. However, as shown on the Watercourse Buffers drawing (see Flood Risk Assessment, Appendix 9.X), the Proposed Development includes the alteration of several existing watercourse crossings and the provision of new crossings. The construction of these elements is expected to result in very localised changes to the landscape receptor in locations interspersed throughout the Site. The changes are not predicted to affect the overall integrity of the watercourses or their function. The construction of the substation/ BESS compound will introduce a greater extent of physical change, with associated ground works and construction of larger built forms. However, the construction of solar PV development on the majority of the Site will be considerably less intense in terms of physical impacts on this receptor with no major groundworks or changes in levels anticipated. The presence of construction activities across the Site and emergence of built forms, with associated visual intrusion and heightened levels of activity will alter the perceived character of the Site to a large degree. These activities will also affect certain perceptual aspects of the landscape, particularly the tranquillity of the Site due to the movement and use of plant, and the associated construction noise. Chapter 11 Noise and Vibration of the Environmental Statement identifies that effects from construction noise, vibration and construction road traffic will be negligible during construction and decommissioning. The Site's open, simple agricultural character will be altered to a construction site, albeit for a short timeframe of 12 months.	**Medium (Negative)**
Construction Residual	**Medium**	**Large**	**Short Term**	No further mitigation is proposed. Therefore, the effects will remain as above.	**Medium (Negative)**
Operation (Year 1)	**Large**	**Large**	**Long term, built form reversible**	At Year 1, the Proposed Development will introduce built development across the Site. However, the physical changes to the Site's individual components are limited, with the underlying structure of fields bounded by vegetation and ditches largely retained. The construction method for solar arrays (i.e. pile driven, lightweight metal frames), means the majority of the land will not undergo fundamental physical changes and the changes are readily reversible at the end of the operational phase of the Proposed Development. The seeding of the fields with native species grassland will begin to improve the physical condition of the receptor from initial seeding, however the contribution of new planting to the overall appearance of the Site in Year 1 is likely to be limited. A greater degree of change, albeit within a localised area of the Site will occur as a result of the proposed substation, including earthworks and structures of a larger scale, where there will be a greater intensity of landscape impact. The Proposed Development will be in place for an extended period, albeit temporarily and the landscape is largely readily reinstated on decommissioning. The proposed landscape scheme will result in substantial improvements to the Site's condition and physical qualities, albeit at Year 1, these improvements will have only just begun to manifest. The Proposed Development includes 12km of new hedgerows and approximately 8km of reinforced hedgerows. Whilst this is a substantial planting scheme, the contribution of new planting to the overall quality of the receptor is judged to be limited until it is established. The landscape strategy includes the planting of trees, including hedgerow trees. Whilst new planting is generally considered to have a limited benefit before it has successfully established, due to the larger stock sizes used for this planting element, it is considered that this receptor as a whole will be improved from Year 1. The landscape strategy plans include the planting of over 13 ha of new native woodland. In addition, over 2 ha of scrub planting is proposed, either adjacent to the proposed woodland or in specific locations to either form a transitional habitat or provide a specific screening function. Whilst this will substantially increase tree cover across limited parts of the Site, the contribution of new planting to the overall quality of the receptor is considered to be limited at Year 1. The Proposed Development includes the retention of existing ditches and watercourses, and any temporary impacts from construction activities are expected to abate rapidly upon completion, with improvements as a result of the seeding of new wetland grassland along the watercourse corridors. The landscape mitigation strategy includes the introduction of a series of new wetland features, including ponds, scrapes and areas planted with appropriate native species to enhance habitats.	**Substantial (Negative)**

				At Year 1, the completed and operational development will introduce static built forms (tracker panels movements are gradual and unlikely to result in noticeable movement within the landscape). The majority of the Site will remain relatively peaceful with little day to day activity i.e., only occasional maintenance operations – albeit these are expected to be more frequent within the early years of establishment of planting. Chapter 9 Noise and Vibration identifies that operational effects from plant noise is predicted to be negligible. The Site will still continue to contribute to recreation, with an improvement in public access as a result of the permissive path to the south of Camblesforth. Whilst the physical changes to the Site are more limited, in perceptual terms there will be Negative effects due to the reduction in openness and tranquillity and increased prominence of energy related built form within the landscape, albeit that change is influenced by existing indirect influences from Drax Power Station, overhead HV transmission lines and other built elements which are perceived throughout the Site. Notwithstanding the above, the existing field pattern will remain legible.	
Operational Residual (Year 15)	**Medium**	**Large**	**Long term, built form reversible**	Following establishment of proposed planting, including approximately 360 ha of new seeding across the majority of the Site, the existing intensive arable farmland will be converted to grassland beneath solar PV panels. Over time, this will improve the biodiversity value of the fields. Furthermore, the establishment of proposed hedgerows and woodland belts will provide enclosure to proposed built form, limiting the extent to which enduring physical changes to the receptor as a result of built form are perceived. At Year 15, the successful establishment of proposed hedgerows, including the reinstatement of historic hedgerows and the reinforcement of existing fragmented hedgerows is likely to result in a wholesale improvement to the Site. The overall character of the landscape will be more enclosed and less fragmented as a result, with enhanced habitat connectivity. The change will be entirely consistent with published landscape guidance for the landscape character area. At Year 15 the proposed tree and woodland planting will make a positive contribution to the fabric and character of the Site, resulting in a stronger pattern of landscape, and greater species richness. This will include new planting to extend the woodland pattern around Kerrick Spring Wood Ancient Woodland. The established woodland will also link existing woodland habitats across a wide area to the south-west of Camblesforth. As with the hedgerow planting, the approach proposed is consistent with published landscape character guidelines for the LCA. Following establishment of the soft landscape proposals, including new areas of wetland habitats as part of a mosaic of landscape habitats, the quality and value of the Site will be enhanced. Following establishment of proposed planting at Year 15, the Proposed Development will benefit from increased enclosure from vegetation, and there are likely to be reduced maintenance operations associated with the landscape. The established landscape will increase the habitat value of the Site and as a result is likely to add to a sense of peacefulness to an extent due to increased presence of wildlife (e.g., opportunities to hear birdsong). Overall, at Year 15, the maturation of the extensive planting scheme will result in a considerable change to the physical landscape with arable land converted to wildflower grassland or grazing pasture, approximately 12km of new hedgerows as well as reinforcement of existing hedgerows, a substantial number of new canopy trees, over 13ha of native woodland and areas of new wetland habitats. Whilst the Site will be changed to a solar PV installation, with associated increases in built infrastructure which will remain the dominant feature of the Site, the perception of these new built forms will be mitigated to a considerable degree by new planting once established, resulting in more filtering and screening of existing open views.	**Medium (Negative)**
Decommissioning	**Medium**	**Large**	**Short Term**	Decommissioning activities will occur across the Site for a period of 12 months and are expected to be similar in nature to the construction phase. However, the presence of established planting will provide increased containment and screening of activities on the Site, such that the scale of change will be reduced. During decommissioning, there is potential for the removal of limited localised sections of existing hedgerows in order to provide access. This will be a limited, temporary and reversible change, which is unlikely to affect the overall characteristics of the feature. Any physical effects on watercourses are expected to be limited and similar in nature to the construction phase, e.g. temporary works associated with the removal of access crossings.	**Slight (Negative)**
Decommissioning Residual	**Medium**	**Large**	**Short Term**	No further mitigation is proposed. Therefore, the effects will remain as above.	**Slight (Negative)**

MAGNITUDE OF LANDSCAPE CHANGE – *LCA 7: Aire Valley*					
ASSESSMENT PHASE	**SIZE AND SCALE**	**GEOGRAPHICAL EXTENT**	**DURATION/ REVERSIBILITY**	**NOTES**	**MAGNITUDE**
Construction	**Medium**	**Negligible**	**Short Term**	With respect to direct effects, construction activities will occur on a very limited extent of the LCA at its northern fringe, which is unlikely to result in a discernible change to the overall integrity of the LCA. There is unlikely to be any wider intervisibility such that the Proposed Development will be perceived from the River Aire itself. As such, indirect effects on the wider LCA will also be limited.	**Slight / Negligible (Negative)**
Construction Residual	**Medium**	**Negligible**	**Short Term**	No further mitigation is proposed. Therefore. the effects will remain as above.	**Slight/ Negligible (Negative)**
Operation (Year 1)	**Medium**	**Negligible**	**Long term, built form reversible**	At Year 1, the Proposed Development will introduce new built form, only in the form of solar PV arrays, within a relatively small part of the LCA, with the site occupying approximately 28 ha), leading to limited direct effects on the physical fabric of the receptor. The limited height of the Proposed Development in combination with the flat landscape is such that wider, indirect effects are unlikely to alter the integrity or overall perception of the LCA. The inclusion of new wetland areas and woodland shelterbelts near the southern Site boundary will contribute to an enhancement of the LCA, in line with published guidance, however the contribution of this planting to the receptor at Year 1 is likely to be limited. The Proposed Development is within a part of the LCA that is already strongly	**Slight (Negative)**

				influenced by commercial greenhouses north of Hirst Road, and as such is already under the influence of built development that has similar form and height to solar PV development.	
Operational Residual (Year 15)	**Small**	**Negligible**	**Long term, built form reversible**	Following the establishment of proposed planting at Year 15, the Proposed Development will benefit from enhanced assimilation and integration within the landscape further reducing the potential for intervisibility and resultant indirect effects. The establishment of proposed landscape features will also improve the condition and habitat value of the landscape to a degree. Nonetheless, the increased presence of energy infrastructure within the LCA will continue to have a localised Negative effect.	**Negligible (Negative)**
Decommissioning	**Small**	**Negligible**	**Short Term**	Decommissioning activities will occur across the Site for a period of 12 months and are expected to be similar in nature to the construction phase. However, the presence of established planting will provide increased containment and screening of activities on the Site, such that the scale of change will be reduced.	**Negligible (Negative)**
Decommissioning Residual	**Small**	**Negligible**	**Short Term**	No further mitigation is proposed. Therefore, the effects will remain as above.	**Negligible (Negative)**

MAGNITUDE OF LANDSCAPE CHANGE – *LCA 13: Haddlesey Farmland*					
ASSESSMENT PHASE	**SIZE AND SCALE**	**GEOGRAPHICAL EXTENT**	**DURATION/ REVERSIBILITY**	**NOTES**	**MAGNITUDE**
Construction	**Medium**	**Small/Medium**	**Short Term**	The construction of the Proposed Development will introduce direct effects on a relatively limited part of the overall receptor, with approximately 68ha of the Site lying within this LCA, which has a total area of 3,600ha. The changes, i.e., the installation of solar PV panels will introduce disturbance and visual intrusion for a period of 12 months. However, this disturbance is limited due to the low intensity of construction operations associated with solar development. Due to the relative openness of this LCA, these changes will also be perceptible further afield within the LCA such that the perceptual envelope for indirect effects on the LCA due to intrusion will extend beyond the Site's boundaries, albeit nonetheless restricted to the eastern limit of the LCA.	**Slight (Negative)**
Construction Residual	**Medium**	**Small/Medium**	**Short Term**	No further mitigation is proposed. Therefore, the effects will remain as above.	**Slight (Negative)**
Operation (Year 1)	**Medium**	**Small/Medium**	**Long term, built form reversible**	At Year 1, the Proposed Development will introduce new built form, only solar PV arrays, within a relatively small area (approximately 68ha), leading to limited direct effects on the physical fabric of the area. The open nature of the landscape in the LCA is such that the Proposed Development is likely to be perceptible within a wider area, although this remains a discrete part of the receptor as a whole. The inclusion of characteristic new planting in accordance with published guidance will have a positive impact on the LCA, however these benefits are likely to be limited at Year 1.	**Medium/Slight (Negative)**
Operational Residual (Year 15)	**Small**	**Small**	**Long term, built form reversible**	Following establishment of proposed planting at Year 15, there will be an overall enhancement to the structure and quality of the landscape in a limited part of the LCA. This planting will also reduce the perception of the Proposed Development in views from the wider area, and thus limit the potential for indirect effects to be experienced beyond the Site's boundaries. Nonetheless, the change in the character and physical fabric of this part of the LCA due to the introduction of built form will remain.	**Slight (Negative)**
Decommissioning	**Medium**	**Small**	**Short Term**	Decommissioning activities will occur across the Site for a period of 12 months and are expected to be similar in nature to the construction phase. However, the presence of established planting will provide increased containment and screening of activities on the Site, such that the scale of change will be reduced, and the extent over which the activities will be perceived will also reduce.	**Slight/Negligible (Negative)**
Decommissioning Residual	**Medium**	**Small**	**Short Term**	No further mitigation is proposed. Therefore, the effects will remain as above.	**Slight/Negligible (Negative)**

MAGNITUDE OF LANDSCAPE CHANGE – *LCA 15: Camblesforth Farmland*					
ASSESSMENT PHASE	**SIZE AND SCALE**	**GEOGRAPHICAL EXTENT**	**DURATION/ REVERSIBILITY**	**NOTES**	**MAGNITUDE**
Construction	**Large**	**Large**	**Short Term**	The construction of the Proposed Development will directly affect an extensive area that comprises a large geographic area within the LCA (the Site occupies approximately 11% of the LCA) resulting in a large scale of change from agricultural land to a solar PV construction site. Whilst the majority of the Site within the LCA is the Solar Farm Zone, with construction operations of limited intensity, there are also areas that will undergo excavations and groundworks (e.g., substation/BESS compounds and construction compounds) and thus operations of a higher intensity. These operations will extend over a wider area than the operational area due to the temporary construction compounds, and with construction access via the A1041,.	**Medium (Negative)**
Construction Residual	**Large**	**Large**	**Short Term**	No further mitigation is proposed. Therefore, the effects will remain as above.	**Medium (Negative)**
Operation (Year 1)	**Large**	**Large**	**Long term, built form reversible**	At Year 1, the Proposed Development will result in direct effects on a large part of the LCA due to the introduction of new built form across the Site. Within the Site and its immediate context the Proposed Development will be a dominant feature in the landscape, This change will also be perceptible across a wider but localised area resulting in indirect effects due to perception of change on the Site. The influence of built form associated with energy infrastructure will be extended in the context of existing large scale infrastructure features.	**Substantial (Negative)**
Operational Residual (Year 15)	**Medium**	**Large**	**Long term, built form reversible**	At Year 15 following the establishment of extensive planting, the majority of which is within the LCA, there will be a considerable strengthening of the existing field pattern, and a greater degree of vegetative enclosure that will limit the perception of proposed built elements. The proposed planting will also contribute to	**Medium (Negative)**

				the enhancement of the landscape through habitat creation and a greater level of diversity in the landscape, compared with a baseline of primarily mono-cultural agriculture. The existing field pattern will be largely preserved and reinforced in accordance with published local guidance. The solar farm will remain a dominant element over a large area. However, the proposed planting will provide a greater degree of visual enclosure and will limit the influence of the solar farm beyond its footprint.	
Decommissioning	**Medium**	**Medium**	**Short Term**	Decommissioning activities will occur across the Site for a period of 12 months and are expected to be similar in nature to the construction phase. However, the presence of established planting will provide increased containment and screening of activities on the Site, such that the scale of change will be reduced, and the extent over which the activities will be perceived will also reduce.	**Slight (Negative)**
Decommissioning Residual	**Medium**	**Medium**	**Short Term**	No further mitigation is proposed. Therefore, the effects will remain as above.	**Slight (Negative)**

ASSESSMENT OF LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

RECEPTOR	SENSITIVITY	CONSTRUCTION		CONSTRUCTION RESIDUAL		OPERATION (YEAR 1)		OPERATIONAL RESIDUAL (YEAR 15)		DECOMMISSIONING		DECOMMISSIONING RESIDUAL	
		MAGNITUDE	EFFECT	MAGNITUDE	EFFECT	MAGNITUDE	EFFECT	MAGNITUDE	EFFECT	MAGNITUDE	EFFECT	MAGNITUDE	EFFECT
The Site and its Character	**Medium**	**Medium**	**Moderate (N)**	**Medium**	**Moderate (N)**	**Substantial**	**Major / Moderate (N)**	**Medium**	**Moderate (N)**	**Slight**	**Minor (N)**	**Slight**	**Minor (N)**
LCA 7: Aire Valley	**Low / medium**	**Slight/ Negligible**	**Minor/ Negligible (N)**	**Slight/ Negligible**	**Minor/ Negligible (N)**	**Slight**	**Minor (N)**	**Negligible**	**Negligible (N)**	**Negligible**	**Negligible (N)**	**Negligible**	**Negligible (N)**
LCA 13: Haddlesey Farmland	**Low / medium**	**Slight**	**Minor (N)**	**Slight**	**Minor (N)**	**Medium/Slight**	**Moderate (N)**	**Slight**	**Minor (N)**	**Slight/ Negligible**	**Minor / Negligible (N)**	**Slight / Negligible**	**Minor / Negligible (N)**
LCA 15: Camblesforth Farmland	**Medium**	**Medium**	**Moderate (N)**	**Medium**	**Moderate (N)**	**Substantial**	**Major / Moderate (N)**	**Medium**	**Moderate (N)**	**Slight**	**Minor (N)**	**Slight**	**Minor (N)**

Key to effect balance: (P) = Positive, (N) = Negative, (Nu) = Neutral

Boxes shaded dark grey denote effects considered significant for EIA purposes. Boxes shaded light grey are not considered significant for EIA purposes, but in accordance with the methodology at Appendix 7.1 LVIA Methodology it is considered that a concentration of such effects could result in significant effects.