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Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement

Volume 6: Environmental Information

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Viewpoint Assessment Section F (Part 5)

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



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Introduction

This appendix provides background baseline information and assessment of the representative viewpoints selected within the study area and should be read in conjunction with:

- Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual (**application document 6.2.6**);
- Appendix 6.1: Landscape and Visual Methodology (**application document 6.3.6.1**); and
- Figure 6.6: Visual Receptors and Viewpoints (**application document 6.4**).

Baseline information provided for each viewpoint includes a location map, baseline description, baseline photo and key characteristics of the existing view. The information also includes a judgement on the value of the view, the susceptibility of the (most susceptible) receptor group and the magnitude of change which is likely to arise.

The viewpoint assessment is split into seven parts, one for each section of the project.

- Section AB: Bramford/Hintlesham;
- Section C: Brett Valley;
- Section D: Polstead;
- Section E: Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB);
- Section F: Leavenheath/Assington (this document);
- Section G: Stour Valley; and
- Section H: Grid Supply Point (GSP) Substation.

The assessment presented within this appendix (including that shown on the wirelines) is based on the Proposed Alignment shown on Figure 4.1: The Project (**application document 6.4**). As this is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, National Grid is seeking consent for horizontal and vertical Limits of Deviation (LoD) within which the final alignment would lie and therefore there is some flexibility. This is described in Chapter 4: Project Description (**application document 6.2.4**).

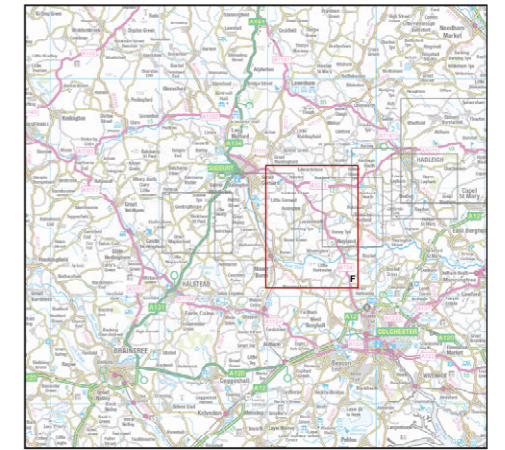
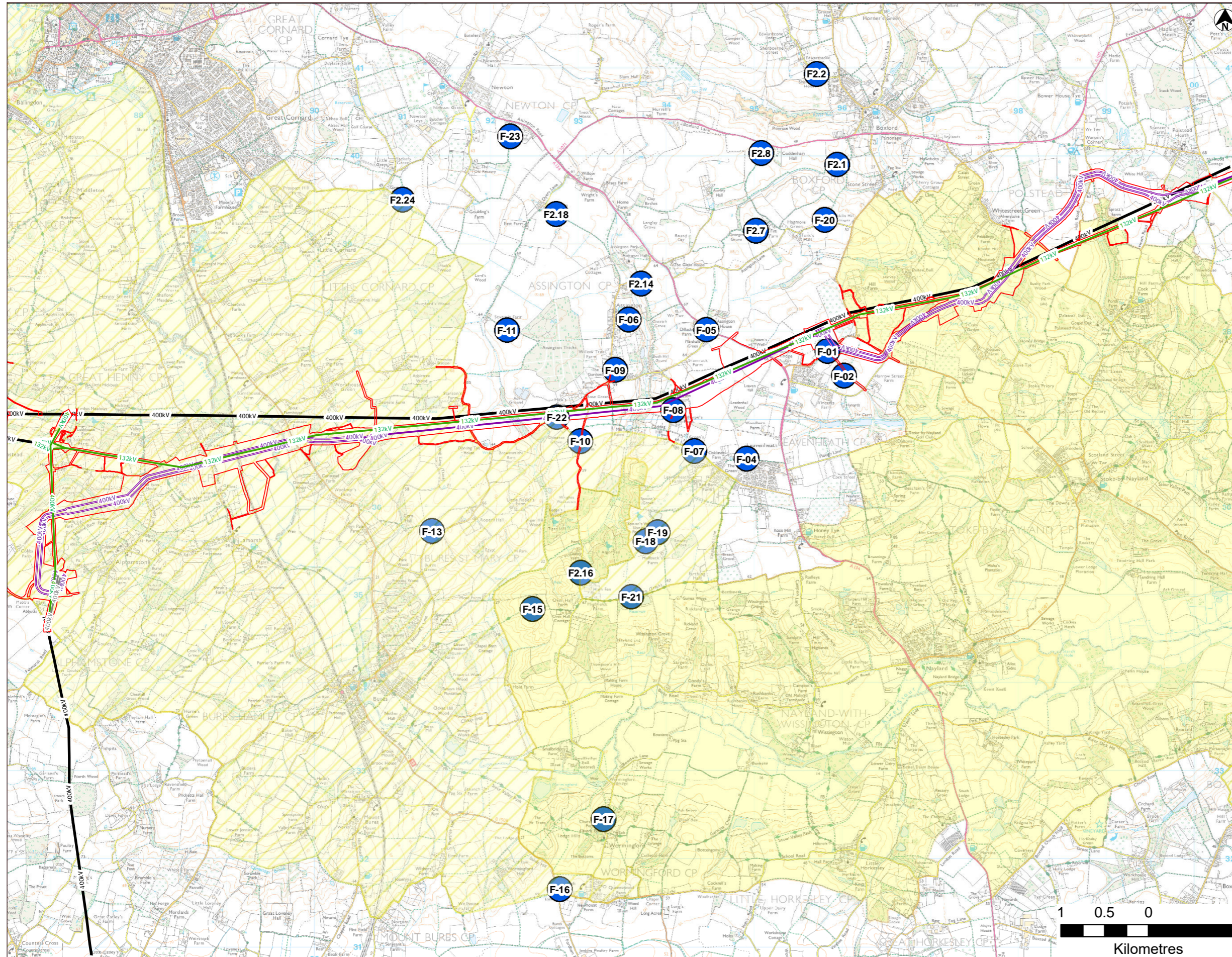
The wirelines presented in this appendix have been produced to illustrate the predicted level of change in views and support the assessment process. As the existing 400kV overhead line to be retained and the 132kV overhead line to be removed are integral parts of the baseline, they have been included on the baseline wirelines for comparison against the wirelines of the project. Existing pylons, gantries and conductors which are being retained are depicted in black. The project, including pylons, gantries, cable sealing end (CSE) compounds and GSP substation are shown in red.

The reinforcement would include approximately 18km of overhead line (consisting of approximately 50 new pylons, and conductors). It is assumed that this reinforcement would operate at least 400kV in a similar way to the majority of the rest of the transmission network. For the purposes of this report, the new overhead line is referenced as 'proposed 400kV overhead line' to differentiate it from the existing 400kV overhead line and the UK Power Networks (UKPN) owned 132kV overhead line.



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Viewpoint Location Map - Section F: Leavenheath/Assington



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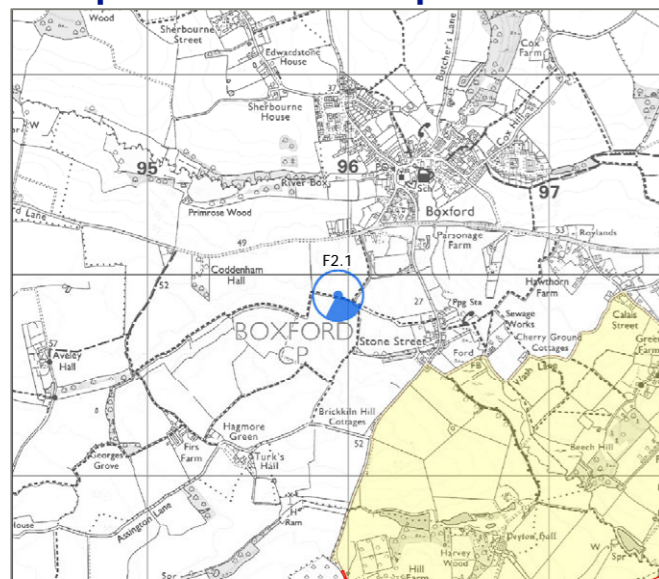
KEY:

- Viewpoint Location
- Stour Valley Project Area
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Order Limits
- Proposed Realignment of 400kV overhead line
- Proposed Removal of 400kV overhead line
- Existing 400kV overhead line
- Existing 132kV overhead line
- Proposed Removal of 132kV overhead line
- Proposed 400kV overhead line
- Proposed 400kV underground cables

These plans show the Order Limits and Proposed Alignment. Due to the need for future flexibility, National Grid will be applying for Limits of Deviation within its Development Consent Order, within which any final alignment would lie. Therefore the Proposed Alignment should be treated as indicative only.

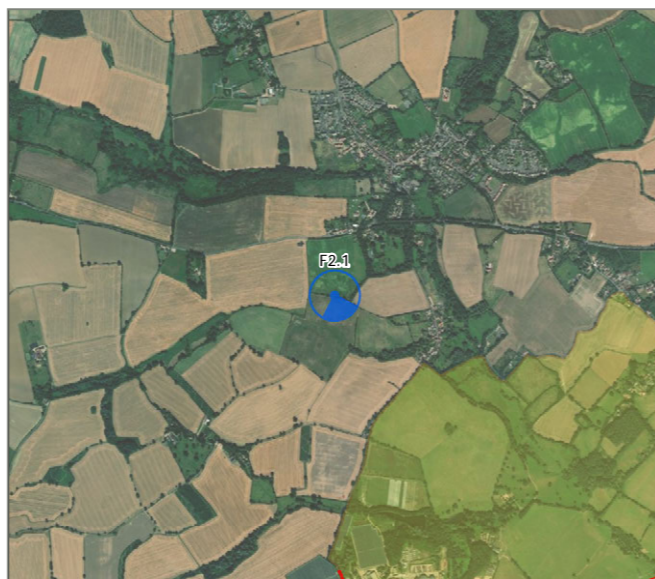
Viewpoint F2.1: View from the PRow South of the A1071 at Boxford

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	595948, 239901 (52.022906, 0.854525)
Approx. Elevation	50m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD)
General Direction of View	S (162°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	1780m to LoD / 1370m to Order Limits
Time / Date	11.03 / 27 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Very Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located in the Box Valley Special Landscape Area (SLA) and represents the views experienced by people using the local PRow network. These receptors are of **medium** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

This location affords panoramic views across rolling arable fields bordered by sparse overgrown hedgerows with occasional trees. A small tributary valley of the River Box is marked by the increased tree cover to the left side of the view. Beyond this there are long views to a distant wooded horizon, with St Mary's Church at Bures a notable landmark on the distant skyline. In the centre of the view, dwellings, and farm buildings at Hagmore Green are visible on the crest of the hill in the mid-ground. The existing 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines are present across the view, with the lower parts of the pylons variably obscured by the intervening vegetation. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases and the existing pylons are slightly more obscured.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north from the viewpoint towards residential properties on the south-western edge of Boxford.



View west from the viewpoint along footpath towards Coddendam Hall.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the new 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be seen on the distant horizon but would be partially obscured by the intervening vegetation. Construction of the 400kV underground cables would not be noticeable. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

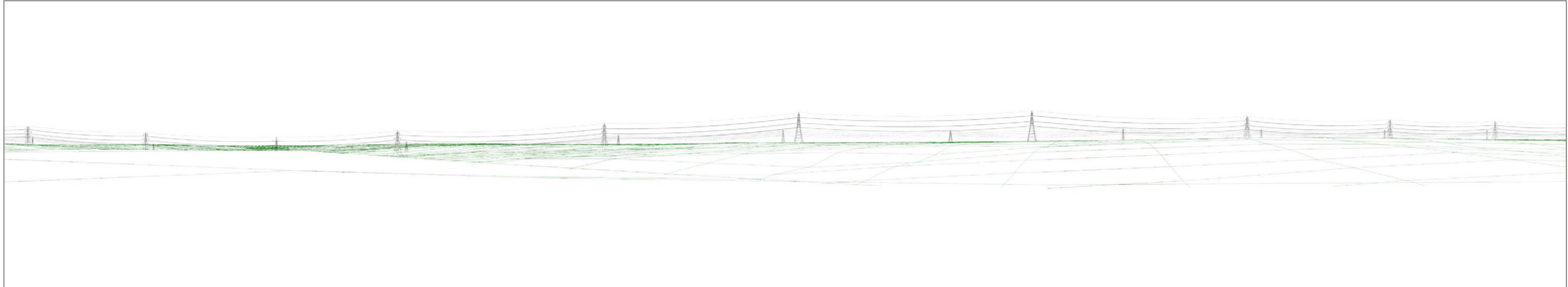
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line would reduce the number of pylons across the centre and left side of the view which would result in a beneficial effect. To the right of the view, the presence of the new 400kV overhead line along broadly the same alignment would result in larger and more noticeable pylons being present, despite being further from the viewpoint than the existing 132kV pylons. This would result in an adverse change. On balance, given that the existing 400kV pylons would still be present across the view and due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation the overall effect on the view would be beneficial. It is anticipated that the magnitude of this beneficial visual change would be **small**.

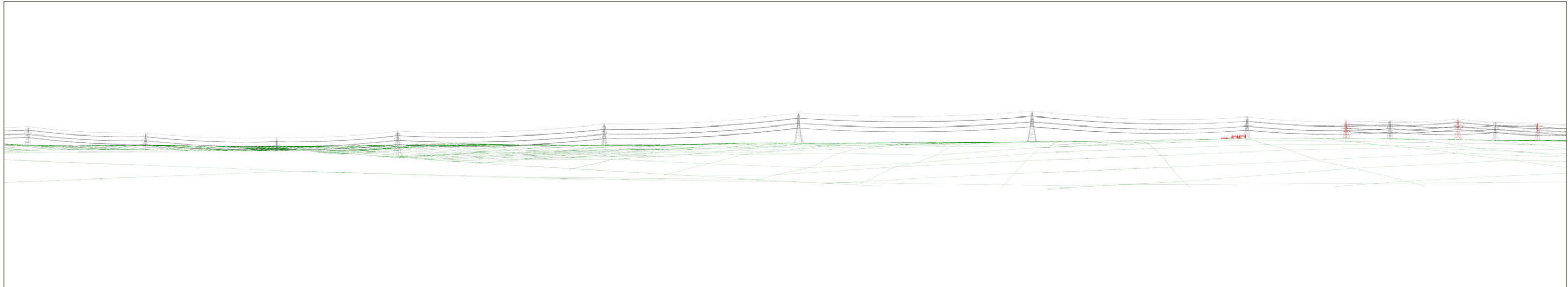
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further away from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall beneficial change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)



Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



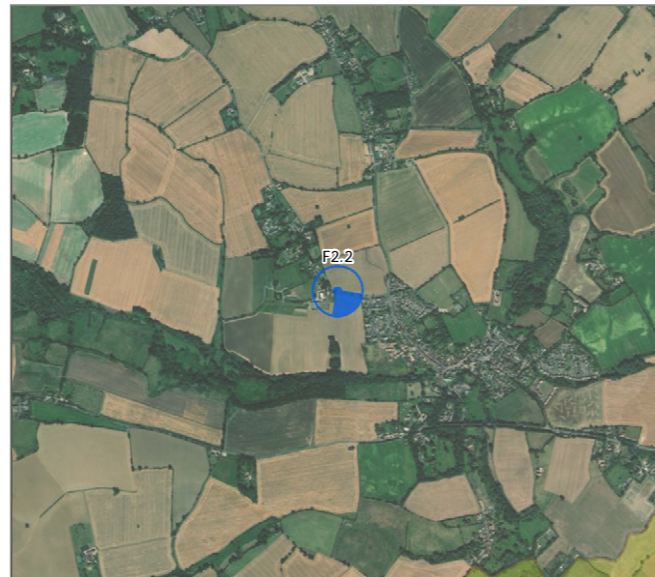
Viewpoint F2.2: View from Sherbourne Street, to the North-West of Boxford

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	595743, 240925 (52.032177, 0.852136)
Approx. Elevation	45m AOD
General Direction of View	SE (145°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	2810m to LoD / 2415m to Order Limits
Time / Date	16.43 / 8 March 2022
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Excellent
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located in the Box Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving between Boxford and Sherbourne Street. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The slightly elevated location and absence of roadside hedgerows affords long views out across the housing and gently sloping arable fields on the west side of Boxford. To the right of the view, the tops of trees in the mid-ground marks the course of the River Box, with housing along Boxford Lane on the skyline beyond. The distinctive tower of St Mary's Church in the centre of the village can be seen in the mid-ground. The settlement is seen against the distant backdrop of the Dedham Vale AONB which forms a low wooded horizon. The existing 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines are present across the view, with the lower parts of the pylons variably obscured by the intervening vegetation. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases and the existing pylons are more obscured. The components of the view however remain largely unchanged.

Value of view - **high**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north of the viewpoint towards St Bartholomew's Church at Groton.



View east of the viewpoint showing properties on the edge of Boxford.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be seen on the distant horizon but would be partially obscured by the intervening vegetation. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

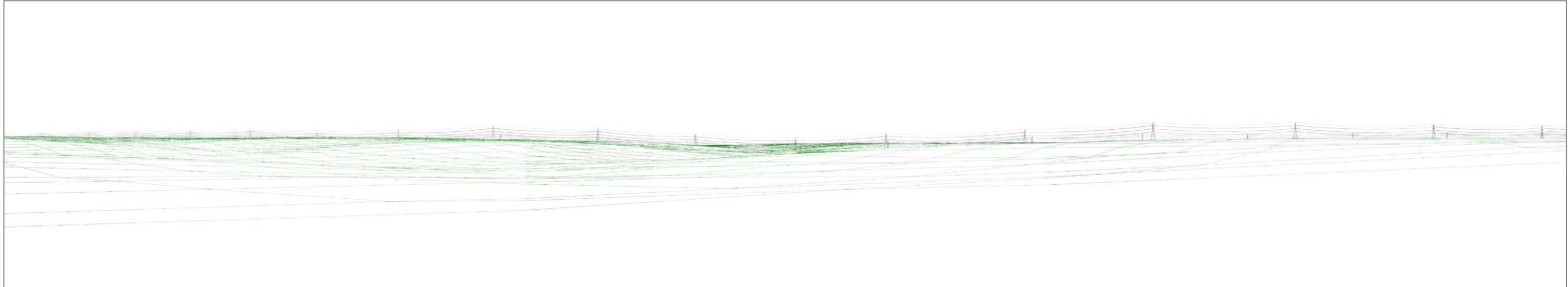
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line means that only the 400kV pylons would remain on the skyline resulting in a beneficial effect on the view. Due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, it is anticipated that the magnitude of beneficial visual change would be **small**.

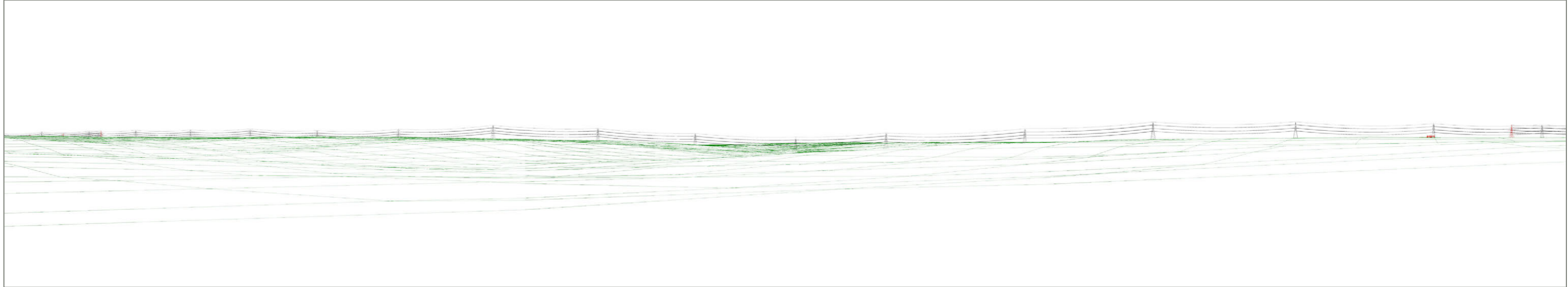
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line would continue to result in a beneficial change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

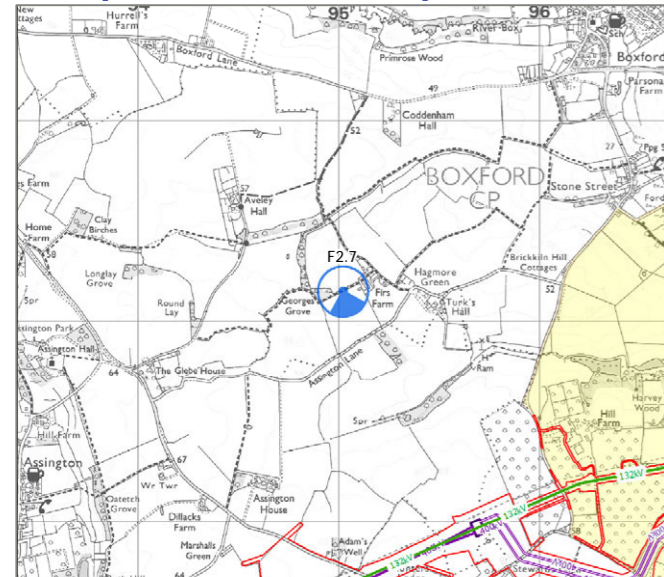


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F2.7: View from the PRow to the North of Assington Lane, near Hagmore Green

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	595020, 239149 (52.016487, 0.840602)
Approx. Elevation	54m AOD
General Direction of View	S (164°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	1265m to LoD / 1135m to Order Limits
Time / Date	11.47 / 27 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Very Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint represents the views experienced by people living and moving between Boxford and Assington and users of the local PRow network. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The foreground comprises a large, open, and gently rolling arable field bordered by remnant hedgerows with occasional hedgerow trees. To the left of the view, a managed hedgerow along the curtilage of Firs Farm contains the view. The field slopes gently away from the viewpoint into the mid-ground where it inclines more steeply into a tributary valley of the River Box, the course of which is marked by the tops of trees on the left side of the view. The rolling landform obscures views of Assington Lane which extends across the view between the viewpoint and the valley. Beyond the valley the gently rolling and well-wooded farmland continues into the background of the view where the 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead line are present on the skyline, with the lower parts of the pylons variably obscured by the intervening vegetation. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases and the existing pylons are more obscured.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north-east from the viewpoint towards buildings at the edge of Firs Farm.



View south-west from the viewpoint along the footpath showing vegetation filtering views.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the upper parts of Dedham Vale West CSE compound, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be seen on the distant horizon but would be partially obscured by the intervening vegetation. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

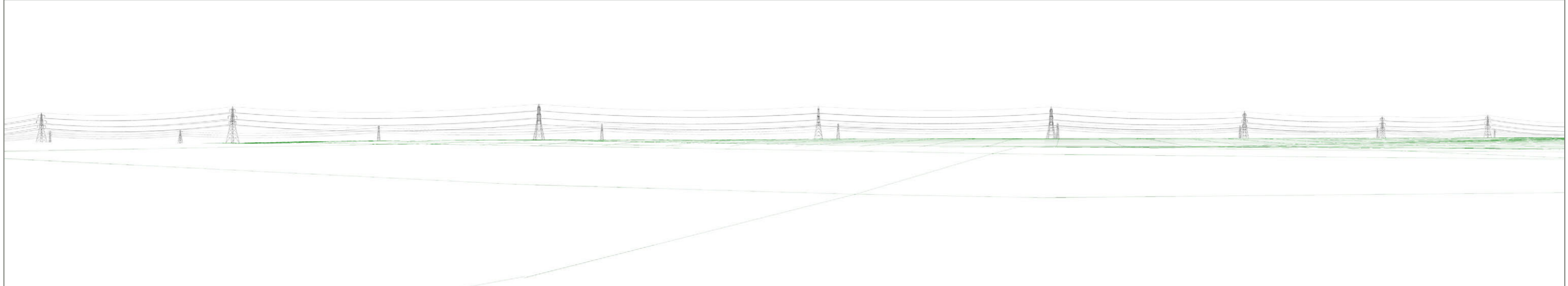
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line means that the larger 400kV pylons would be more noticeable despite being further from the viewpoint. This would result in an adverse change. The 132kV pylon which is visible above the Firs Farm hedgerow would be removed but the upper parts of the Dedham Vale West CSE compound and its associated gantries may just be visible between the trees, particularly in winter. The embedded planting around the Dedham Vale West CSE compound would provide minimal screening or visual integration. The existing 400kV pylons would still be present across the view. On balance, due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **medium-small**.

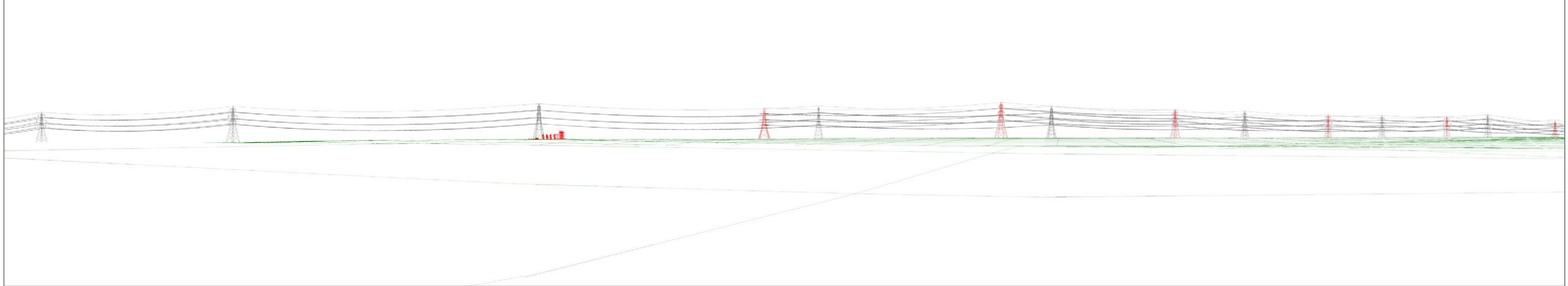
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

Once the embedded planting begins to mature by Year 15, any views of the Dedham Vale West CSE compound and its associated gantries would be heavily filtered, although the new 400kV pylons would still be noticeable on the horizon and continue to give rise to an adverse change. It is therefore anticipated that the **medium-small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

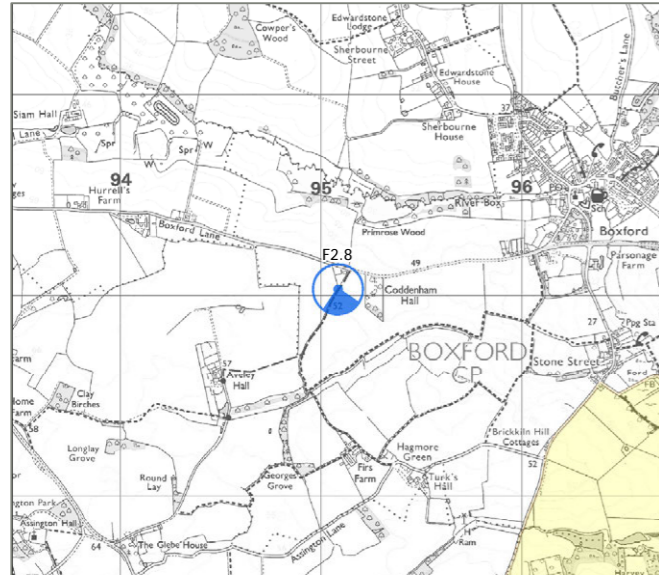


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



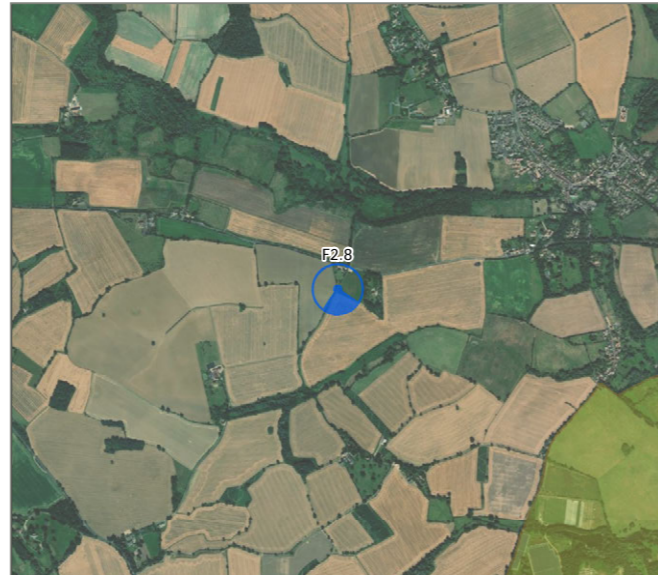
Viewpoint F2.8: View from the PRow to the South of Boxford Lane, near Coddendam Hall

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	595083, 240030 (52.024377, 0.842013)
Approx. Elevation	54m AOD
General Direction of View	S (169°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	2040m to LoD / 1745m to Order Limits
Time / Date	11.28 / 27 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Very Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located on the boundary of the Box Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the dispersed community to the west of Boxford and users of the local PRow network. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The foreground comprises a large, open, and gently rolling arable field bordered by hedgerows with trees and crossed by a wood pole line. The higher coverage of trees on the far side of the field marks the course of a small tributary valley of the River Box. The gently rolling farmland continues into the mid-ground where dwellings at Hagmore Green and farm buildings associated with Firs Farm are visible amongst the trees in the centre of the view. To the left of the view, dwellings along Brick Kiln Hill Lane can be seen on the horizon in the mid-ground. To the right of these dwellings, woodlands along the northern edge of the AONB are just discernible in the distance. The 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead line are present on the skyline across the view, with the lower parts of the pylons variably obscured by the intervening vegetation. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases and the existing pylons are more obscured.

Value of view - **high**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View east of the viewpoint towards Coddendam Hall where the landform rises and vegetation filters longer distance views.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance and presence of vegetation these sites would be inconspicuous. Construction of the 400kV underground cables would be obscured by the intervening landform and vegetation. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

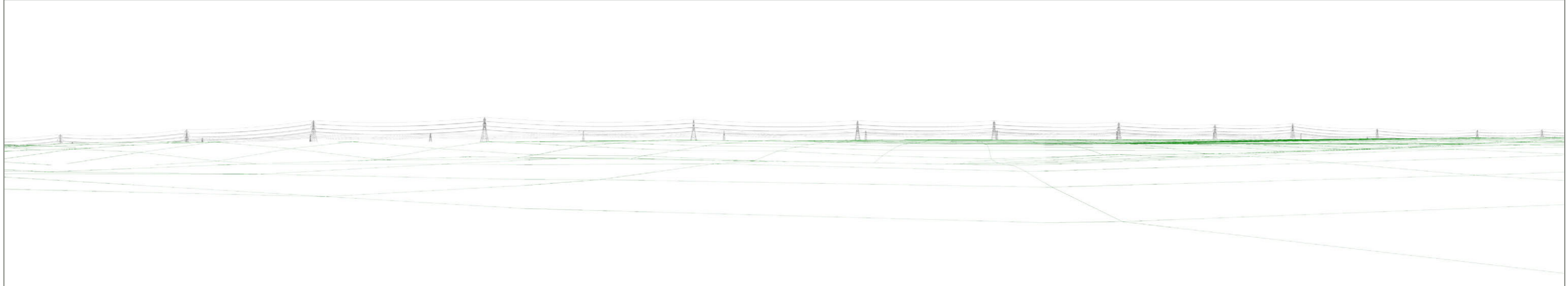
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

To the right of Firs Farm, the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line means that the larger 400kV pylons would be more noticeable despite being further from the viewpoint. This would result in an adverse change. To the left of Firs Farm the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line in association with underground cables would result in a beneficial change. On balance, given that the existing 400kV pylons would still be present across the view and due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation it is anticipated that the overall change would be adverse, and the magnitude of visual change would be **negligible**.

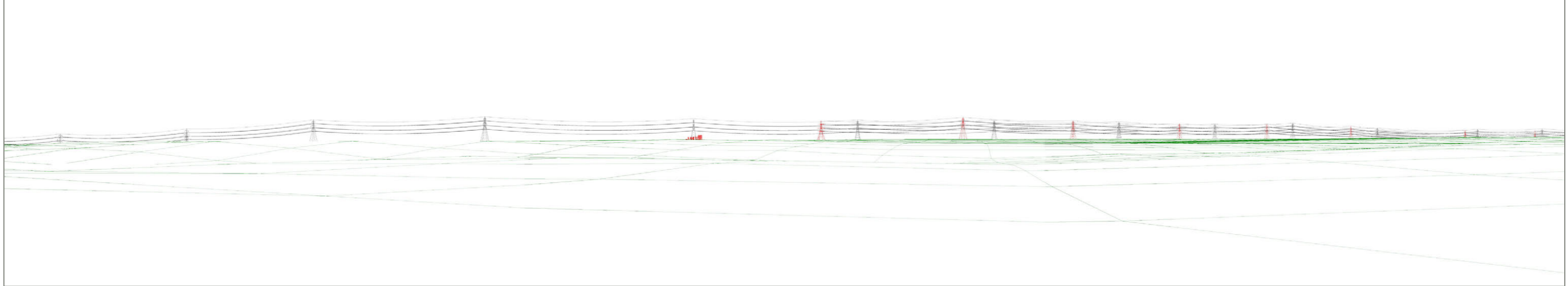
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **negligible** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

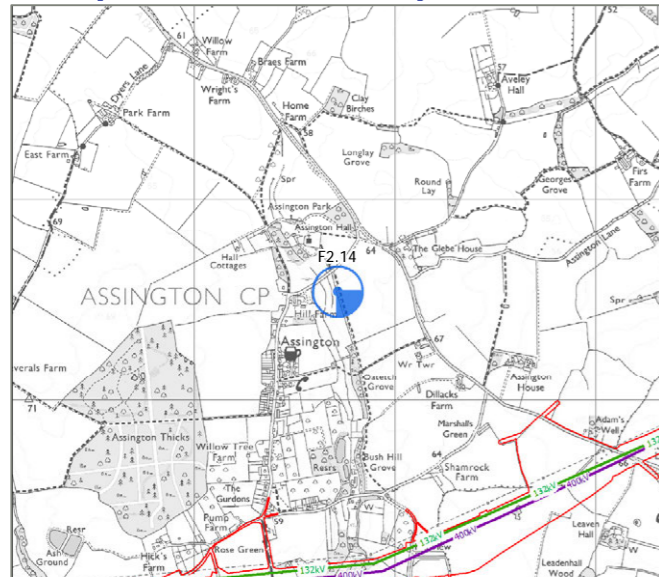


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



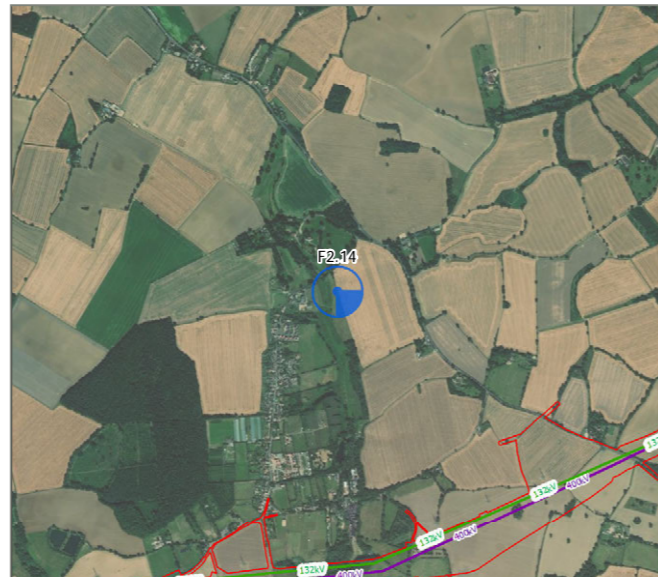
Viewpoint F2.14: View from the PRow South of Assington Hall

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	593715, 238544 (52.011511, 0.821256)
Approx. Elevation	59m AOD
General Direction of View	SE (135°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	1310m to LoD / 1080m to Order Limits
Time / Date	13.50 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located on the boundary of the Stour Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the community of Assington and users of the local PRow network. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The foreground comprises a gently rising arable field which is crossed by a prominent wood pole line. The field is bordered by hedgerows and trees and a footpath follows the hedge line. The field extends towards the mid-ground where dwellings, a Assington water tower and farm buildings are present on the skyline. The 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines cross the view with the lower parts of the pylons variably obscured by the intervening vegetation. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases and the existing pylons are more obscured.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north-west from the viewpoint along footpath towards Assington Hall.



View to the south-west of the viewpoint showing residential properties on the eastern edge of Assington.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance would be inconspicuous. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **small**.

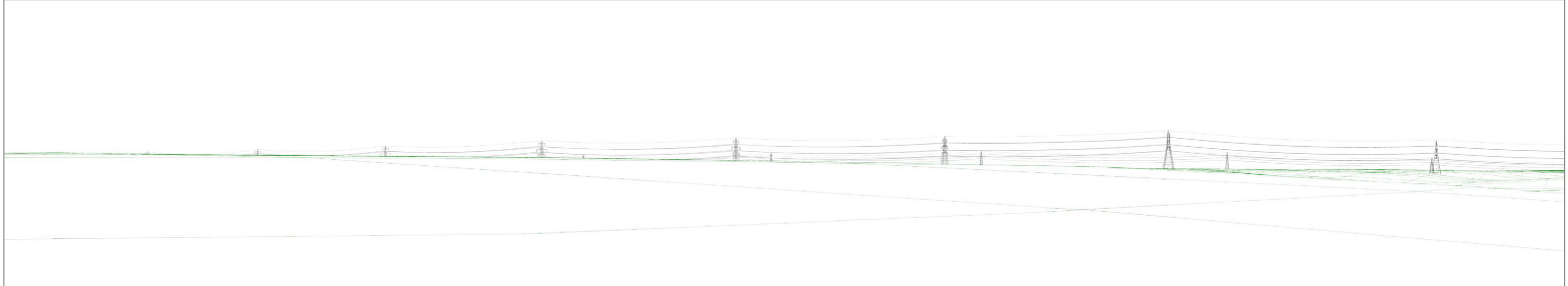
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line means that the larger 400kV pylons would be appear slightly larger and more noticeable despite being further from the viewpoint. This would result in an adverse change. Given however that the existing 400kV pylons would still be present across the view and due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **small**.

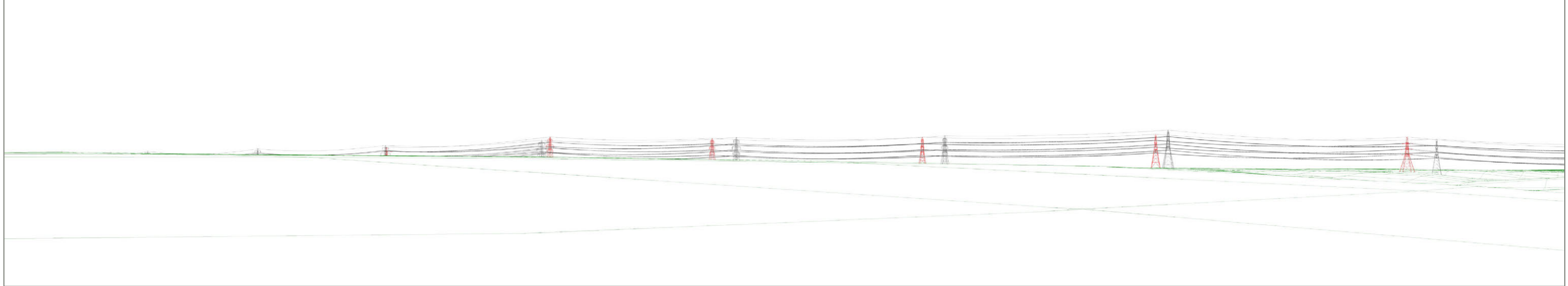
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

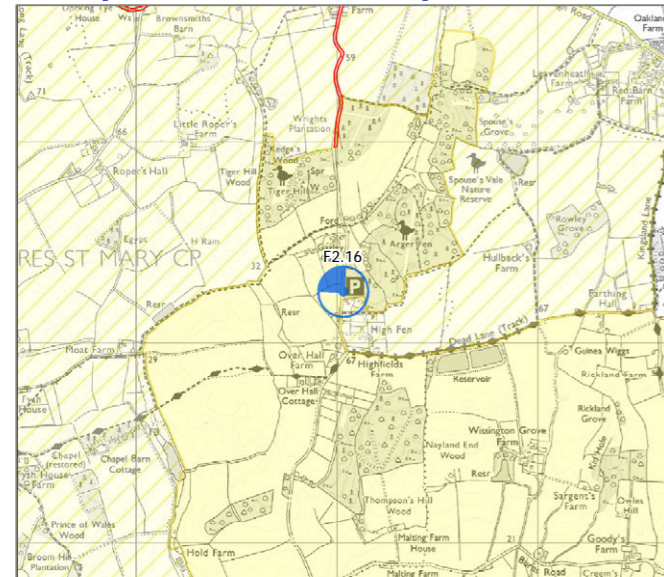


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



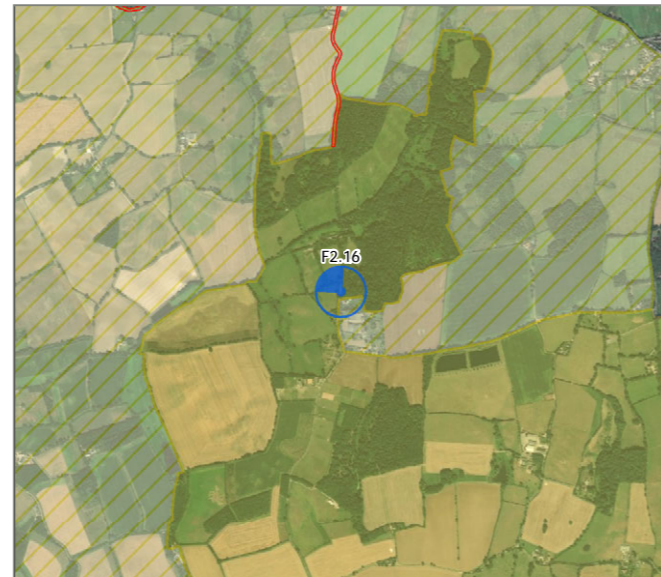
Viewpoint F2.16: View from the Car Park at Arger Fen Local Nature Reserve

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	593021, 235253 (51.982193, 0.809309)
Approx. Elevation	60m AOD
General Direction of View	NW (318°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	1740m to LoD / 720m to Order Limits
Time / Date	11.04 / 10 March 2022
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located in the AONB and represents the views experienced by people using the local PRow network, The Painters Trail and visitors to the AONB and the Arger Fen Local Nature Reserve. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The low managed roadside hedgerow affords elevated panoramic views out across the well-wooded rolling farmland. Dispersed dwellings and farm buildings can be seen between the trees, including buildings associated with Roper's Hall and Little Roper's Farm to the left of the view. Tiger Hill Wood obscures long-range views to the right of the view. The existing 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines are visible on the horizon across much of the view, with the pylons variably obscured by the intervening landform and vegetation. The two telecommunications towers near Yorley Farm are also noticeable on the horizon to the right of the view. Due to the extent of vegetation and the presence of the overgrown hedgerow in the foreground, there are seasonal variations, with more of the individual pylons being obscured in summer than in winter.

Value of view - **high**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north from the viewpoint showing Arger Fen car park.



The entrance to Arger Fen showing more dense vegetation which limits westerly view out from the nature reserve.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance would be inconspicuous. Construction of Stour Valley East CSE compound would be obscured by the intervening landform and vegetation. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

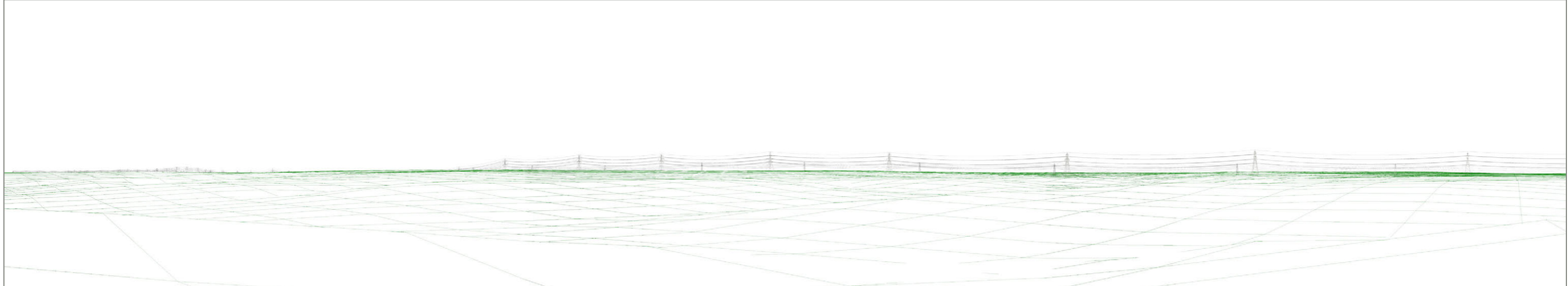
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line broadly following the same route but slightly closer to the viewpoint means that the larger 400kV pylons would appear larger and more noticeable. This would result in an adverse change. Due however to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, it is anticipated that the overall change would be adverse, and the magnitude of visual change would be **small**.

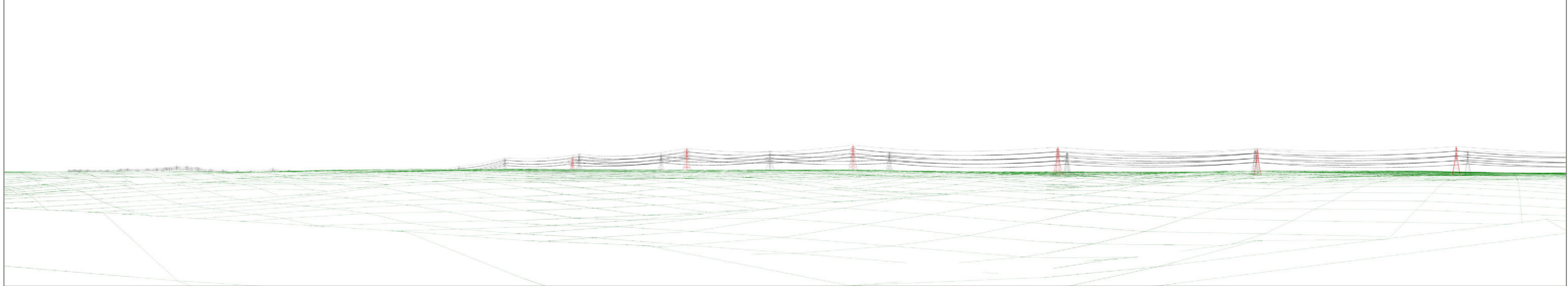
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly closer from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

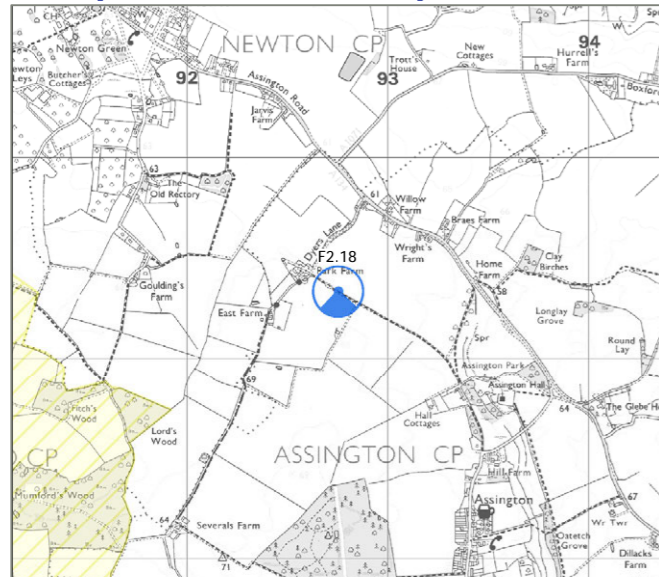


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F2.18: View from Dyers Lane near the A134, North of Assington

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	592751, 239334 (52.018937, 0.807678)
Approx. Elevation	63m AOD
General Direction of View	S (178°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	2245m to LoD / 1915m to Order Limits
Time / Date	13.29 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Moderate
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the dispersed community to the north of Assington and users of the local PRoW network. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The large arable field in the foreground rises very gently into the mid-ground where a copse of trees visually integrates with Assington Thicks and is the most notable feature in the view. The rising landform restricts most long-range views to the right of the copse but to the left there are glimpses of the low wooded horizon formed by the edge of the AONB. Occasional dwellings and farm buildings can be seen in the distance, including Hall Cottages on the far side of the field to the left of the view. The existing 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines are present on the horizon across much of the view, with the pylons variably obscured by the intervening landform and vegetation. The two telecommunications towers near Yorley Farm are also visible on the horizon to the right of the view. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases and the existing pylons are more obscured.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View of Park Farm, approximately 150m north-west of the viewpoint.



View south-east along footpath towards Hall Cottages and Assington Hall.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance would be inconspicuous. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

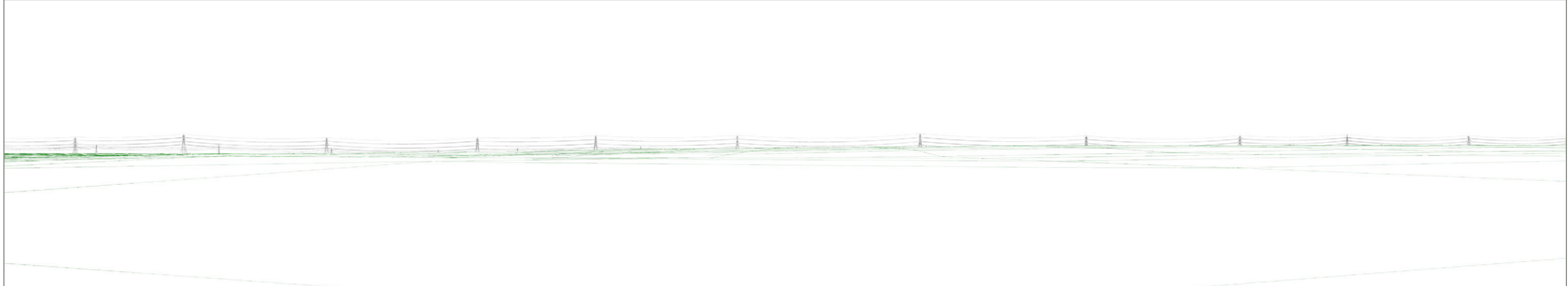
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The new 400kV overhead line would be seen in long-range views broadly following the route of the existing 132kV overhead line. The 400kV pylons would appear slightly larger and more noticeable despite being further from the viewpoint. Because the 400kV pylons are taller than 132kV pylons, additional pylons would be visible on the distant skyline. This would result in an adverse change. Given however that the existing 400kV pylons would still be present across the view and due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **small**.

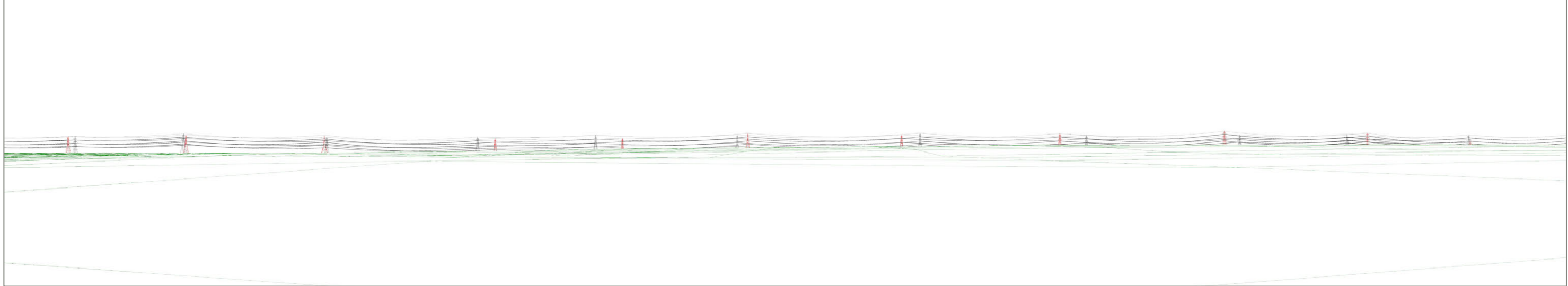
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

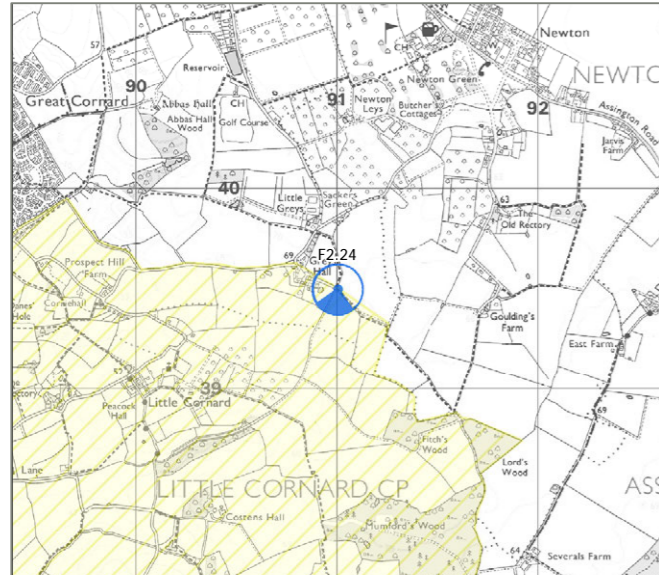


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F2.24: View from the PRow near Greys Hall, to the South-East of Hadleigh

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	591004, 239497 (52.021000, 0.782344)
Approx. Elevation	67m AOD
General Direction of View	S (190°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	2580m to LoD / 1935m to Order Limits
Time / Date	15.27 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

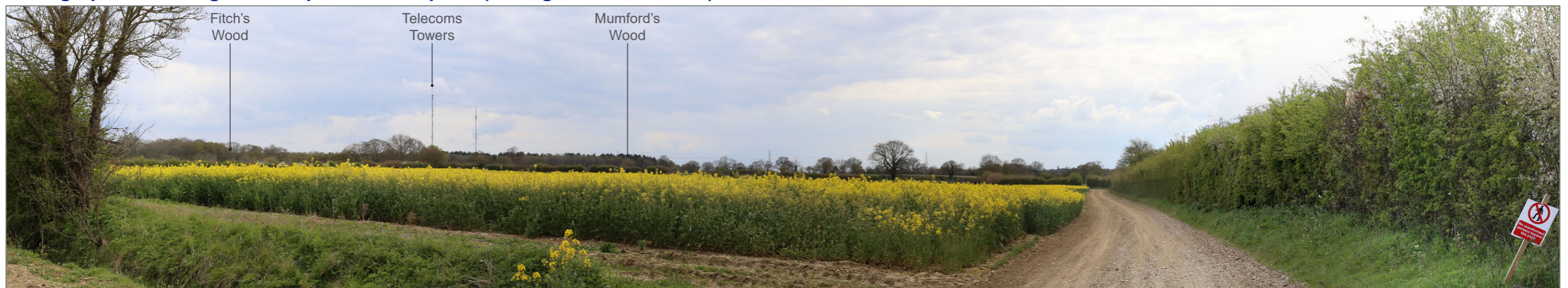
This viewpoint is located on the boundary of the Stour Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the dispersed community to the south-east of Hadleigh and users of the local PRow network within the SVPA. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

This viewpoint is located in the Stour Valley Project Area (SVPA). The flat arable field in the foreground is bordered by hedgerows and farm tracks. Beyond the field, views are contained in the mid-ground by woodland including Fitch's Wood, Mumford's Wood, and Lord's Wood. The existing 400kV overhead line can be seen on the horizon across much of the view, with the pylons variably obscured by the intervening landform and vegetation. The two telecommunications towers near Yorley Farm are a more prominent skyline feature. Foreground views remain open in summer but in the mid-ground the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees increases and the pylons are more obscured. The components of the view however remain largely unchanged. Seasonal variation is therefore limited.

Value of view - **high**

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to construct the 400kV overhead line and the Stour Valley East CSE compound. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across the view but because of the intervening distance would be inconspicuous. Works to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV underground cables would not be visible. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

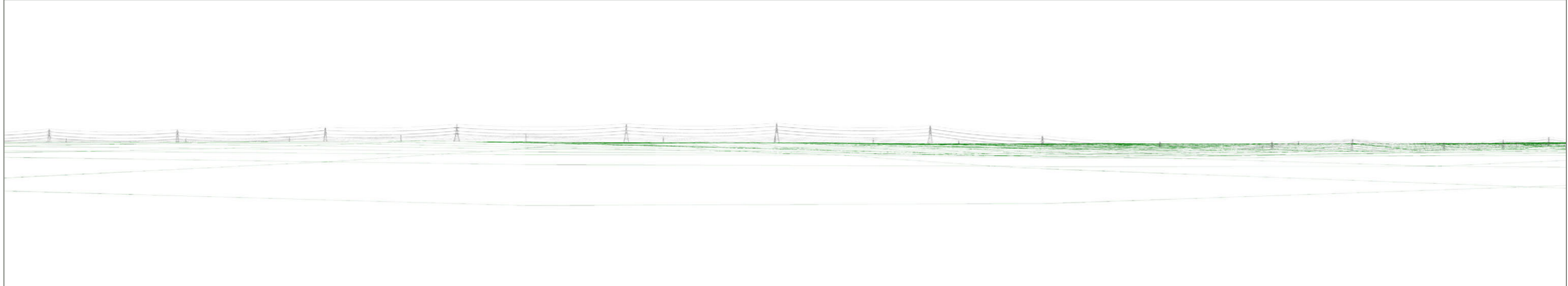
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The new 400kV overhead line would be seen in long-range views broadly following the route of the existing 132kV overhead line. The 400kV pylons would appear slightly larger and more noticeable despite being further from the viewpoint. Because the 400kV pylons are taller than 132kV pylons, additional pylons would be visible on the distant skyline. This would result in an adverse change. Given however that the existing 400kV pylons would still be present across the view and due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **small**.

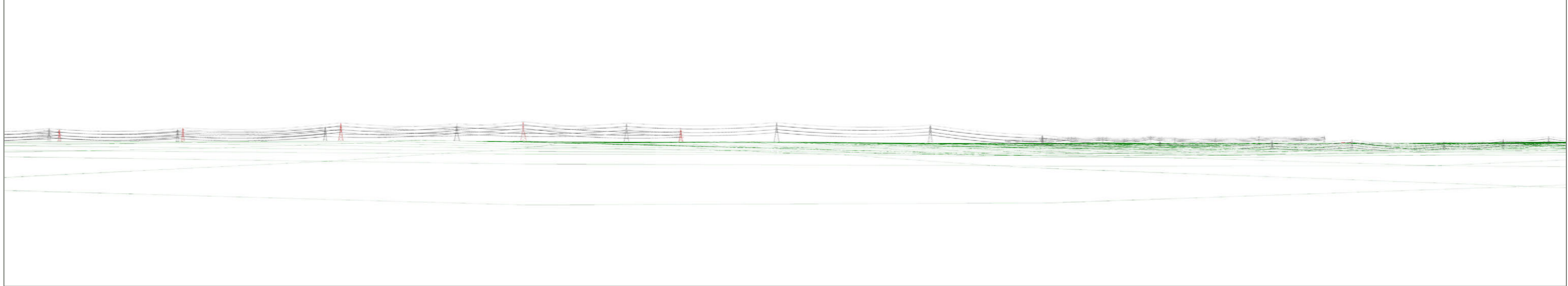
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

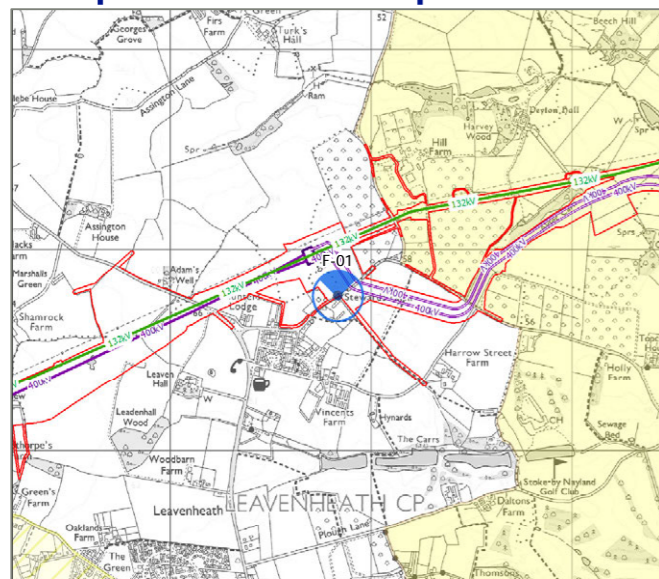


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-01: View from the B1068 at Stewards Farm

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	595834, 237775 (52.003863, 0.851661)
Approx. Elevation	61m AOD
General Direction of View	N (350°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	45m to LoD / 0m to Order Limits
Time / Date	15.10 / 27 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the dispersed community north of Leavenheath. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

In the foreground is a large, open, and flat arable field which extends into the mid-ground where woodland associated with a small tributary valley of the River Box forms a low horizon. Fields associated with the Boxford Fruit Farm are visible beyond the line of immature trees which borders the field to the right of the view. The 132kV and more distant 400kV overhead lines cross the view and are noticeable skyline features. The 400kV pylon on the far right of the view is on the edge of the AONB.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north-east from the viewpoint along B1068 showing the existing 132kV overhead line.



Steward Farm, south of the viewpoint.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

This viewpoint is located in the Order Limits at a bellmouth on the permanent access route to the Dedham Vale West CSE compound. Receptors would experience a substantial change to the view due to construction activities associated with the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line, and construction of the 400kV underground cables, two 8m temporary access routes and a permanent access route to the Dedham Vale West CSE compound. Overall, although the construction activities would be temporary, short term, and reversible, their prominence would result in a **large** magnitude of adverse visual change.

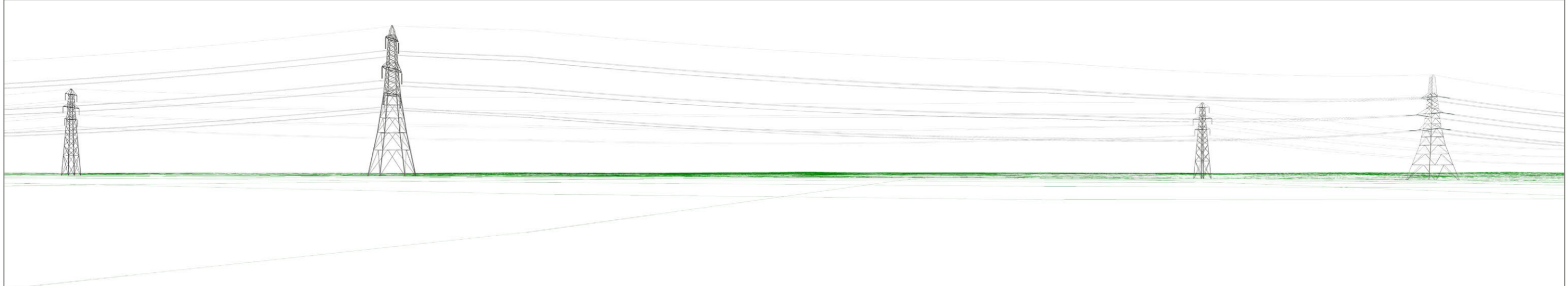
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The absence of the 132kV overhead line in the view would be beneficial, although the existing 400kV overhead lines would continue to be skyline features. To the left of the view, the Dedham Vale West CSE compound and associated gantries would be visible in the mid-ground. Embedded planting around the CSE compound would provide minimal screening or visual integration at this stage and the areas within the LoD used for construction would still be very noticeable within the rural farmland. On balance however it is anticipated that the overall change would be beneficial, and the magnitude of change would be **small**.

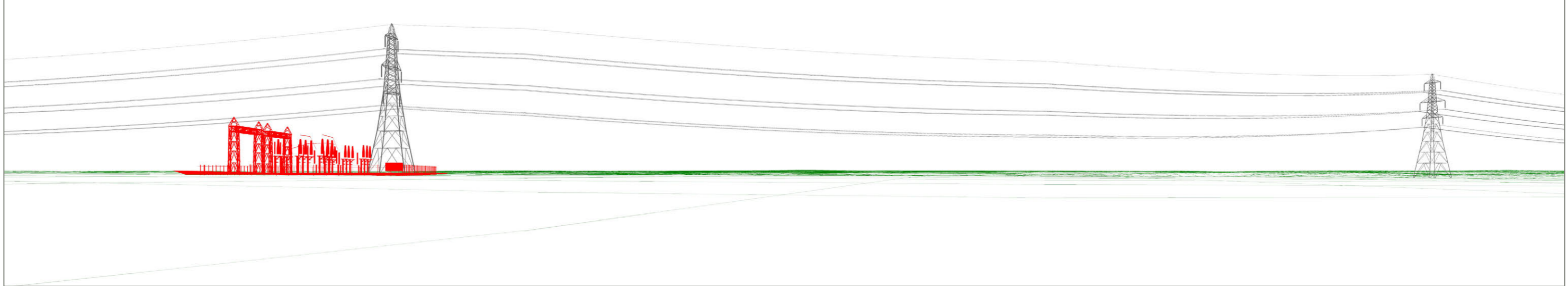
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line would continue to result in a beneficial change and once the embedded planting begins to mature by Year 15, views of the Dedham Vale West CSE compound and associated gantries would be screened or heavily filtered. It is anticipated that the magnitude of beneficial visual change would increase to **medium-small**.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

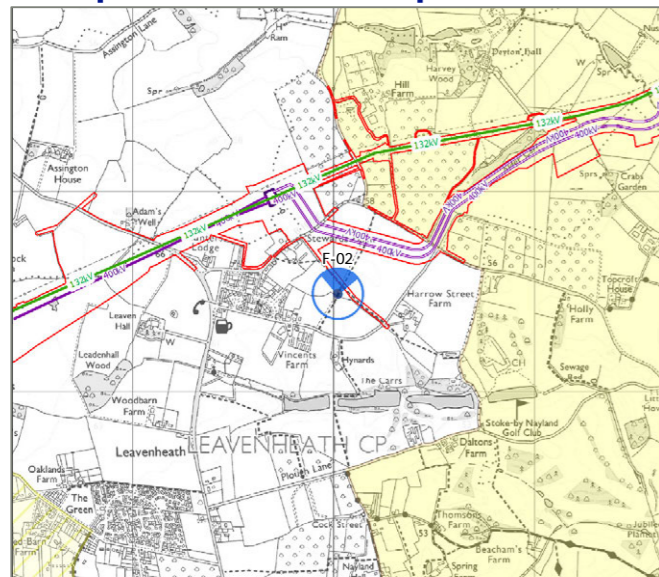


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



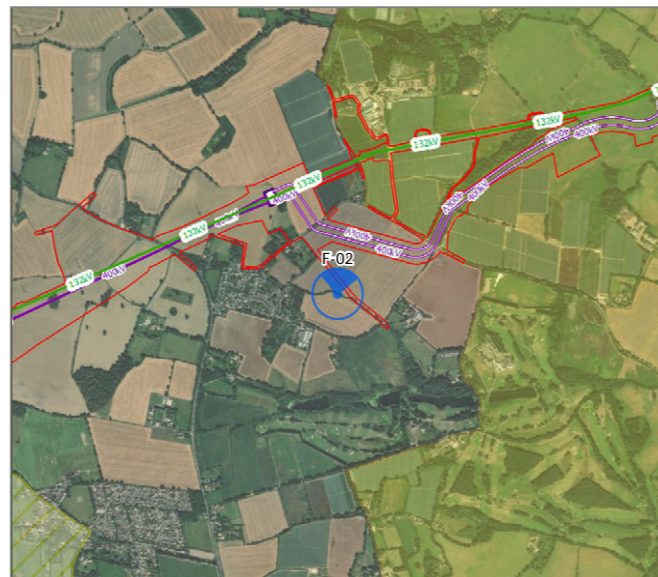
Viewpoint F-02: View from the PRow to the North of Harrow Street

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	596021, 237495 (52.001278, 0.854219)
Approx. Elevation	58m AOD
General Direction of View	N (005°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	240m to LoD / 40m to Order Limits
Time / Date	15.27 / 27 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint represents the views experienced by people using the local PRow network. These receptors are of **medium** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

A gap in the field boundary hedgerow affords views across a large relatively flat arable field bordered by hedgerows with trees. Buildings associated with Steward's Farm are present to the left of the view and Blackthorn Lodge can be seen on the far side of the field in the centre of the view. Some of the buildings and polytunnels at the Boxford Fruit Farm are just visible in the mid-ground, beyond which there are glimpses of a low wooded horizon which lies just inside the AONB. The existing 132kV and more distant 400kV overhead lines are present on the skyline across the view, with the lower parts of the pylons variably obscured by the intervening vegetation. Foreground views remain open in summer, but in the mid-ground leaf cover on the hedgerows and trees obscures more of the individual pylons. The components of the view however remain largely unchanged. Seasonal variation is therefore limited.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View south-east from the viewpoint along footpath towards Harrow Street Farm.



View south-west from the viewpoint along footpath towards Vincent Farm.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

This viewpoint is located close to the Order Limits. Receptors would experience a substantial change to the view due to construction activities associated with the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line, and the installation of the 400kV underground cables across the far side of the field. A temporary access track would extend across the field in the foreground. Removal of the hedgerow on the far side of the field to facilitate creation of a permanent bellmouth to the access track leading to the Dedham Vale West CSE compound would also affect the view. Construction of the Dedham Vale West CSE compound would just be visible through the trees to the right of Steward's Farm although the farm buildings would obscure most views of the works. Overall, although the construction activities would be temporary, short term, and

reversible, their prominence would result in a **large** magnitude of adverse visual change.

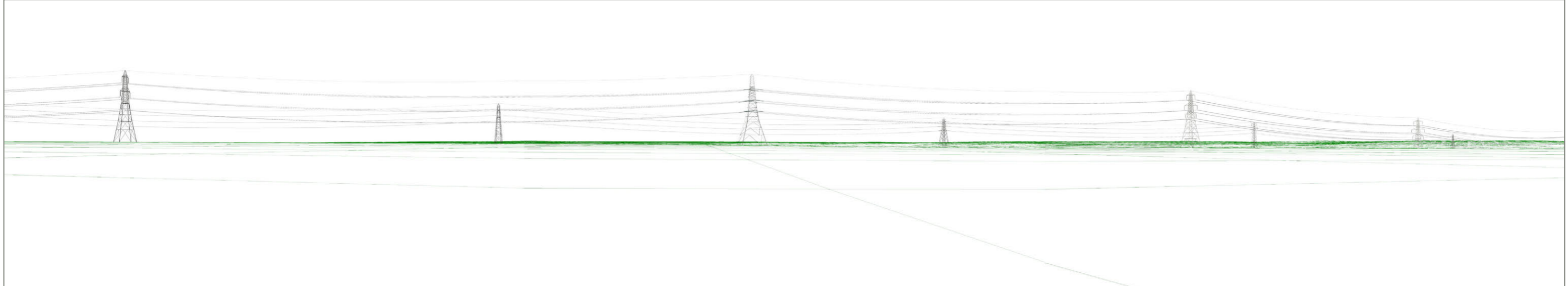
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

Once the land above the underground cables has been returned to agriculture, the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line would reduce the number of pylons present in the view which would result in a beneficial change, although the 400kV overhead lines would continue to be distantly visible and the former working area for construction of the underground cables would be noticeable. The upper parts of the Dedham Vale West CSE compound and its associated gantries would be visible to the left of the view. On balance, it is anticipated that the magnitude of change would be **medium-small**.

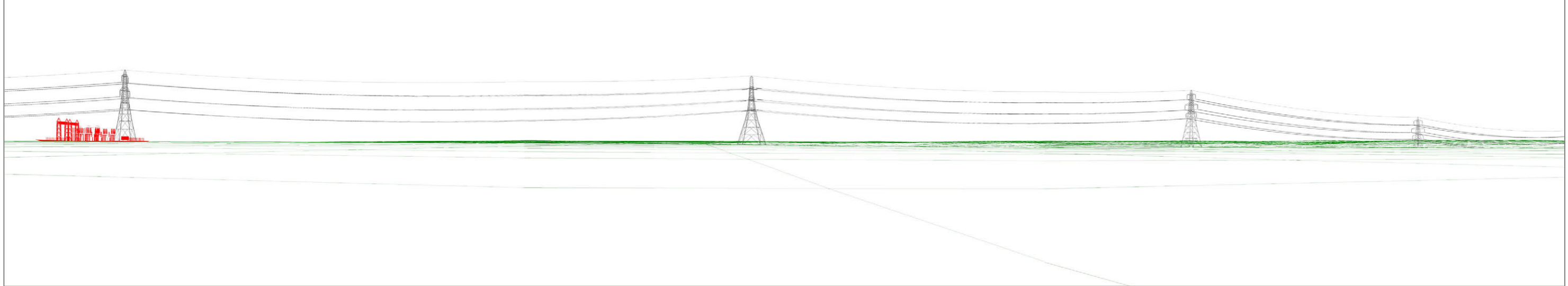
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line would continue to result in an overall beneficial change and therefore, the **medium-small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

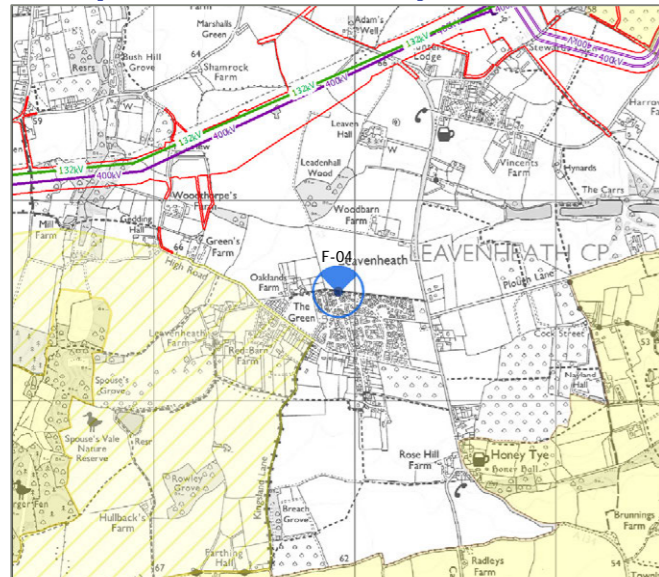


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-04: View from the PRow on the Northern Edge of Leavenheath

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	594915, 236549 (51.993173, 0.837591)
Approx. Elevation	61m AOD
General Direction of View	N (001°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	790m to LoD / 730m to Order Limits
Time / Date	16.03 / 27 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the community of Leavenheath and users of the local PRow network. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The low hedgerow alongside the footpath affords views out across a large, open and relatively flat arable field bordered by a mix of overgrown and managed hedgerows. To the right of the view, a cluster of dwellings, and buildings associated with Woodbarn Farm are noticeable in the mid-ground. A tall hedgerow and Leadenhall Wood contain most views in the mid-ground, leaving only glimpses of arable fields and woodlands beyond. The 132kV and more distant 400kV overhead lines are visible on the distant skyline with the individual pylons variably obscured by the intervening vegetation. Due to the distribution of vegetation, general visibility is greater in winter than in summer, although this has little effect on the prominence of the pylons.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View west from the viewpoint along footpath at northern edge of Leavenheath.



View east from the viewpoint along footpath showing residential properties on northern edge of Leavenheath.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view, but because of the intervening distance these sites would be inconspicuous. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line along broadly the same alignment but slightly closer to the viewpoint means that larger and more noticeable 400kV pylons would be present in the view, resulting in an adverse change. Due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, it is anticipated that the magnitude of change would be **small**.

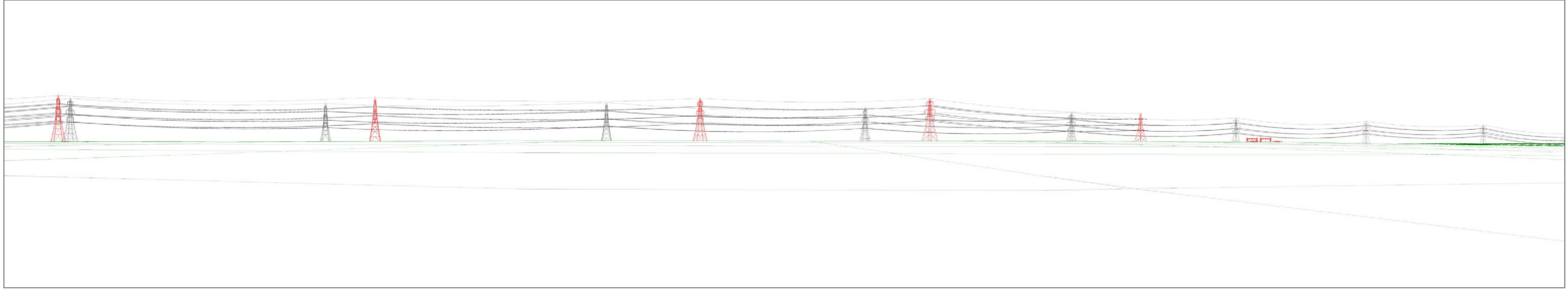
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly closer to the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

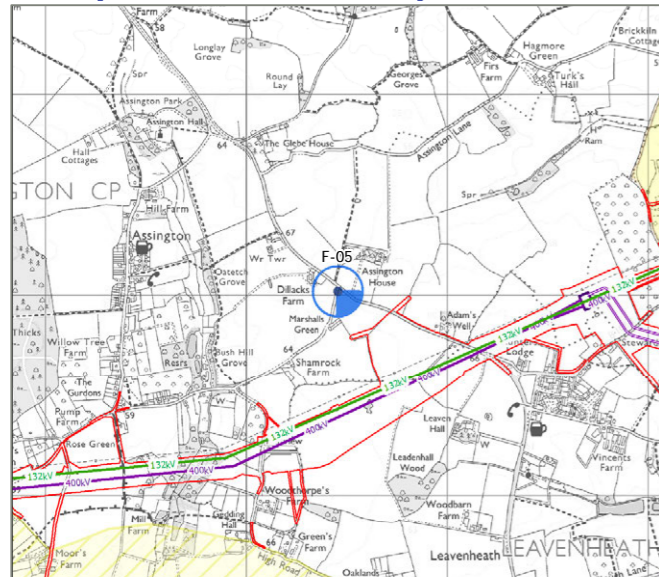


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-05: View from the Junction of the A134 and Marshalls Green

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	594456, 238019 (52.006537, 0.831740)
Approx. Elevation	65m AOD
General Direction of View	SE (136°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	520m to LoD / 225m to Order Limits
Time / Date	17.27 / 27 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the dispersed community to the east of Assington. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The absence of a field boundary hedgerow affords long views out across a large, open, and flat arable field bordered by hedgerows with trees. To the right of the view, Marshalls Green Road extends into the mid-ground where a single dwelling can be seen on the south side of the road. The 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines cross the background view and the combination of pylons and a lower voltage overhead line on wood pole supports, create a cluttered skyline. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases but has little effect on the visibility of the existing pylons.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View south from the viewpoint along road towards Marshalls Green.



View north along footpath approximately 50m north of the viewpoint.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have views of the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line and construction of the 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance these sites would be relatively inconspicuous. The presence of the construction compound beyond the hedgerow on the far side of the field, although partially obscured by the intervening vegetation, would also affect the view. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **small**.

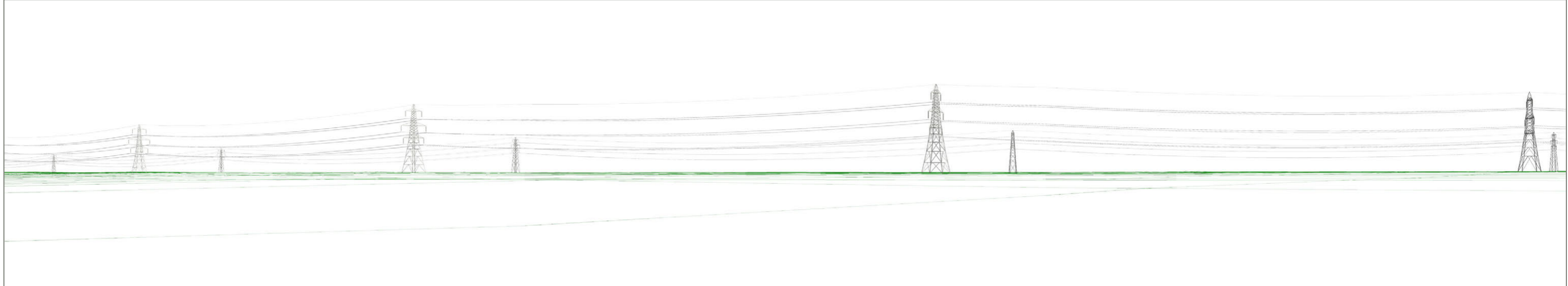
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line means that the larger 400kV pylons would be more noticeable despite being further from the viewpoint. This would result in an adverse change. Given however that the existing 400kV pylons would still be prominent in the view and the presence of screening vegetation it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **medium-small**.

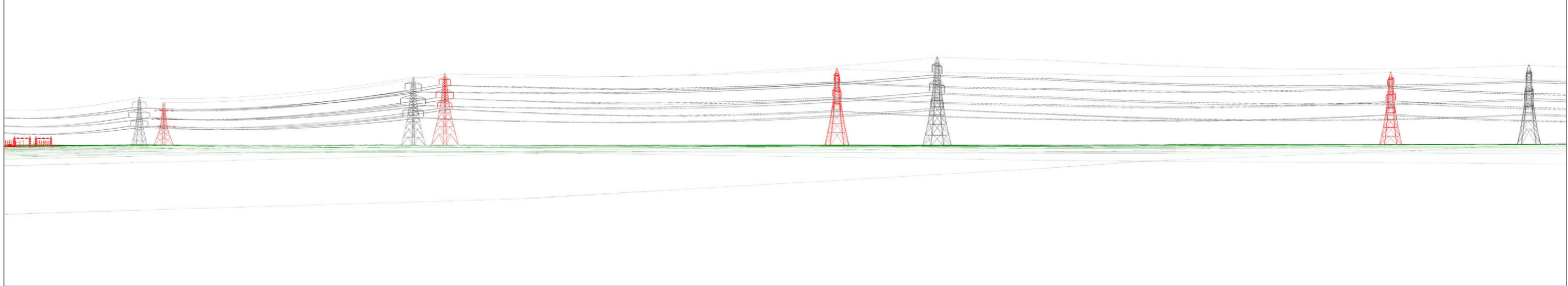
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **medium-small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

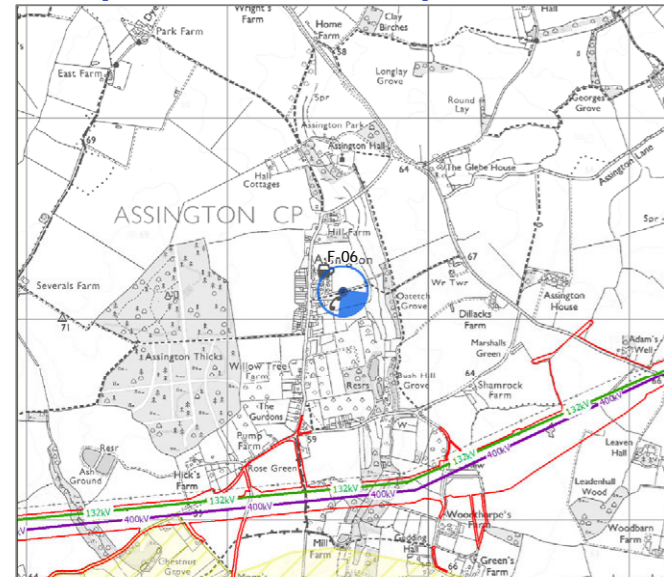


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-06: View from the PRow on the Eastern Edge of Assington

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	593574, 238139 (52.007917, 0.818982)
Approx. Elevation	58m AOD
General Direction of View	SE (142°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	975m to LoD / 650m to Order Limits
Time / Date	14.08 / 29 January 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located within the Stour Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the community of Assington and users of the local PRow network. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The small gently rolling pastures in the foreground are bordered by overgrown hedgerows which contain many longer views, leaving only glimpses of further rolling pastures in the mid-ground. A wood pole line crosses the pastures but is seen against a backdrop of vegetation and is inconspicuous. The 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines are visible across the view but the pylons are substantially obscured by the intervening vegetation even in winter. Due to the extent of vegetation, there are seasonal variations, with more of the individual pylons being obscured in summer than in winter.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View west from the viewpoint along footpath towards residential properties at the eastern edge of Assington.



View east from the viewpoint along footpath towards Oatetch Grove showing new tree planting.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have distant views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance these sites would be inconspicuous. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

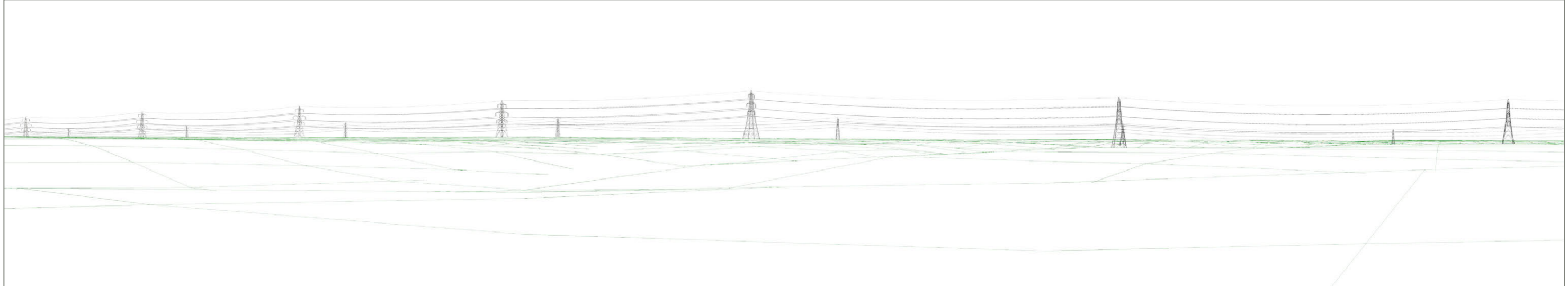
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line means that the larger 400kV pylons would be more noticeable despite being further from the viewpoint. This would result in an adverse change. Given however that the existing 400kV pylons would still be present across the view and due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, particularly the foreground vegetation in summer when in full leaf, it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **small**.

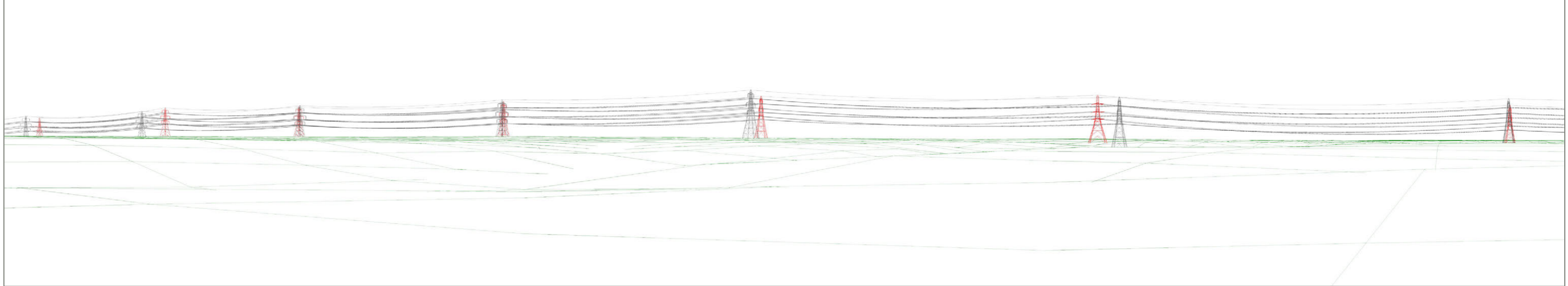
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

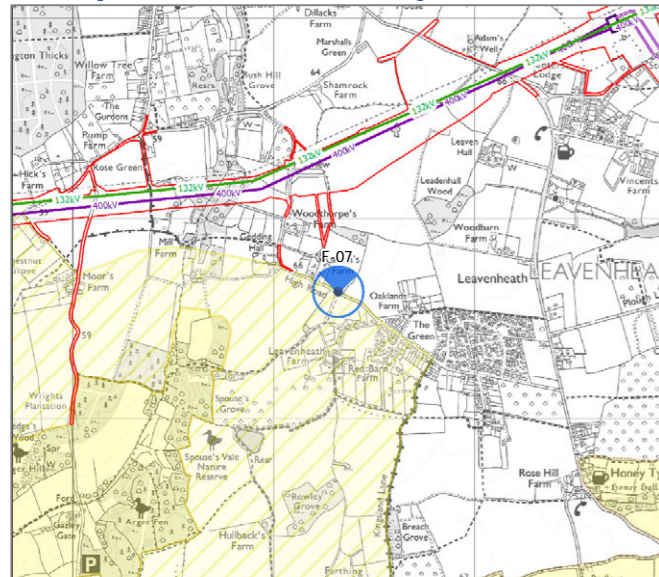


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-07: View from High Road, to the North-West of Leavenheath

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	594342, 236624 (51.994050, 0.829297)
Approx. Elevation	65m AOD
General Direction of View	N (019°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	495m to LoD / 230m to Order Limits
Time / Date	16.06 / 8 March 2022
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located on the boundary of the Stour Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the community of Assington and users of the local PRoW network in the SVPA. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The flat field in the foreground beyond the roadside hedgerow extends into the mid-ground where a small block of woodland obscures longer views. A wood pole line crosses the field, and a small building is present on its eastern boundary, but both are inconspicuous because of the amount of roadside vegetation. To the right of the view, Leadenhall Wood forms a distant horizon. To the left of the view, a single 132kV pylon is visible on the skyline, partially screened by intervening woodland. Due to the extent of vegetation, there are seasonal variations, with more of the pylon being obscured in summer than in winter.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View west from the viewpoint along High Road towards Green's Farm.



View east from the viewpoint along High Road towards Oaklands Farm at the edge of Leavenheath.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Leadenhall Wood

Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present for a short period of time. The works would be visible on the distant skyline but would be partially obscured by the intervening vegetation, particularly in summer when the roadside hedgerow is in full foliage. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

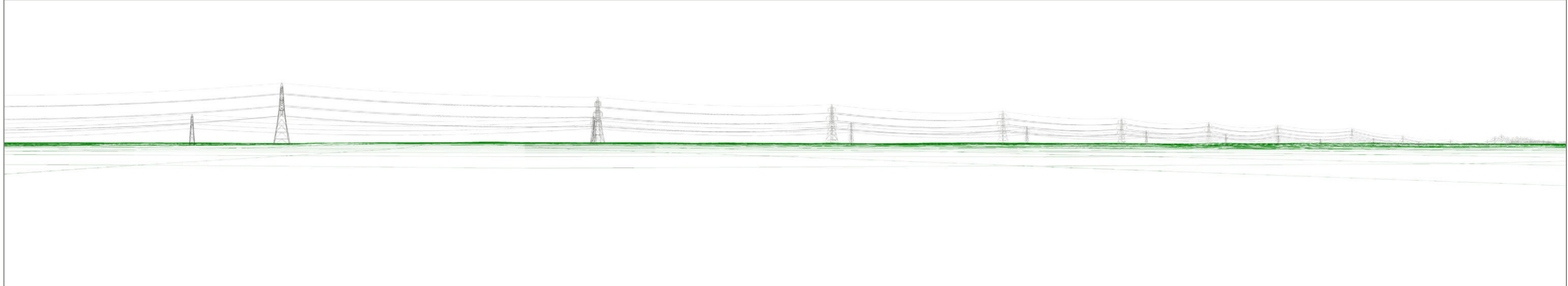
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead slightly closer to the viewpoint means that the larger 400kV pylons would be more noticeable in the view, resulting in an adverse change. Although the lower parts of the pylons would be obscured by vegetation, their size and proximity mean that the magnitude of change would be **medium-small**.

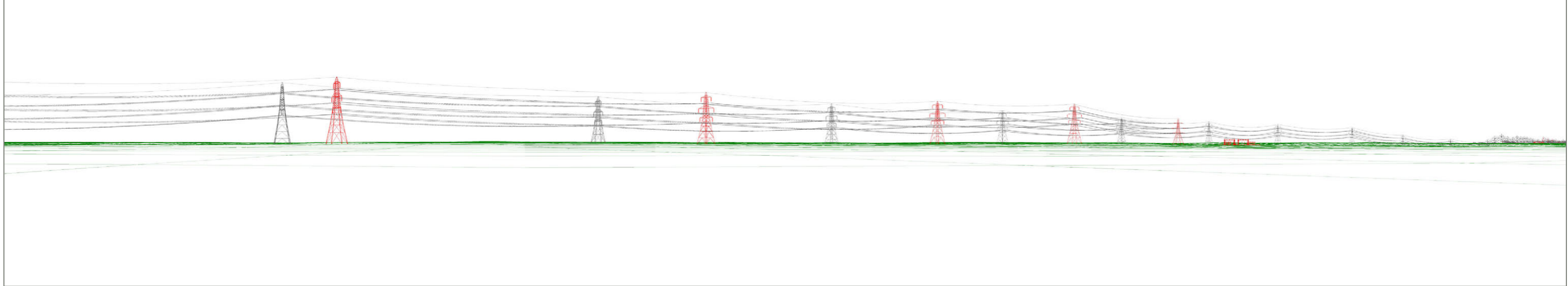
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly closer to the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **medium-small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

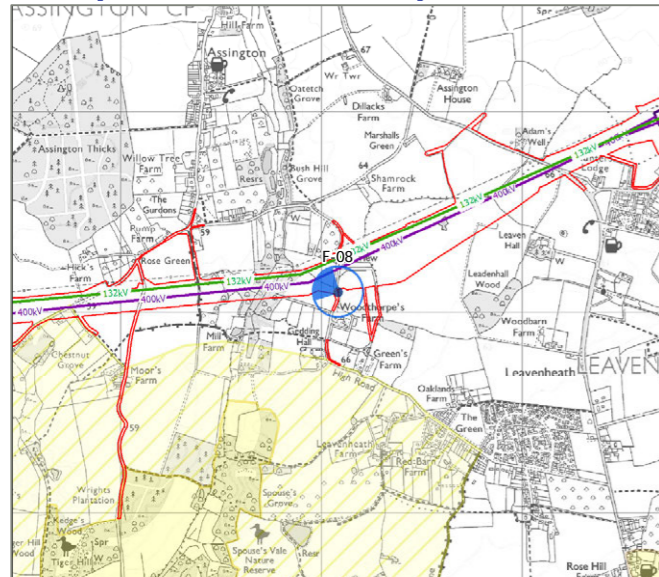


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-08: View from High Road, between Hill View and Woodthorpe's Farm

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	594081, 237106 (51.998464, 0.825776)
Approx. Elevation	62m AOD
General Direction of View	W (298°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	10m to LoD / 0m to Order Limits
Time / Date	15.41 / 27 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located on the boundary of the Stour Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the dispersed community to the north-west of Leavenheath and users of the local PRow network. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The foreground comprises an unnamed road and a private driveway bordered by managed hedgerows. The gateway affords views across a rolling arable field which is bordered in the mid-ground by woodland associated with a small tributary valley of the River Stour. Both the 132kV and more distant 400kV overhead lines are present in the foreground and pylons are prominent on the skyline. There is some seasonal variation along High Road, with more of the pylons visible in winter than in summer. Visibility is also dependent on hedgerow cutting frequency.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north-east from the viewpoint showing the 400kV overhead line over vegetation associated with Hill View.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

This view is located on the edge of the Order Limits on a temporary bellmouth next to a 4m temporary access route and 8m temporary access route. Receptors would have foreground and mid-ground views of the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line and construction of the 400kV overhead line close to the viewpoint. The works would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time but due to the clustering of the pylons this would not be apparent. Additionally, there would be removal of a section of the hedgerow in the foreground to create the bellmouth for the temporary access route. Overall, although the construction activities would be temporary, short term and reversible, their prominence would result in a **medium-large** magnitude of adverse visual change.

Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line means that a new and larger 400kV tension pylon at the junction of the two 400kV overhead lines at Twinstead would be situated in the middle of the field in the foreground of the view. However, pylons are already a key element in the view and the presence of this new pylon would not fundamentally change its composition or character. It is therefore anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **medium**.

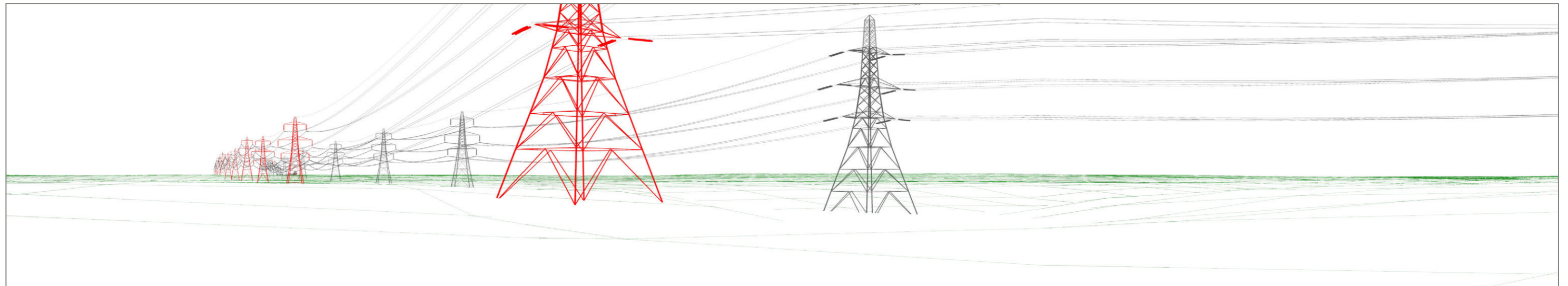
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

Although reinstatement hedgerow planting would be mature, it would only obscure the lower part of the 400kV tension pylon. Therefore, the **medium** magnitude of adverse visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

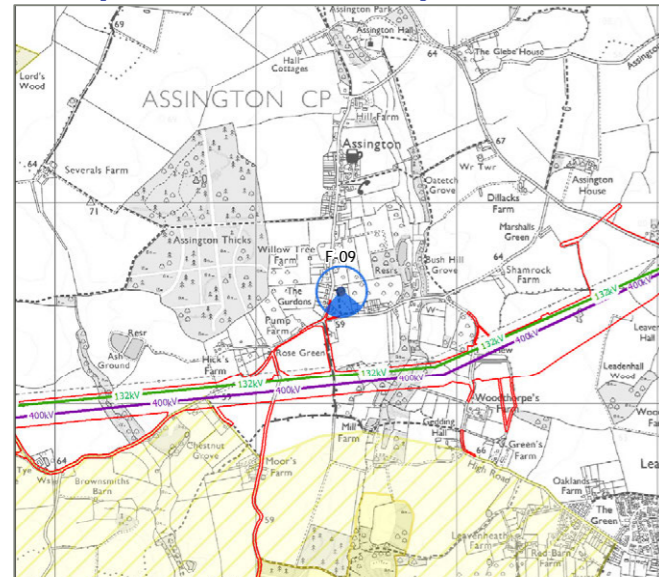


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-09: View from the PRow at Assington Village Hall Car Park

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	593423, 237562 (52.002788, 0.816456)
Approx. Elevation	59m AOD
General Direction of View	S (175°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	410m to LoD / 65m to Order Limits
Time / Date	12.34 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Moderate
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located within the Stour Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the southern edge of Assington including users of the local recreation ground. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The recreation ground in the foreground is bordered by timber fencing, hedgerows, and trees with dwellings on the south side of Assington visible beyond. Barracks Road borders the far side of the recreation ground but is obscured by the vegetation. Through the trees there are glimpses of woodland along a tributary valley of the River Stour, which visually integrates into the distant, well-wooded northern edge of the AONB. The existing 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines cross the mid-ground and the 400kV pylon in the foreground is prominent. Due to the extent of vegetation, there are seasonal variations, with more of the individual pylons being obscured in summer than in winter, although the 400kV overhead line remains very noticeable on the skyline through the year.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



Assington Village Hall north-east of the viewpoint.



Outdoor play area and residential properties at Assington south-west of the viewpoint.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have foreground and mid-ground views of the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line and construction of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint. Construction activity would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, but due to the screening afforded by intervening vegetation, the magnitude of change would be **small**.

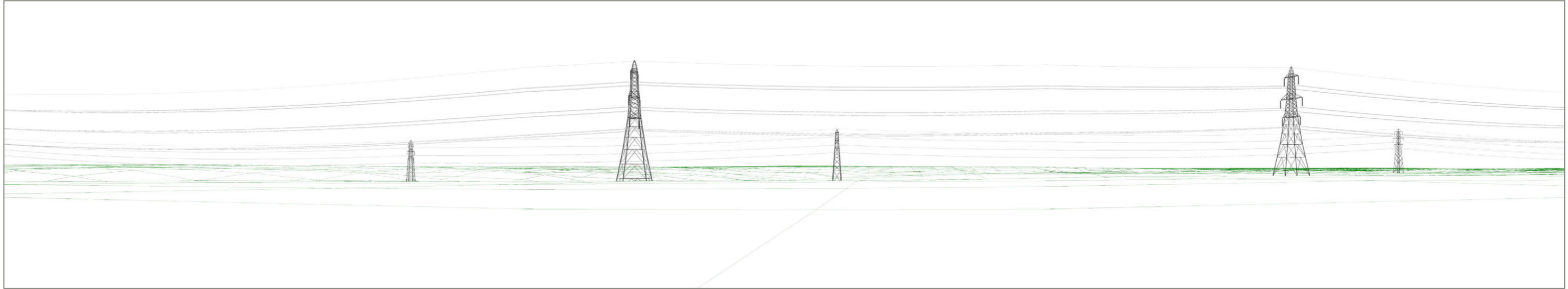
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line broadly along the same alignment but slightly further from the viewpoint means that, although the existing 132kV pylons would be removed from the view, the new 400kV pylons would be very noticeable and would increase the prominence of overhead line infrastructure. It would not, however, alter the composition or character of the view. Due, to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation which would screen the lower parts of the new 400kV pylons, it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse change would be **medium-small**.

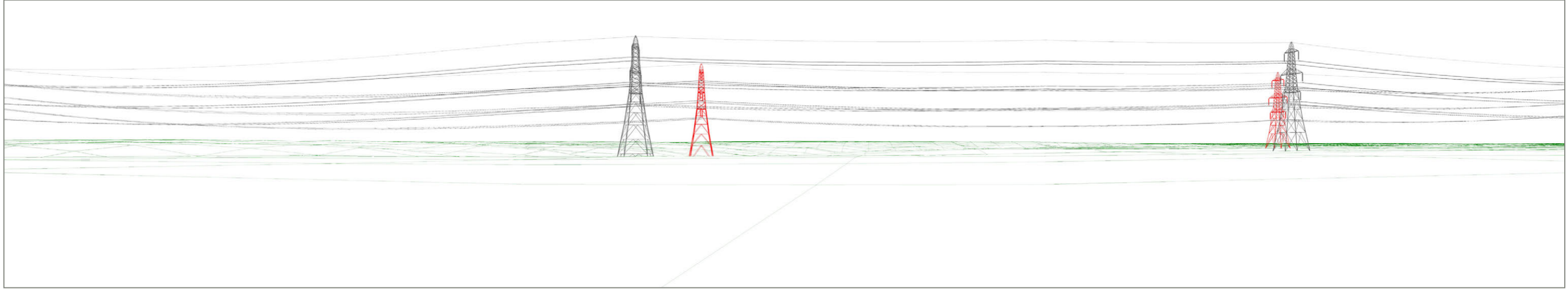
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **medium-small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

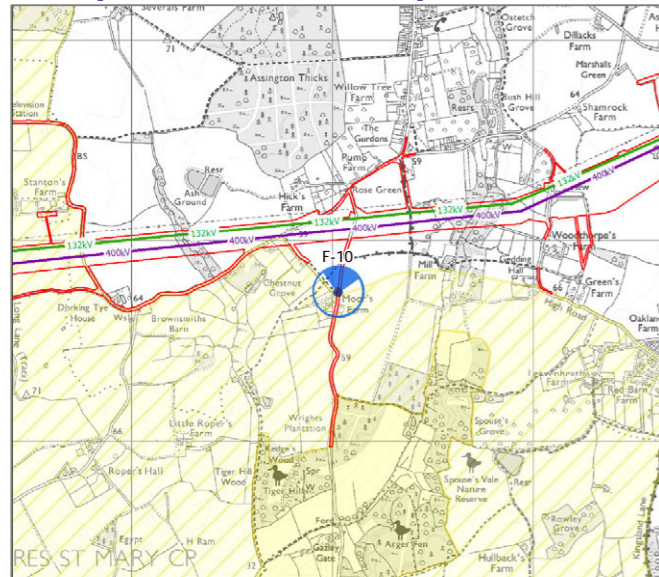


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-10: View from the PRoW near Moor's Farm, to the South of Assington

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	593027, 236750 (51.995637, 0.810237)
Approx. Elevation	59m AOD
General Direction of View	N (010°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	255m to LoD / 0m to Order Limits
Time / Date	12.20 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Moderate
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located within the Stour Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the dispersed community to the south of Assington and users of the local PRoW network, which is partly within the SVPA and includes The Painters Trail. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The lane in the foreground winds through an area of relatively flat and open arable fields. To the centre and left of the view, the high coverage of trees and woodland around Assington, including Assington Thicks, contains views in the mid-ground, whilst to the right views are more open and buildings at Rose Green and Assington can be seen in the distance. Both the existing 132kV and more distant 400kV overhead lines cross the view and pylons are prominent on the skyline. To the right of the view, a group of pylons can be seen amongst the trees as they ascend the eastern valley side of a small tributary valley of the River Stour. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases but has little effect on the visibility of the existing pylons.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



To the left of the view, vegetation associated with Sheepwalk Barn filters views.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

This viewpoint is located in the SVPA and the Order Limits. Receptors would have foreground views of the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line and construction of the 400kV overhead line closer to the viewpoint. Although, construction activities would be temporary, short term, and reversible, the proximity of the viewpoint to the works means that the composition of the view would be conspicuously altered, resulting in a **medium** magnitude of adverse visual change.

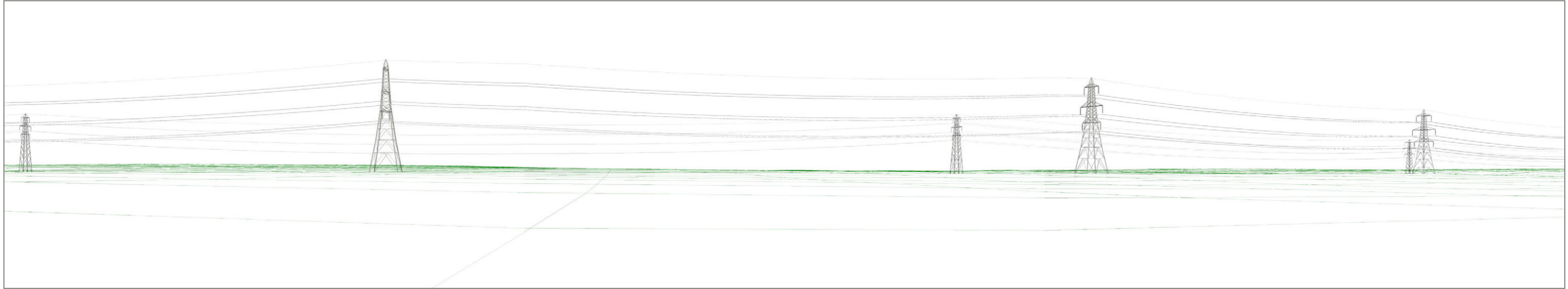
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line closer to the viewpoint means that larger and more noticeable 400kV pylons would be present in the view. They would not, however, alter the composition or character of the view as pylons are already a defining characteristic of the baseline. Due to the proximity of the new pylons and absence of any screening vegetation, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **medium**.

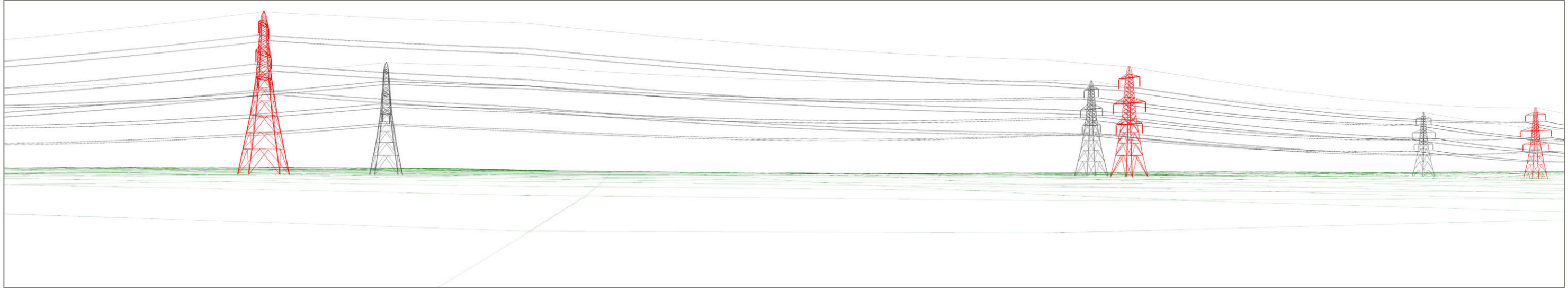
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line closer to the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **medium** magnitude of adverse visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

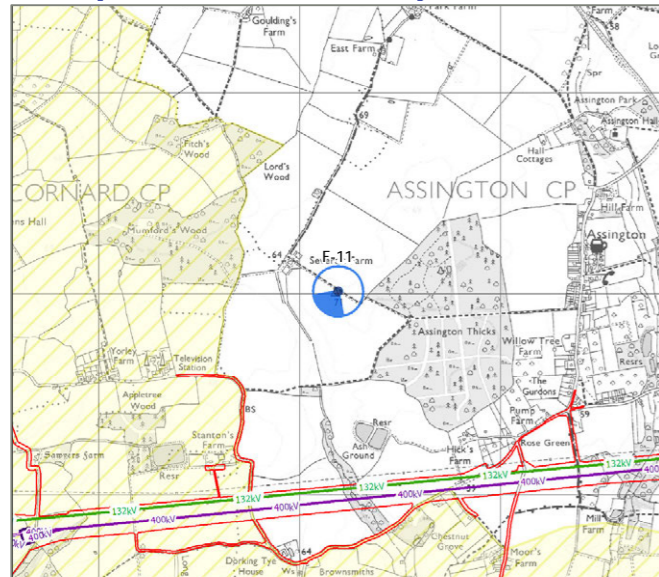


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



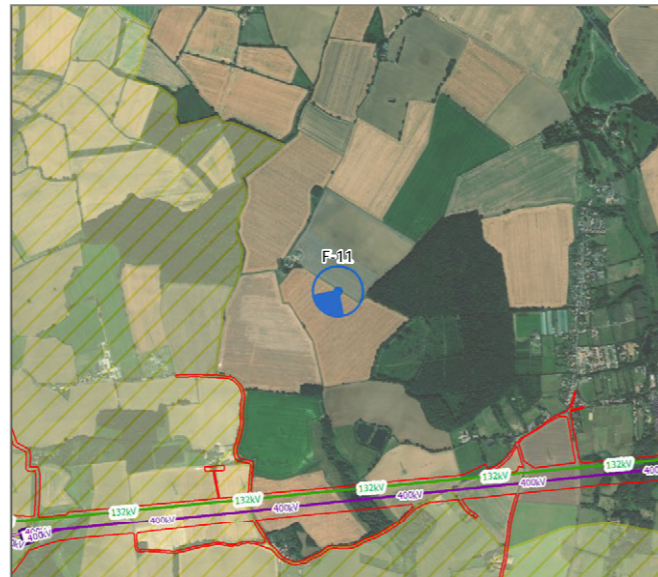
Viewpoint F-11: View from the PRow to the West of Assington Thicks, near Severals Farm

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	592193, 238016 (52.007295, 0.798815)
Approx. Elevation	71m AOD
General Direction of View	SW (214°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	990m to LoD / 665m to Order Limits
Time / Date	13.03 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Moderate
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint represents the views experienced by people using the local PRow network and visiting the trig point. These receptors are of **medium** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

This location affords expansive views across rolling large-scale farmland punctuated by blocks of woodland including Appletree Wood in the centre of the view and linear woodland along a tributary stream valley of the River Stour to the left of the view. A trig point is visible near the centre of the view and the two telecommunications towers near Yorley Farm are prominent on the skyline. Dispersed dwellings and farm buildings in the mid-ground include Yorley Farm, the television station and Stanton's Farm. The existing 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines cross the view before disappearing as they descend the eastern side of the Stour Valley to the right of the view. Due to the extent of vegetation, there are seasonal variations, with more of the individual pylons being obscured in summer than in winter, although the 400kV overhead line remains very noticeable on the skyline.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north-west from the viewpoint along footpath towards Severals Farm.



View south-east from the viewpoint along footpath towards Assington Thicks woodland.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have mid-range views of the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line and construction of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further away from the viewpoint. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance these would be inconspicuous. Construction of the Stour Valley East CSE compound and 400kV underground cables would not be visible. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

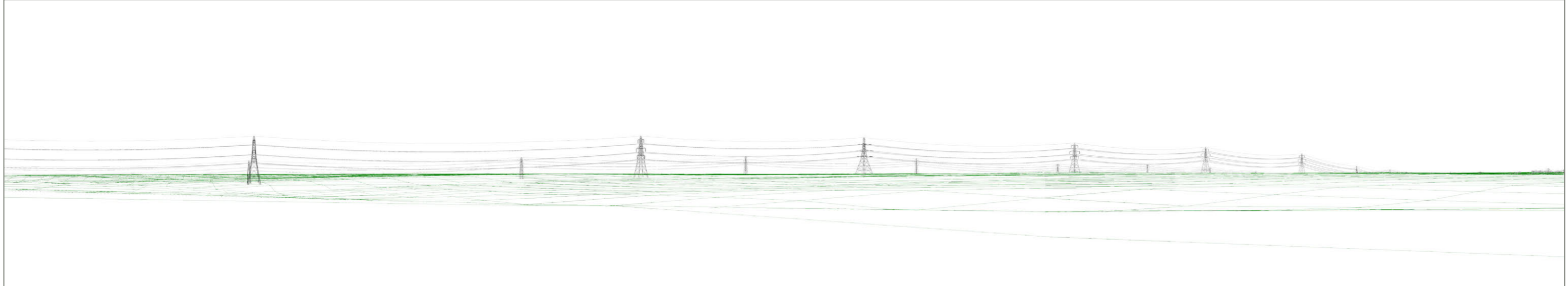
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line broadly along the same alignment means that the new pylons would be more noticeable in the view, despite being further from the viewpoint. This would result in an adverse change. Given that the existing 400kV pylons would still be present across the view and due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **small**.

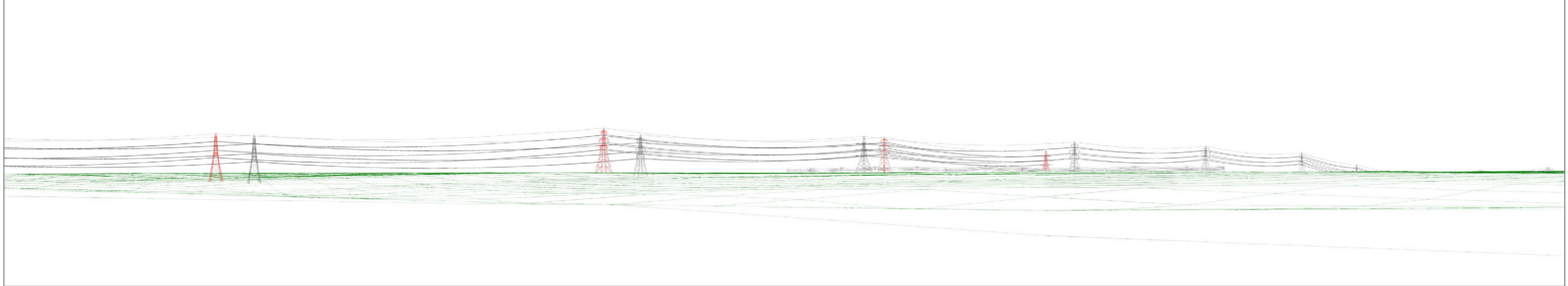
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further away from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of adverse visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

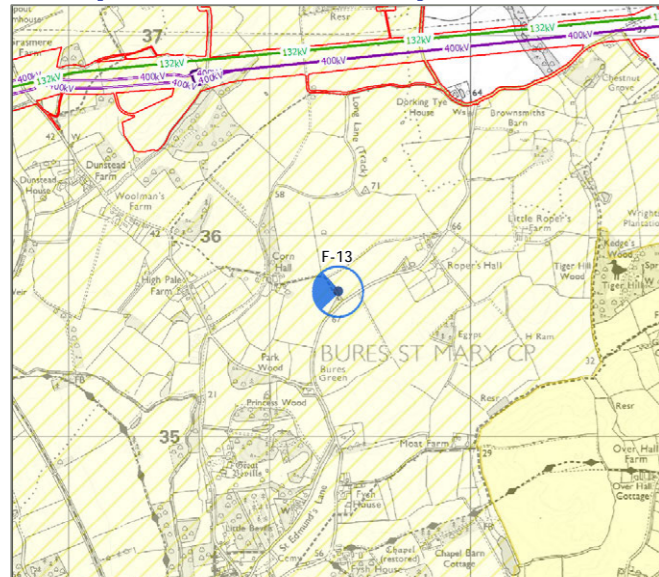


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



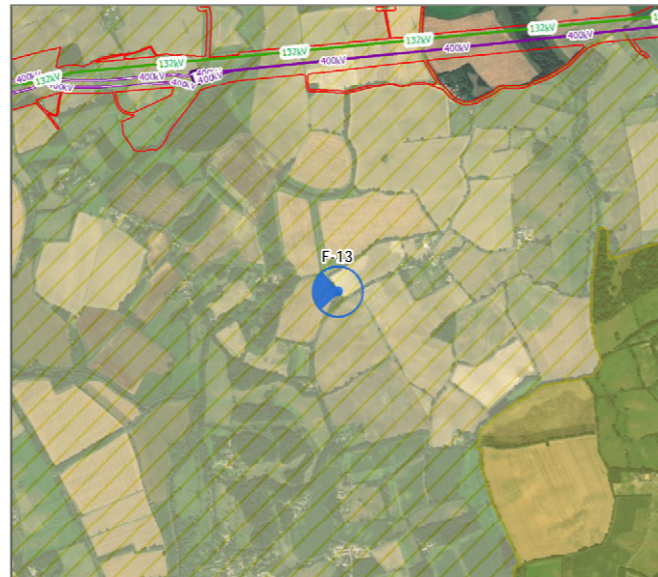
Viewpoint F-13: View from the PRow near Corn Hall, to the North of Bures Green

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	591340, 235726 (51.987025, 0.785120)
Approx. Elevation	67m AOD
General Direction of View	W (272°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	1095m to LoD / 985m to Order Limits
Time / Date	17.03 / 28 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located within the SVPA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the dispersed community to the north of Bures and Bures Green. It also represents the views experienced by people using the local PRow network within the SVPA. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The large arable field in the foreground initially slopes gently away from the viewpoint, before inclining more steeply into a subsidiary valley of the River Stour. The valley landform foreshortens the mid-ground. On the far side of the field, the tops of trees within the woodland around Corn Hall cross the full width of the view. Through the trees there are long-range views towards the rolling and well-wooded farmland on the western valley side of the Stour Valley. Dwellings and farm buildings can be seen between the trees and include the settlement of Lamarsh to the left of the view. The existing 132kV and more distant 400kV overhead lines can be seen on the horizon with the pylons variably obscured by the intervening landform and vegetation. Due to the extent of vegetation and the presence of the overgrown woodland on the far side of the field, there are seasonal variations, with more pylons being obscured in summer than in winter.

Value of view - **medium**

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line and 400kV overhead line (4YLA). The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance these sites would be inconspicuous. Works to construct the 400kV underground cables would not be noticeable at this distance. At night, views may also be affected by sky glow associated with the overnight working on the trenchless crossing of the Sudbury Branch Railway Line but this is likely to be an exceptional and infrequent occurrence. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

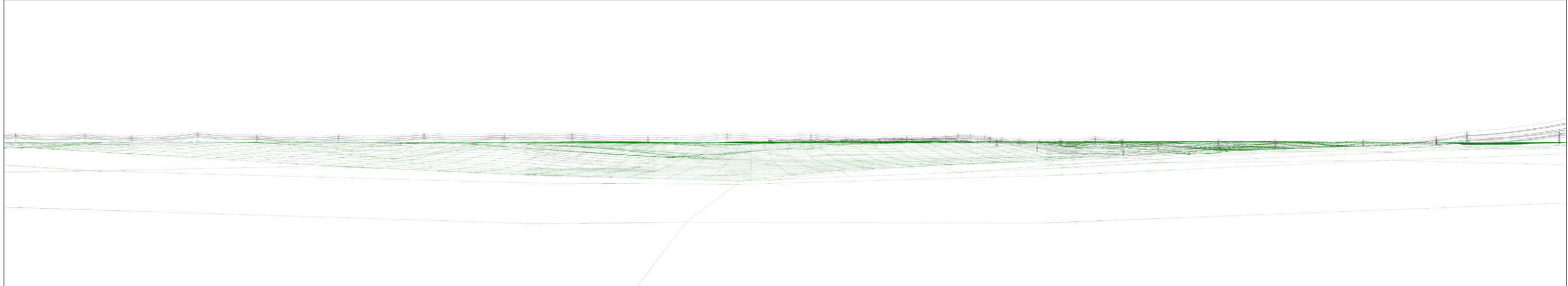
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and removal of 400kV pylons on the skyline would reduce the number of pylons present in the view and result in a beneficial change. However, the distance and presence of the existing 400kV overhead line would moderate the degree of beneficial effect. It is therefore anticipated that the magnitude of beneficial visual change would be **small**.

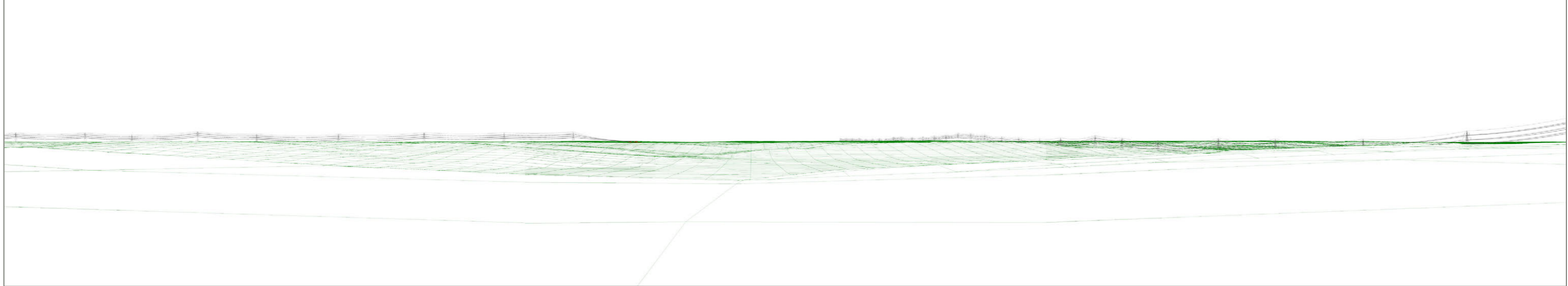
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The reduction in the number of pylons would continue to result in a beneficial change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

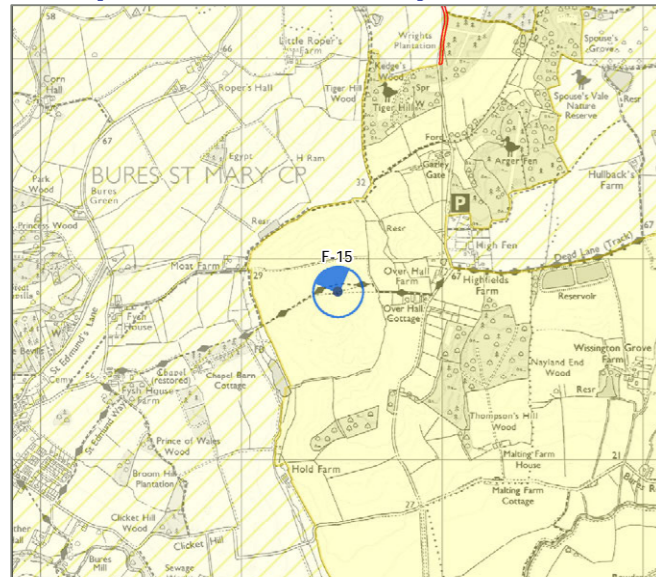


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



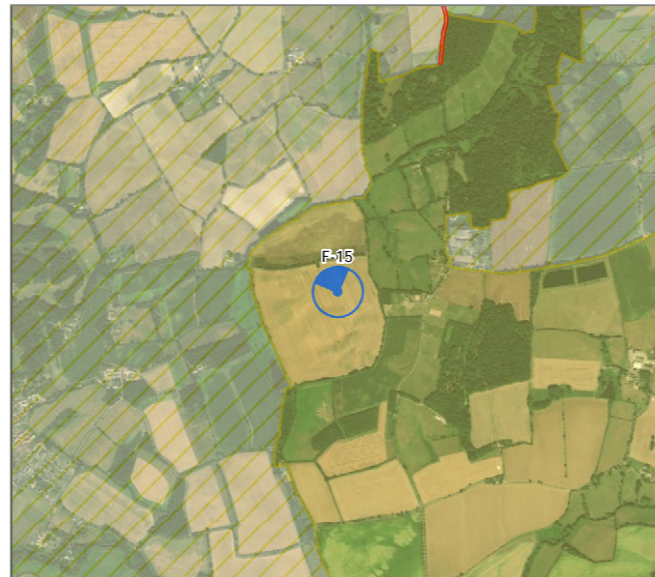
Viewpoint F-15: View from the St Edmund Way between Fysh House Farm and Over Hall Farm

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	592480, 234841 (51.978680, 0.801214)
Approx. Elevation	59m AOD
General Direction of View	N (338°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	2100m to LoD / 1240m to Order Limits
Time / Date	11.51 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located within the AONB and represents the views experienced by people using the local PRoW network which includes St Edmund Way. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

This viewpoint is located on St Edmund Way in the AONB. The large arable field in the foreground initially slopes gently away from the viewpoint towards an overgrown and gappy hedgerow, before inclining more steeply into a subsidiary valley of the River Stour which extends around the north-western edge of the AONB. The sloping landform obscures much of the mid-ground. Beyond the valley is gently rolling farmland which extends to a distant and low wooded horizon. Dwellings and farm buildings can be seen between the trees, including buildings associated with Roper's Hall and Little Roper's Farm in the centre of the view. Assington Thicks is noticeable on the distant horizon to the right of the view. The existing 132kV overhead line is seen on the distant horizon across much of the view, with the pylons variably obscured by the intervening landform and vegetation. The two telecommunications towers near Yorley Farm are also visible on the horizon in the centre of the view. Due to the extent of vegetation and the presence of the overgrown hedgerow in the foreground, there are seasonal variations, with more of the individual pylons being obscured in summer than in winter.

Value of view - **high**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint

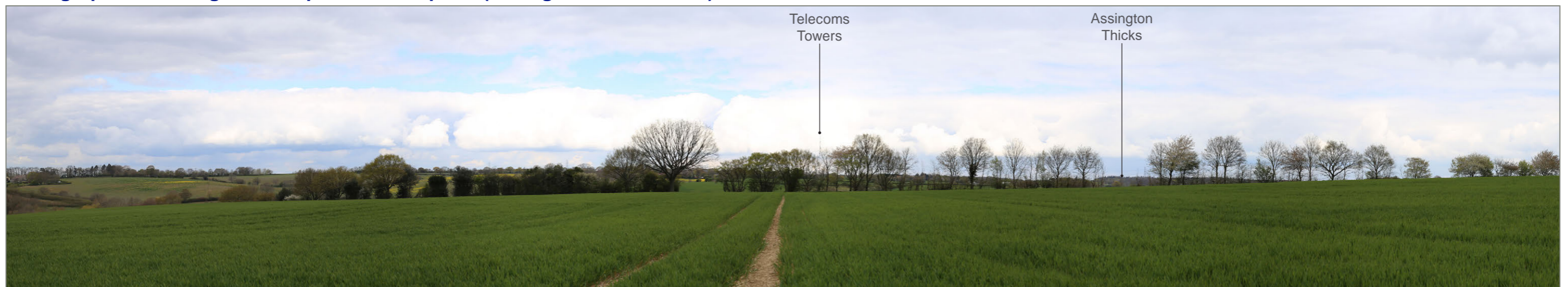


View west from the viewpoint along St Edmund Way, scattered residential properties visible in the distance.



View east from the viewpoint along St Edmund Way towards Over Hall Farm and Over Hall Cottage.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line and construction of the 400kV overhead line. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance these sites would be inconspicuous. Construction of the 400kV underground cables and Stour Valley East CSE compound would not be noticeable at this distance. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

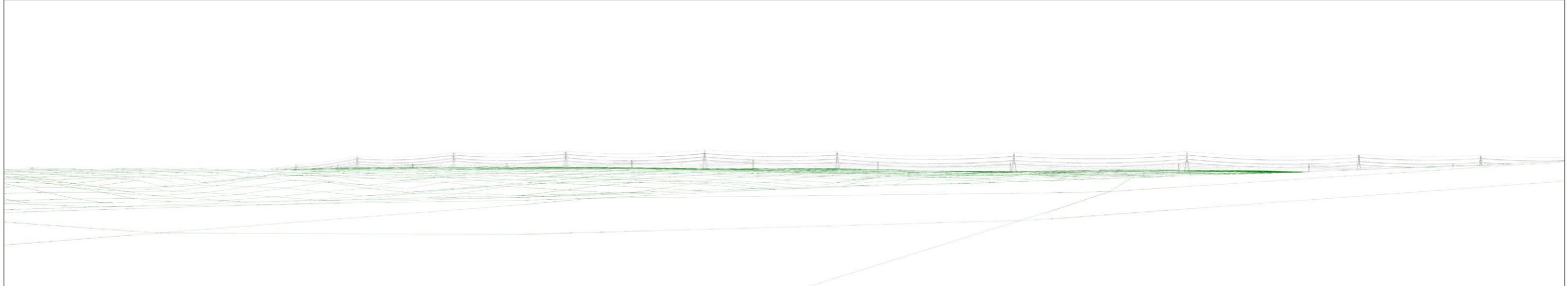
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

To the far left of the view, the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line in association with undergrounding through the Stour Valley would result in fewer pylons being present on the skyline, which would result in a beneficial change. However, across much of the view, the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead along broadly the same alignment means that larger and more noticeable 400kV pylons would be present in the view, resulting in an adverse change. There would however be substantial screening by the existing vegetation, particularly in the summer when the trees are in full foliage. On balance, due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **small**.

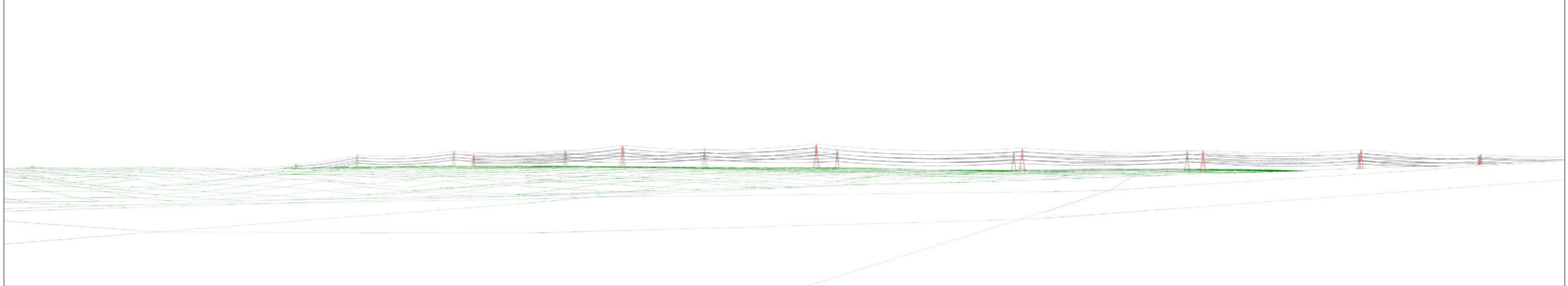
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

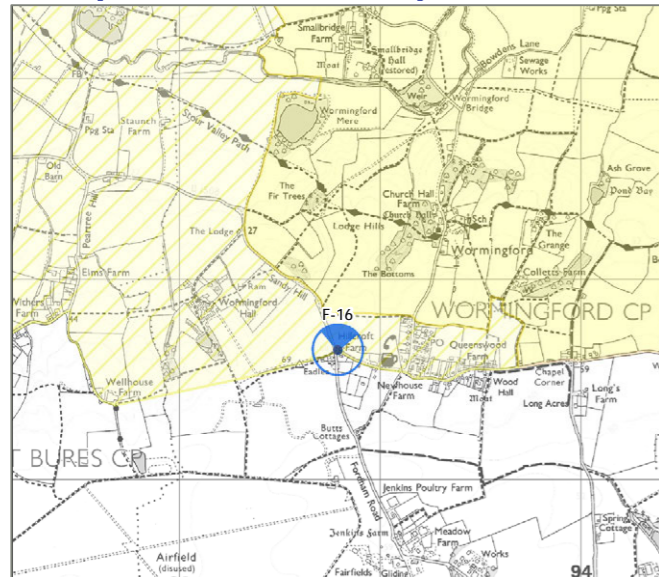


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



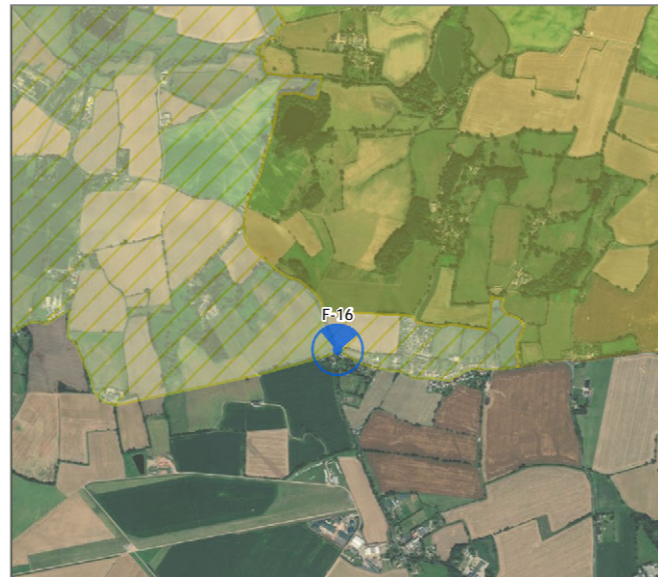
Viewpoint F-16: View from the B1508 Sandy Hill, to the West of Wormingford

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	592783, 231636 (51.949799, 0.80381896)
Approx. Elevation	68m AOD
General Direction of View	N (005°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	5310m to LoD / 4335m to Order Limits
Time / Date	10.11 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located just inside the AONB and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the community of Wormingford, and users of the local PRoW network in the SVPA. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

This viewpoint is located just inside the AONB at the junction of the B1508 and Fordham Road from where there are elevated panoramic views along the northern edge of the AONB and the broad shallow valley of the River Stour. Dwellings and farm buildings are dispersed throughout the farmland and together with the high coverage of hedgerows, trees and woodlands impart a settled rural quality to the view. To the left, buildings and St Mary's Church are just visible. The existing 132kV and more distant 400kV overhead lines are visible on the distant horizon across much of the view with the lower parts of the pylons variably obscured by the intervening landform and vegetation. Due to the extent of vegetation, there are seasonal variations, with more of the pylons being obscured in summer than in winter.

Value of view - **high**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View east of the viewpoint towards residential properties at the western edge of Wormingford.



View south-west from the viewpoint towards residential property Eadlea.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view but because of the intervening distance these sites would be inconspicuous. Works to construct the 400kV underground cables or CSE compounds would not be noticeable at this distance. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

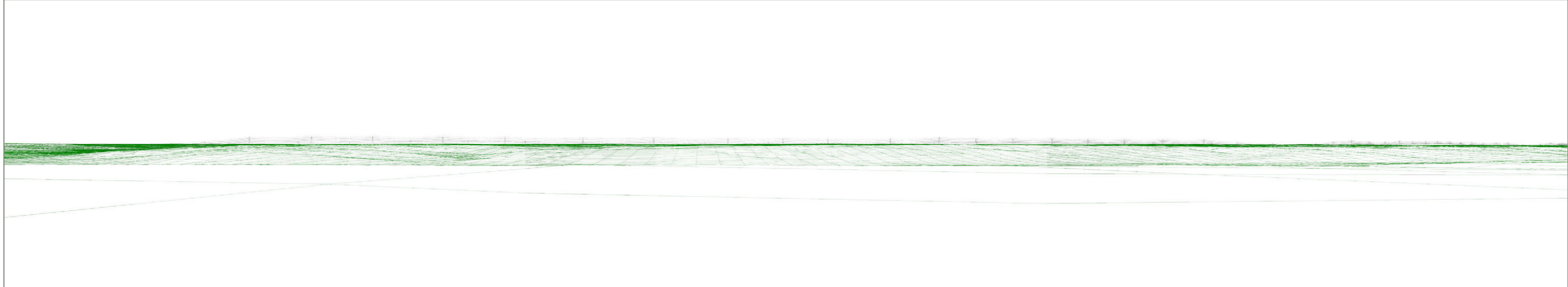
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

To the far left of the view, the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line in association with underground cables through the Stour Valley would result in fewer pylons being present on the skyline, which would result in a beneficial change. However, across much of the view, the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line along broadly the same alignment but slightly closer to the viewpoint means that larger and more noticeable 400kV pylons would be present in the view, resulting in an adverse change. There would however be substantial screening by the existing vegetation, particularly in the summer when the trees are in full foliage. On balance, due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **small**.

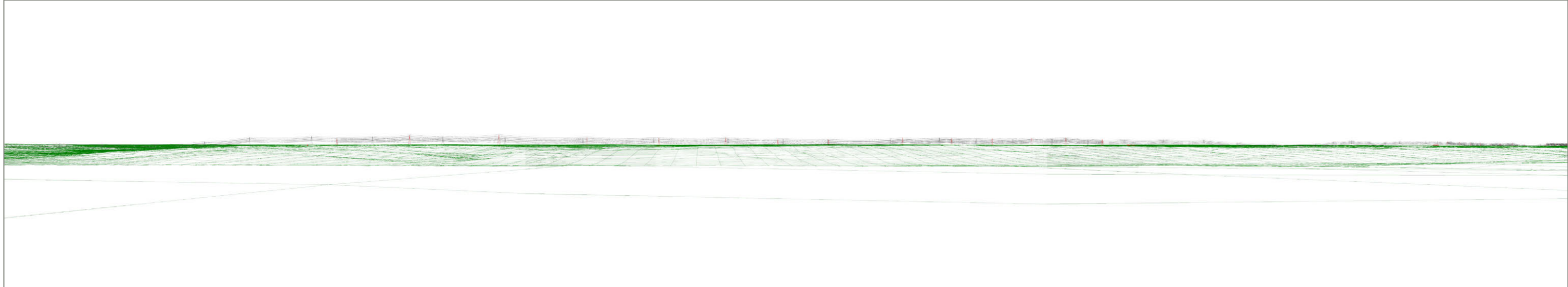
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly closer to the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

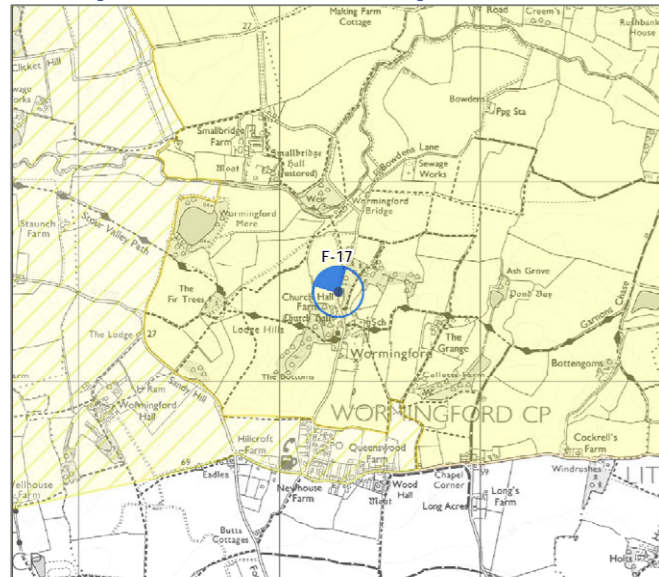


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-17: View from Church Road, to the North of Wormingford

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	593290, 232454 (51.956969, 0.811647)
Approx. Elevation	48m AOD
General Direction of View	NW (331°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	4555m to LoD / 3530m to Order Limits
Time / Date	10.30 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Moderate
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is within the AONB and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the community of Wormingford and users of the local PRow network, including the Stour Valley Path. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

This elevated location affords panoramic views across the Stour Valley and the rolling farmland of the AONB. Dwellings and farm buildings are dispersed throughout the farmland and together with the high coverage of hedgerows, trees and woodlands impart a settled rural quality to the view. The village of Bures and the tower of St Mary's Church can just be discerned amongst the trees to the left of the view. The existing 132kV and 400kV overhead lines are visible on the distant horizon across much of the view, with the lower parts of the pylons variably obscured by the intervening landform and vegetation. The two telecommunications towers near Yorley Farm are also visible on the horizon in the centre of the view. Due to the extent of vegetation, there are seasonal variations, with more of the individual pylons being obscured in summer than in winter.

Value of view - **high**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint

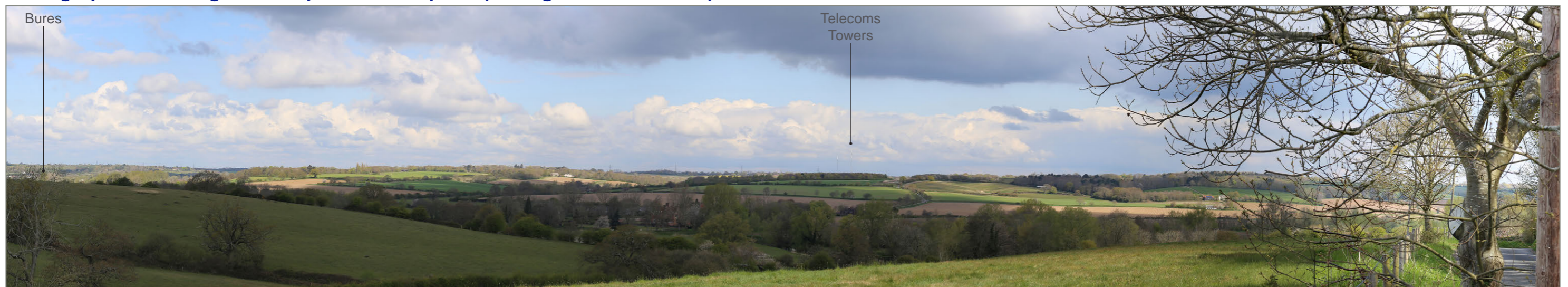


To the left of the view, the landform rises towards Church Hall Farm and The Bottoms.



View along Church Road to the right of the view.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line and construction of the 400kV overhead line. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across the horizon, but because of the intervening distance these sites would be inconspicuous. Due to the distance, construction of the underground cables/trenchless crossings and Stour Valley East CSE compound with its associated gantries would not be visible. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

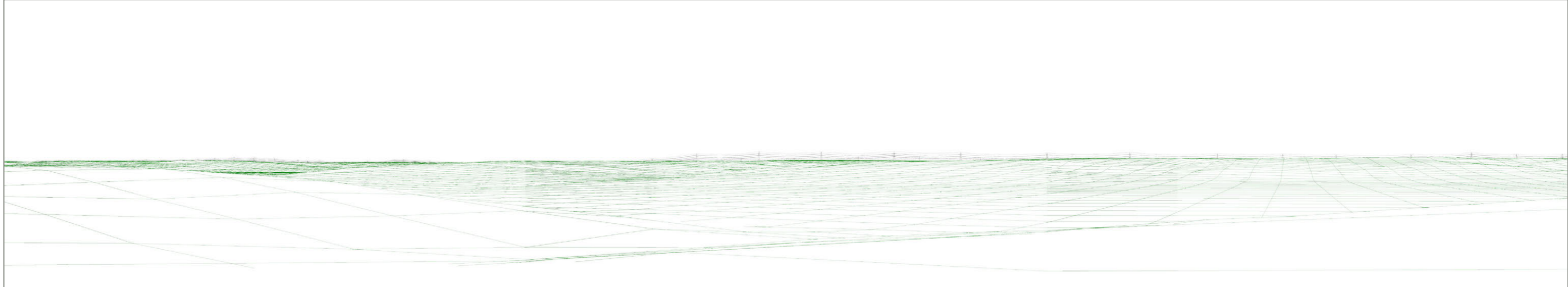
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

On the left side of the view, the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line in association with the underground cables/trenchless crossings would result in fewer pylons being present on the skyline, which would result in a beneficial change. To the right of the view, the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead along broadly the same alignment but slightly closer to the viewpoint, means that larger and more noticeable 400kV pylons would be present in the view, resulting in an adverse change. On balance, due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation it is anticipated that the overall change would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **small**.

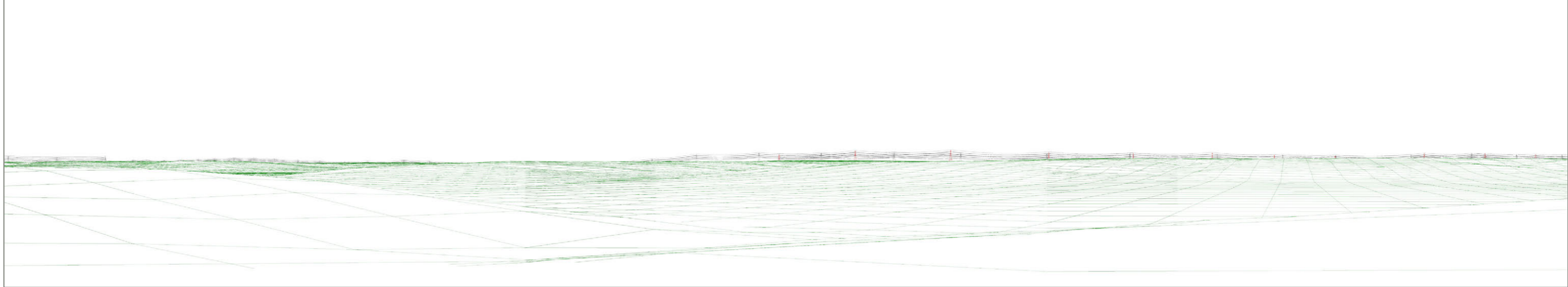
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly closer to the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

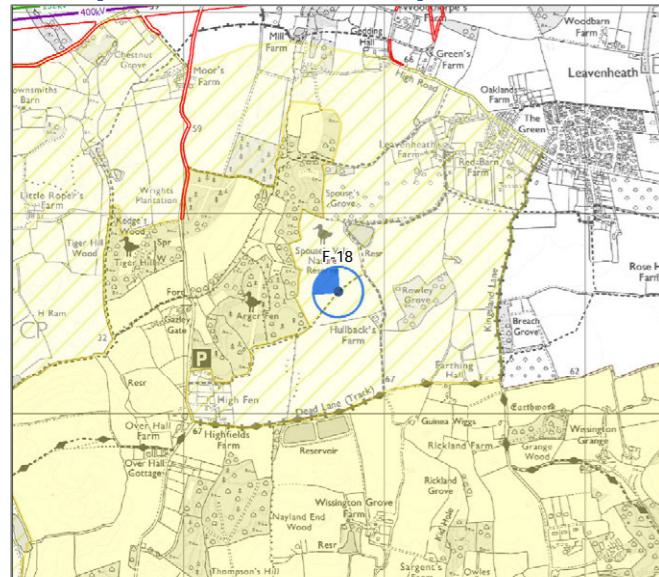


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-18: View Looking North-West from the PRow in Spouse's Vale Nature Reserve

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	593768, 235613 (51.985168, 0.820378)
Approx. Elevation	66m AOD
General Direction of View	NW (312°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	1460m to LoD / 850m to Order Limits
Time / Date	11.09 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located in the Stour Valley SLA close to the edge of the AONB. It represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the community of Wormingford, users of the local PRow network in the SVPA and visitors to Arger Fen and Spouse's Vale Local Nature Reserves. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The foreground comprises an informal path through an open area of grassland and scrub within Spouse's Vale Nature Reserve. The view becomes increasingly more wooded away from the viewpoint and the horizon is formed by mature woodland in the AONB, including Arger Fen, Tiger Hill Wood, Kedge's Wood, Wrights Plantation and Spouses Grove. The two telecommunications towers near Yorley Farm, and the tops of pylons on the existing 132kV overhead line and more distant 400kV overhead line, are visible above the trees in the centre of the view where the horizon is slightly lower. Due to the extent of vegetation, there are seasonal variations, with more of the individual pylons being obscured in summer than in winter.

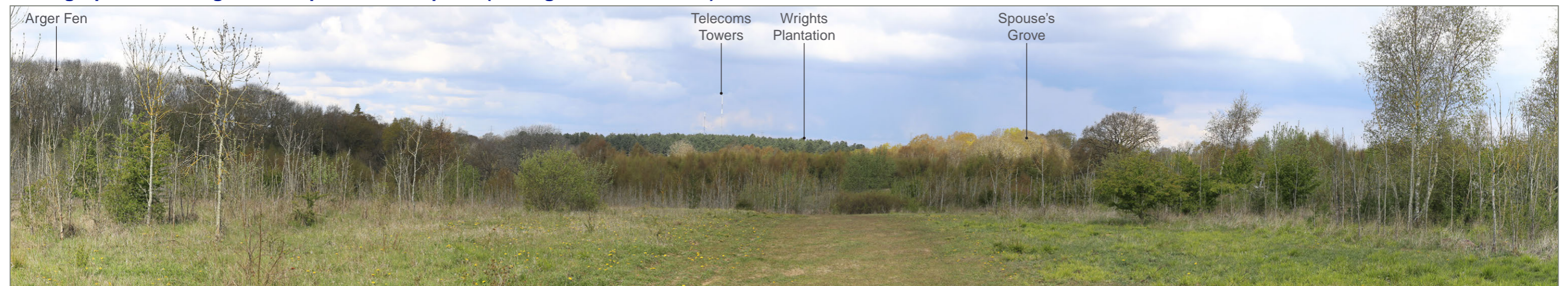
Value of view - **high**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north-east from the viewpoint along footpath showing vegetation in Spouse's Vale Nature Reserve which filters and screens views from many of the footpaths.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived on the distant horizon but would be mainly obscured by the intervening vegetation, particularly in summer when in full foliage. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

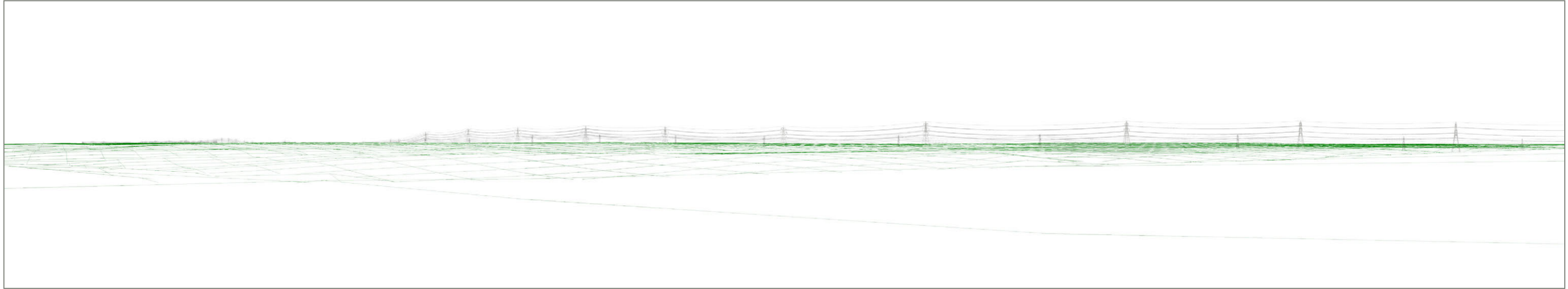
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line on broadly the same alignment but slightly closer to the viewpoint means that larger and more noticeable 400kV pylons would be present in the view, resulting in an adverse change. Due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **small**.

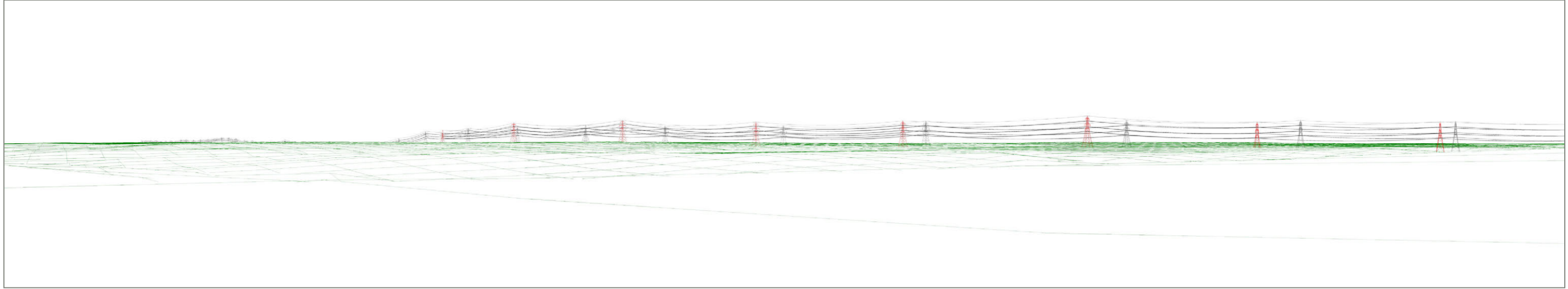
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly closer to the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of adverse visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

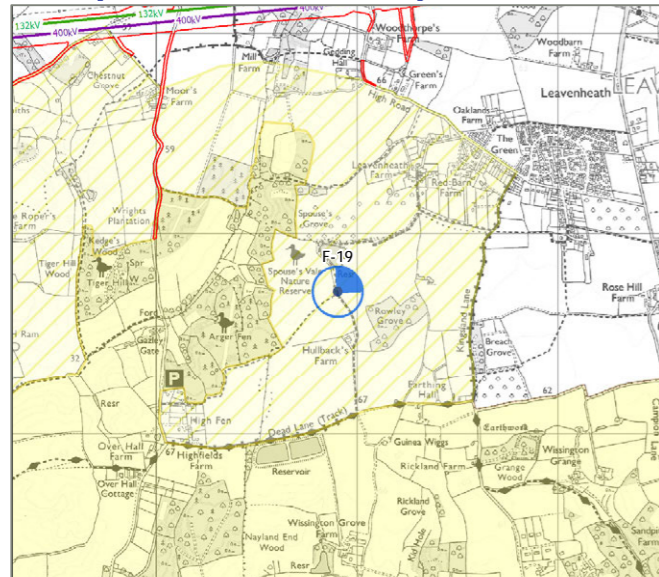


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-19: View Looking North-East from the PRow in Spouse's Vale Nature Reserve

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	593904, 235714 (51.986032, 0.822414)
Approx. Elevation	66m AOD
General Direction of View	NE (043°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	1365m to LoD / 940m to Order Limits
Time / Date	11.23 / 10 March 2022
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located within the Stour Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people living and moving around the community of Wormingford, users of the local PRow network within the SVPA and visitors to Arger Fen and Spouse's Vale Local Nature Reserves. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

This viewpoint is located close to the AONB. The foreground comprises an informal path through an open area of grassland in Spouse's Vale Nature Reserve. To the left of the view, the area is bordered by a tall hedgerow with trees, and to the right (out of view) by trees in Rowley Grove. The grassland extends into the mid-ground where views are contained by a tall field boundary hedgerow. The tops of two pylons on the existing 400kV overhead line can be glimpsed on the skyline above the trees to the centre-left of the view, with the lower parts of the pylons obscured by intervening vegetation. Due to the distribution of vegetation, there is some seasonal variation with more of the pylons visible in winter than in summer.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View north of the viewpoint along footpath in Spouse's Vale Nature Reserve.



Rowley Grove to the right of the view.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. It would be visible on the distant horizon but would be mainly obscured by the intervening vegetation. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

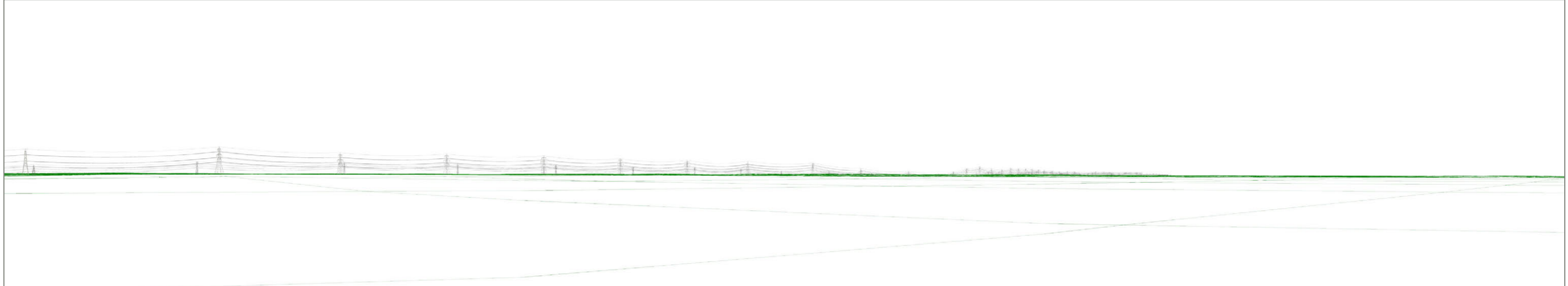
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line closer to the viewpoint means that larger and more noticeable 400kV pylons would be present in the view resulting in an adverse change. Due however to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, it is anticipated that the magnitude of visual change would be **negligible**.

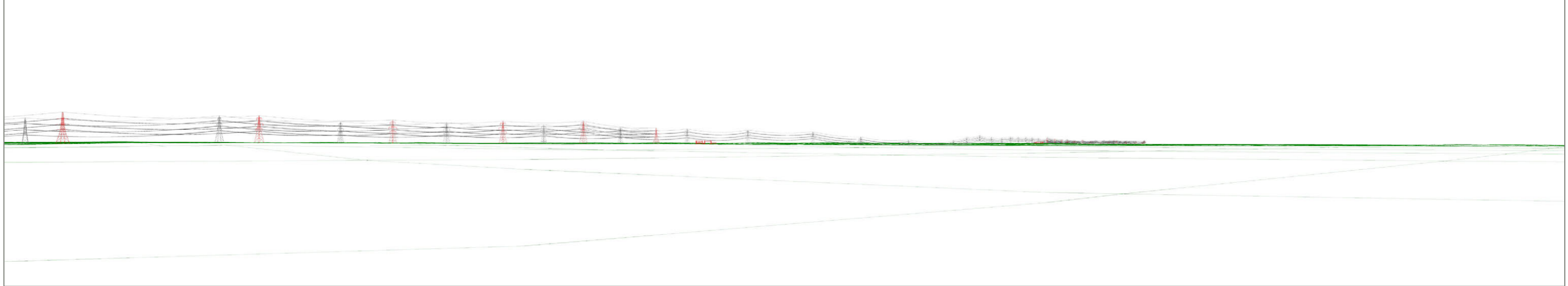
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly closer to the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **negligible** magnitude of adverse visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

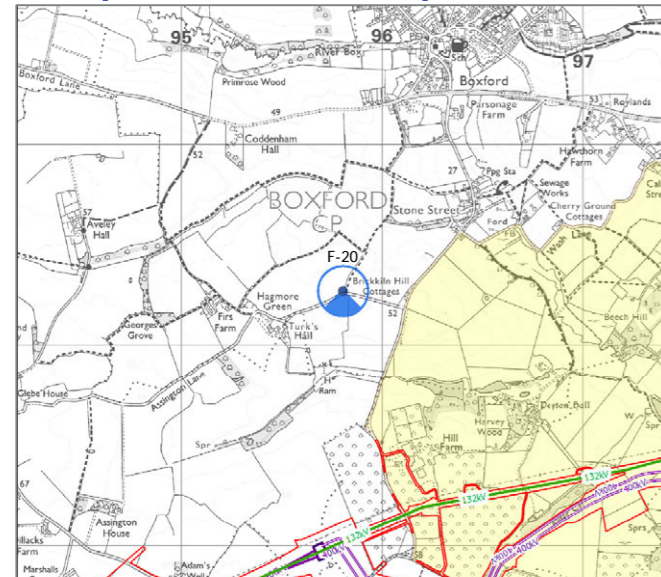


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



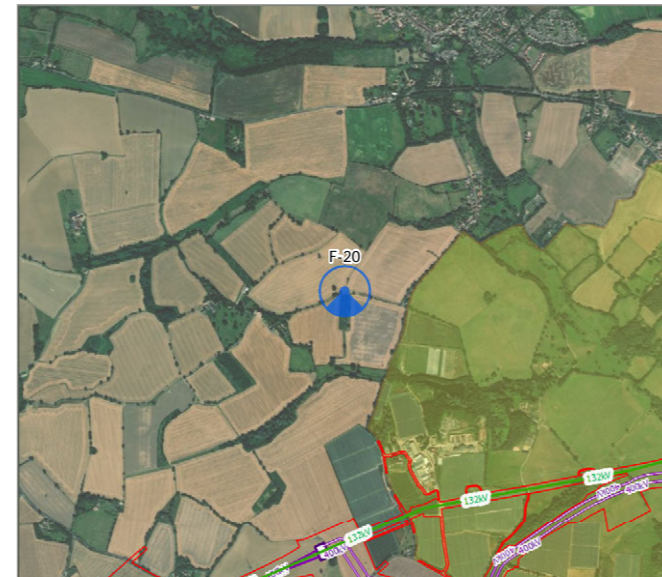
Viewpoint F-20: View from Assington Lane, to the East of Hagmore Green

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	595804, 239268 (52.017277, 0.852079)
Approx. Elevation	57m AOD
General Direction of View	S (180°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	1145m to LoD / 760m to Order Limits
Time / Date	12.03 / 27 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located within the Box Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people using the local PRow network. These receptors are of **medium** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

This viewpoint is located close to the AONB at the junction of a footpath with Assington Lane. The absence of a roadside hedgerow affords panoramic views across a large and gently rolling arable field towards the Box Valley. The sloping landform foreshortens mid-ground views of the valley and reduces the prominence of the large buildings and polytunnels associated with the Boxford Fruit Farm and Hill Farm. Woodland forms a distant horizon. On the left side of the view this includes Harvey Wood and woodland around Peyton Hall in the AONB. Both the 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead lines are present across the view, with the lower parts of the pylons variably obscured by the intervening vegetation. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees within the Box Valley increases and the existing pylons are slightly more obscured.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View west of the viewpoint along Assington Lane towards Hagmore Green and Turk's Hall.



View east from the viewpoint along Assington Lane towards Brick Kiln Cottages.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view on the horizon but because of the intervening distance these sites would be inconspicuous. Construction activities associated with the Dedham Vale West CSE compound would be distantly visible to the right of the fruit farm. Construction activities in this area would draw the eye but would be seen in the context of commercial farming activities. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **medium -small**.

Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

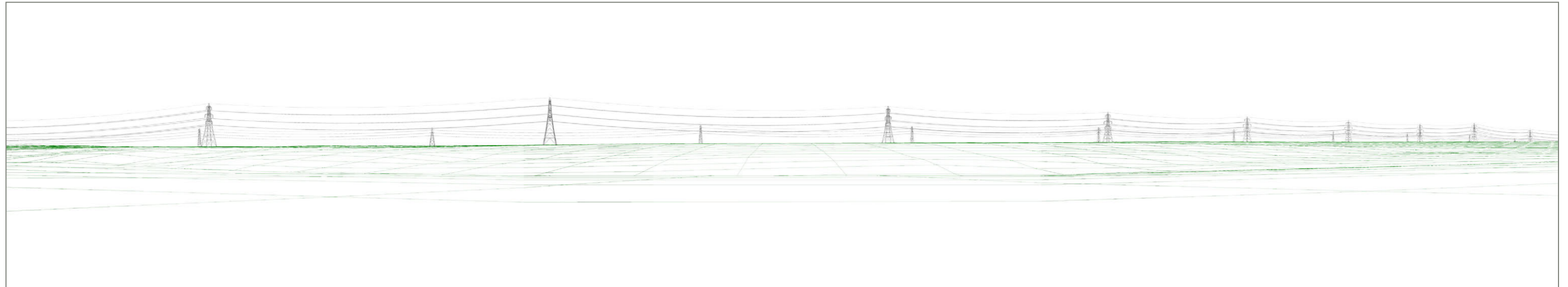
Across the left half of the view (above and to the left of the polytunnels), the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line in association with underground cables would result in fewer pylons being present, which would have a beneficial effect on views towards the AONB. Across the right half of the view, the removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line means that the larger 400kV pylons would be more noticeable despite being further from the viewpoint. This would result in an adverse change. The Dedham Vale West CSE compound would be visible to the centre of the view, but the gantries would be seen in the context of commercial fruit farm structures. Embedded planting around the CSE compound but be too immature to provide any screening or landscape integration. On balance, due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation,

it is anticipated that the overall change would be adverse, and the magnitude of visual change would be **small**.

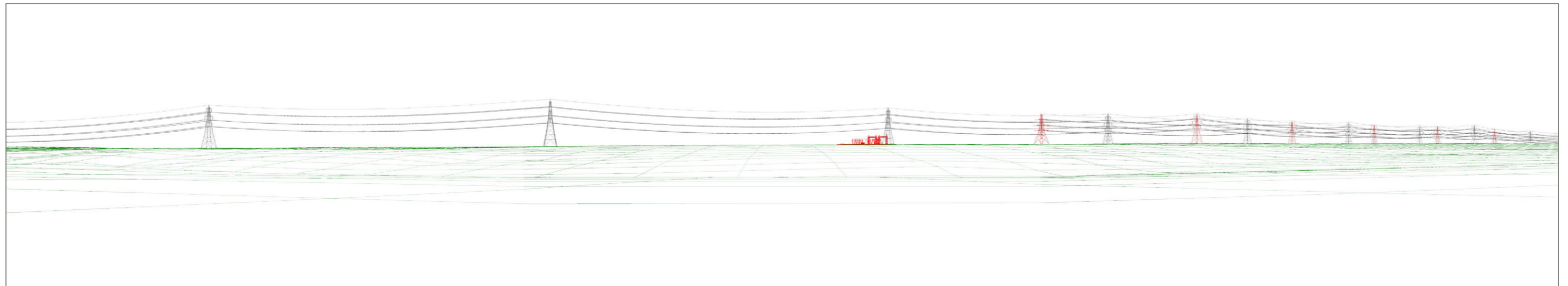
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

Embedded planting would screen and filter views of the Dedham Vale West CSE compound although the upper parts of the gantries would remain visible. The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

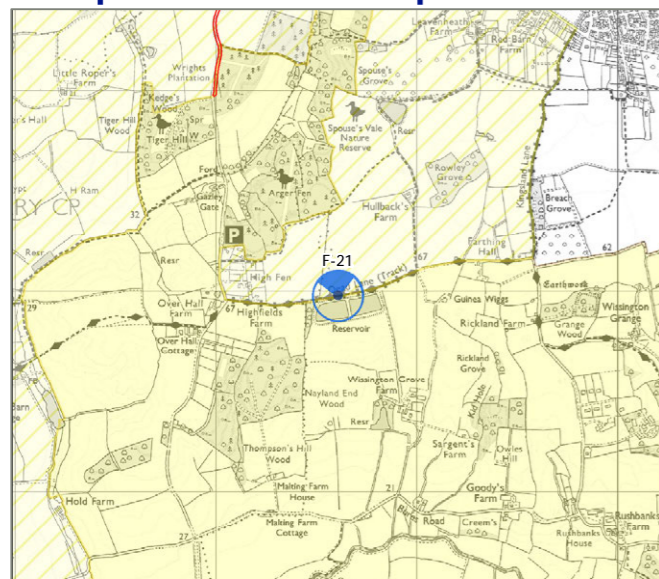


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



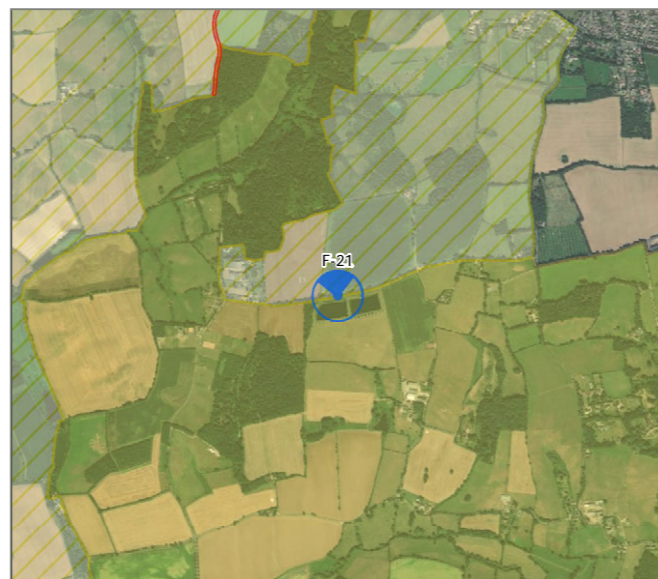
Viewpoint F-21: View from Dead Lane on the St Edmund Way

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	593606, 234980 (51.979545, 0.817664)
Approx. Elevation	68m AOD
General Direction of View	N (353°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	2075m to LoD / 1165m to Order Limits
Time / Date	11.27 / 29 April 2021
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located on the boundary of the AONB and Stour Valley SLA. It represents the views experienced by people using the local PRow network within the SVPA, which includes St Edmund Way. These receptors are of **high** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The foreground comprises a flat arable field bordered by hedgerows with trees. This extends into the mid-ground where woodland in the AONB forms the horizon on the left side of the view. One of the telecommunications towers near Yorley Farm is just visible above the trees associated with Arger Fen. To the right of the view is Hullsback Farm which is seen against a backdrop of Rowley Grove. The tops of pylons on the 132kV overhead line are distantly visible above the trees in Spouse's Vale Nature Reserve whilst the conductors on the 400kV line are discernible beyond. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases and the existing pylons are slightly more obscured.

Value of view - **high**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint

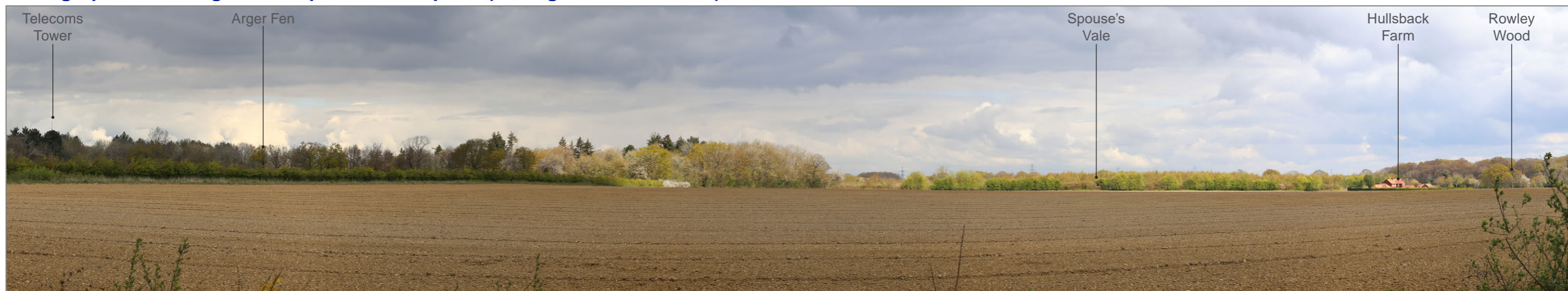


Winter view of existing pylons shows how they integrate with the vegetation.



Views along this section of footpath vary, with vegetation filtering many views.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be perceived as a series of discrete sites across a wide angle of view above the distant wooded horizon but because of the intervening distance they would be inconspicuous. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

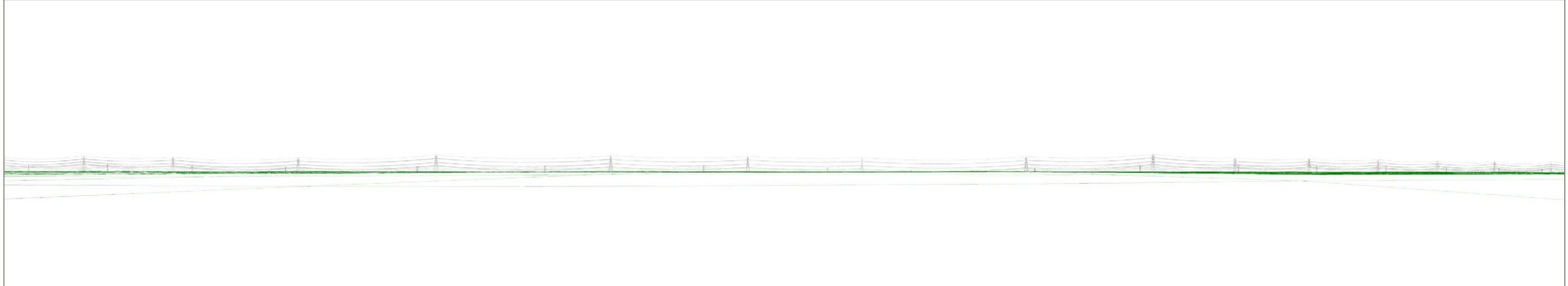
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line along broadly the same alignment but slightly closer to the viewpoint means that larger and more noticeable 400kV pylons would be present in the view. This would result in an adverse change but, due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation, it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **small**.

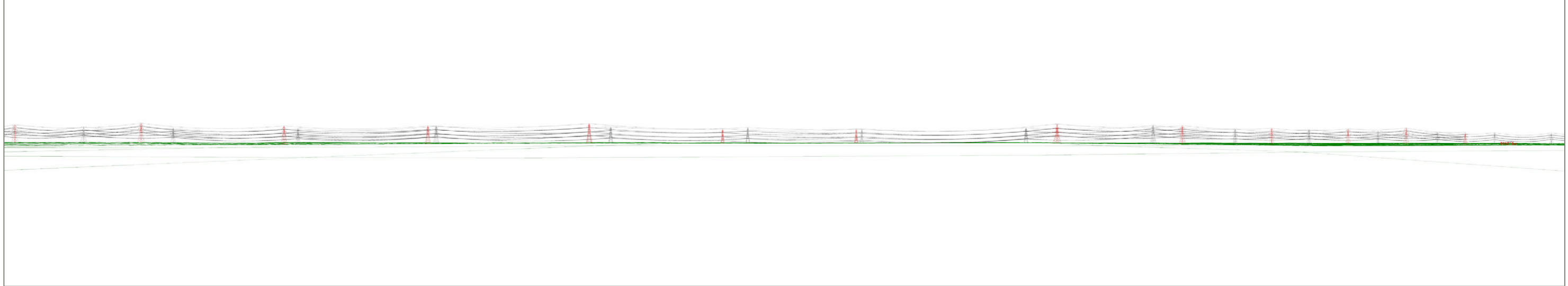
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly closer to the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore the **small** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

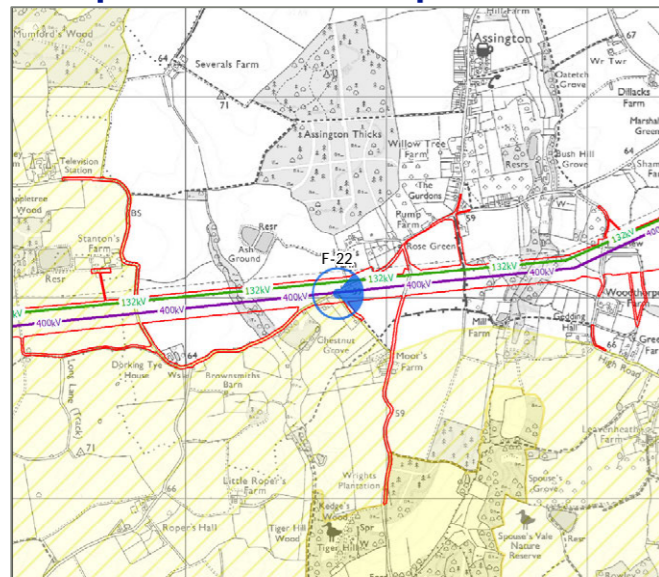


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-22: View from the PRow off B1508, South of Assington

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	592758, 237024 (51.998187, 0.806485)
Approx. Elevation	58m AOD
General Direction of View	E (088°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	0m to LoD / 0m to Order Limits
Time / Date	11.43 / 8 March 2022
Weather / Visibility	Clear / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint is located within the Stour Valley SLA and represents the views experienced by people using the local PRow network and The Painters Trail, which are partly within the SVPA, and users of the B1508. These receptors are of **medium** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The large arable field slopes gently up away from the viewpoint and the rising landform contains many mid-ground views. Long-range views comprise woodland interspersed with occasional dwellings and farm buildings. Multiple pylons on both the 132kV and more distant 400kV overhead line are visible to the left of the view where they are seen on the skyline. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases and the existing pylons are more obscured.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View looking west from the viewpoint showing the prominence of the existing overhead lines heading towards the Stour Valley.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

This viewpoint is located in the Order Limits. Receptors would have foreground views of the dismantling of the existing 132kV overhead line and construction of the new 400kV overhead line, which includes the installation of a new pylon in the middle of the arable field in the foreground. Although, construction activities would be temporary, short term, and reversible, the proximity of the viewpoint to the works would result in a **medium** magnitude of adverse visual change.

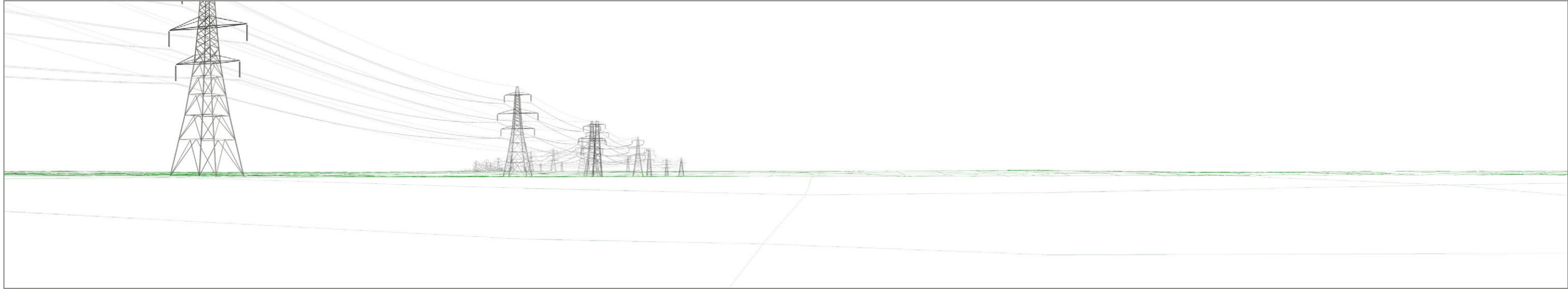
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line, which would require a new pylon in the middle of the field, means that pylons would be larger and more prominent in the view and would appear to be stacked against one another. The conductors would overfly the viewpoint. The new 400kV pylons would not fundamentally change the character of the view as pylons are a characteristic of the baseline. Due to the proximity of the new 400kV pylons and the absence of any screening vegetation, it is anticipated that there would be an adverse change to the view and the magnitude of visual change would be **medium**.

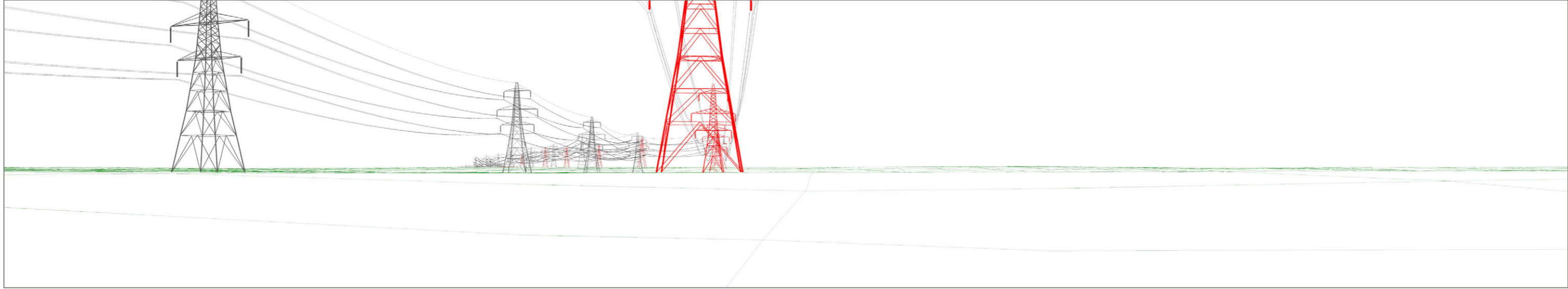
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **medium** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

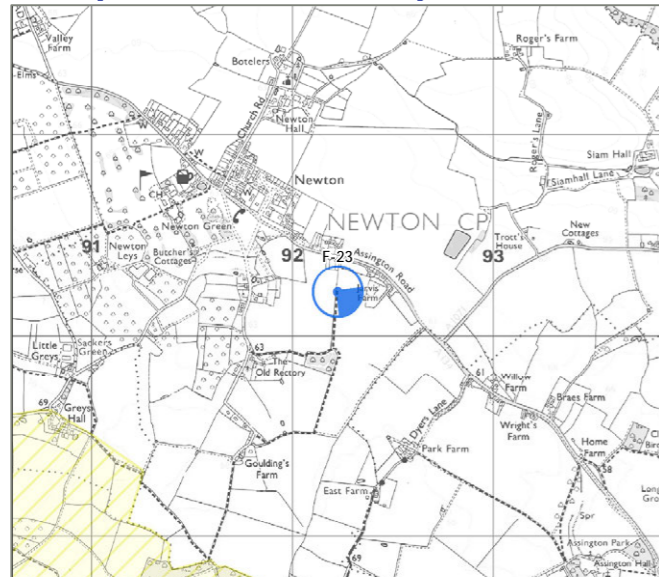


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



Viewpoint F-23: View from the PRow South-East of Newton

Viewpoint Location Map



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Aerial Photo



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Reasons for Selection

- Local Community
- Road Network
- National Cycle Network
- Local Cycle Route
- National/Regional Trail
- Public Right of Way
- Landscape Designation
- Heritage Asset
- Promoted Viewpoint

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	592226, 240221 (52.027084, 0.800529)
Approx. Elevation	63m AOD
General Direction of View	SE (128°)
Approx. Distance to the Project	3180m to LoD / 2690m to Order Limits
Time / Date	16.21 / 8 March 2022
Weather / Visibility	Overcast / Good
Camera	Canon EOS 6D, Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

This viewpoint represents the views experienced by people using the local PRow network. These receptors are of **medium** susceptibility to the project.

Description of Visual Baseline

The large, open and relatively flat arable field in the foreground extends into the mid-ground where a farm building in the centre of the view is the most prominent feature. Jarvis Farm on Assington Road can be seen in the trees to the left of the view. Long-range views comprise woodland interspersed with occasional dwellings and farm buildings. The tops of pylons on the 400kV and more distant 132kV overhead line are just visible on the horizon above the woodland. In summer, the screening afforded by the hedgerows and trees in the mid-ground increases and the existing pylons are slightly more obscured.

Value of view - **medium**

Supplementary Photos from Viewpoint



View of the A134 showing the other buildings associated with Jarvis Farm to the north of the viewpoint.



Further south of the viewpoint, hedgerows and woodland blocks limit longer distance views.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Construction Year

Receptors would have long-range views of the upper parts of the taller equipment used to dismantle the existing 132kV overhead line and construct the 400kV overhead line, but this would only be present at each pylon location for a short period of time. The works would be visible on the distant horizon beyond the existing 400kV overhead line and would be mainly obscured by the intervening vegetation. Works to construct Dedham Vale West CSE compound would be not be visible at this distance. Overall, it is anticipated that the change to the view would be adverse, and the magnitude of change would be **negligible**.

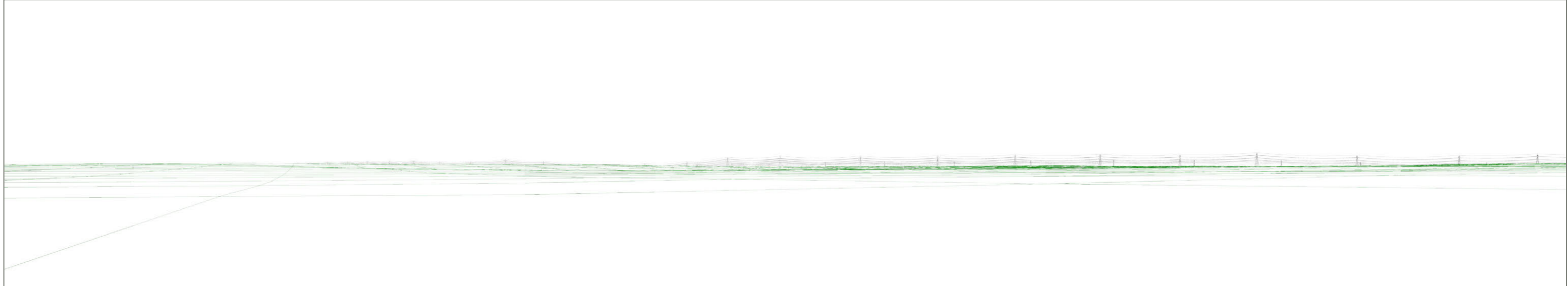
Operation - Year 1 (Without Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line means that the larger 400kV pylons would be more noticeable despite being further from the viewpoint. This would result in an adverse change. Given however that the existing 400kV pylons would still be present across the view and due to the distance and presence of intervening vegetation it is anticipated that the magnitude of adverse visual change would be **negligible**.

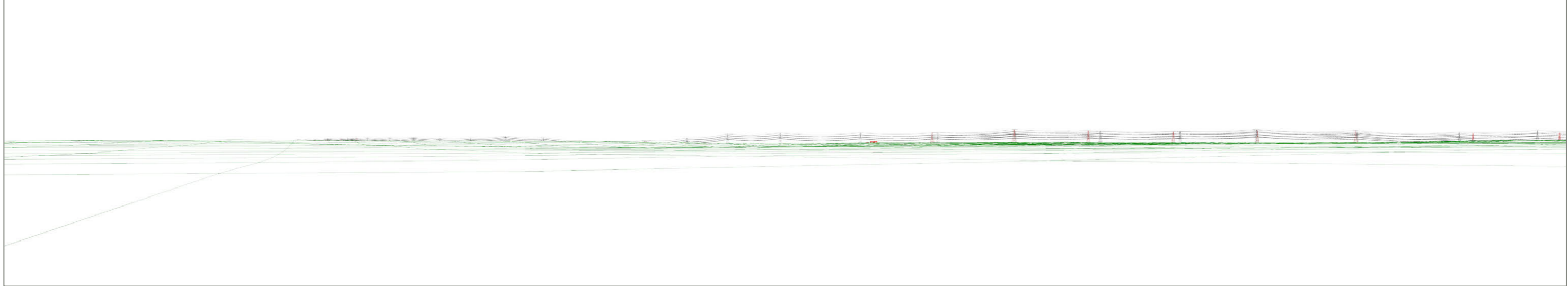
Operation - Year 15 (With Mitigation)

The removal of the existing 132kV overhead line and presence of the new 400kV overhead line slightly further from the viewpoint would continue to result in an overall adverse change and therefore, the **negligible** magnitude of visual change described for Year 1 would continue to be experienced by receptors.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)



Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



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