AQUIND Limited

AQUIND INTERCONNECTOR

Environmental Statement – Volume 3 – Appendix 15.8 Assessment of Landscape and Visual Effects

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APPENDIX 15.8 ASSESSMENT OF LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL EFFECTS

1.1. INTRODUCTION

1.1.1.1. There is no mitigation proposed beyond that which is embedded, therefore the assessment below is an assessment of residual effects. For the sake of legibility reference to residual effects is not repeated in this Appendix.

1.2. STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

1.2.1.1. This section is divided into:

- **Construction:** covering the short-term and temporary effects arising from construction activities including the presence of Laydown Area/Works Compound as referred to in section 15.3.6, Chapter 15 (Landscape and Visual Amenity) of the ES Volume 1 (document reference 6.1.15), specific construction impacts. The long-term permanent effects that occur progressively during the construction period but which persist through the operational period, such as the removal of trees and hedges are considered under the operational period effects.
- **Operational Period:** covering the long-term permanent effects that persist through the operational period, specifically the existence of the Converter Station, ORS and associated infrastructure and the removal of trees and hedges. As noted at section 15.3.6.3, Chapter 15 (Landscape and Visual Amenity), to take into account the development of mitigation planting, the effects are considered at year 0, year 10 (planting would have reached a maximum height of 8 m) and year 20 (tallest parts of the planting would have reached a height of 13 m). Also, as noted in Table 1 (above), operational period effects of the underground cable are scoped out, given the very limited above ground features proposed.
- **Decommissioning:** covering the landscape and visual effects of demolishing and removing the Converter Station and the ORS at the Landfall.

1.2.1.2. In all cases below, the assessment is based on a worst-case scenario for the Converter Station considering whichever of Options B(i) and B(ii) have the greater effect at a specific receptor area or location in the case of visual receptors. It should also be noted that as both options would have the same effect on landscape character, except very locally where Option B(ii) would avoid the removal of the existing hedgerow an important landscape feature.

1.2.1.3. The assessment also took a worst-case approach to the Onshore Cable Route and Landfall where there would be a range of views experienced by receptors, the "worst case" being those receptors likely to have direct open views of the Proposed Development.

1.2.1.4. Where 'the Converter Station' is referred to, in phrases such as 'views of the Converter Station' or 'distance from the Converter Station' that refers, respectively, to whichever of Options B(i) and B(ii) would be more visible or is the nearest.

1.2.1.5. The assessment took into consideration the current and future baseline.

1.2.2. SENSITIVITY

1.2.2.1. Details of how sensitivity of different receptors is derived is given in detail in Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) of the ES Volume 3 (document reference 6.3.15.3), summarised here for convenience.

1.2.2.2. Landscape sensitivity is the combination of judgements relating to the susceptibility to a type of change or development proposed and the value attached to the landscape.

1.2.2.3. Susceptibility and value can be combined in different ways although it is generally accepted that a combination of high susceptibility and high value is likely to result in the highest sensitivity, whereas a low susceptibility and low value is likely to result in the lowest level of sensitivity. If there is a reduction or increase in sensitivity the reasons for a variation in landscape value need to be justified. As noted in GLVIA3 (paragraph 5.45) there can be complex relationships between the value attributed to a landscape and its susceptibility to change, which can be particularly important when considering a change to / or in close proximity of a designated landscape.

1.2.2.4. Landscape character receptors include the setting of the SDNP, national and local landscape character areas or types and local landscape features ranging from landform and landuse to tranquillity.

1.2.2.5. Visual sensitivity is a function of both the susceptibility of the receptor to the change proposed and the value attached to particular views. As GVLIA3 states in paragraph 6.31

> *"[I]t is important to remember at the outset that visual receptors are all people. Each visual receptor, meaning the particular person or group of people likely to be affected at a specific viewpoint, should be assessed in terms of both their susceptibility to change in views and visual amenity and also the value attached to particular views".*

1.2.2.6. Susceptibility is mainly a function of the occupation or activity of the people who experience the view and the degree to which visual amenity is important to them. The value of views may be recognised in planning designations, highlighted in literature, tourist information or maps, or shown on the ground by interpretive material or the provision of parking.

1.2.2.7. All residential receptors are considered to be of high sensitivity because for most people the view from their home is very important. However, the magnitude of change they would experience varies depending on their location, orientation and proximity to the Proposed Development, as well as the extent of intervening built form, vegetation and topography.

1.2.2.8. Recreational receptors may be of high to low sensitivity depending on the nature of the route or location, the nature of the landscape and the people's reasons for being there. For the purposes of this assessment, recreational receptors have been grouped as follows:

- **Scenic routes and recognised viewpoints:** Users are considered to be of high sensitivity as these are particularly valued locations.
- **Public Rights of Way ('PRoWs'):** Users are considered to be of medium sensitivity.
- **Cycling Routes:** Users are considered to be of medium sensitivity.
- Transport receptors are considered to be of medium to low sensitivity depending on the nature of the route.

1.2.3. STUDY AREA

1.2.3.1. Direct landscape character effects diminish with distance whilst indirect effects such as those associated within inter visibility are dependent on the level of visual screening considering topography and intervening vegetation / built form.

1.2.3.2. Visual effects reduce with distance as the scale of the change within the overall view diminishes and the Proposed Development is seen in context with immediate and wider surroundings.

1.2.3.3. For the Converter Station, an 8 km radius study area was agreed for the consideration of national / county and district level landscape character assessments and long-distance views. A 3 km radius was agreed for detailed consideration of local district and city landscape character visual amenity and a 1.2 km radius study area was also defined to determine the visual amenity effects on local residential receptors.

1.2.3.4. For the Converter Station, the visual assessment was based on the study areas defined above using Option B(i). Figures 15.45, Figure 15.46 and 15.47 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.45, 6.2.15.46 and 6.2.15.47) present ZTV's showing the visual extent for both Options B(i) and B(ii) in addition to the location of / or routes for key visual receptors. Visual receptors were divided into the following categories:

- Receptors between 3 and 8 km of the Converter Station;
- Receptors between 1.2 and 3 km of the Converter Station; and
- Receptors within a 1.2 km radius of the Converter Station.

1.2.3.5. For the cable route a 120 m study area from the Onshore Cable Corridor was defined and a 300 m study area for the Landfall. As referred to in Appendix 15.1 (Consultation Responses) of the ES Volume 3 (document reference 6.3.15.1) the study area for the Landfall excluded by agreement seascape characterisation and coastline including Eastney Beach.

1.3. SECTION 1 - LOVEDEAN (CONVERTER STATION AREA): CONSTRUCTION STAGE

1.3.1. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER – CONSTRUCTION

SDNP/District/City Landscape Character Area/Types

1.3.1.1. The landscape character assessment focused on the following district and city level LCTs/LCAs plus where relevant the SDNPs LCA within a 3 km study area:

- SDNP D Downland Mosaic;
- WCC 17 Hambledon Downs;
- WCC 18 Forest of Bere;
- EHDC 10 Wooded Claylands; and

SDNP D Downland Mosaic

1.3.1.2. Whilst the Converter Station sits outside the SDNP it lies close to the edge of D2 Hambledon and Clanfield Downland Mosaic and forms part of the secondary escarpment which includes Old Winchester Hill and Butser Hill further east.

1.3.1.3. The landscape is of high sensitivity. Whilst there would be no direct impacts, there would be indirect perceptual/experiential impacts associated with inter visibility which would be particularly noticeable immediately on the edge of the SDNP's boundary and from specific areas of higher ground forming the secondary escarpment. During construction the LVIA considers that the magnitude of change is small – negligible; the surrounding hedgerows providing sufficient screening for construction activities. This would result in a minor-moderate (significant based on proximity) to negligible adverse indirect temporary short-term localised (not significant based on distance) effects.

WCC 17 Hambledon Downs

1.3.1.4. At a more local level, the western half of the Converter Station Area sits within the eastern edge of WCC LCA 17 Hambledon Downs and LCT W2 Chalk and Clay Farmlands which extends across the second escarpment in a northwesterly direction. Running north-south lie LCA 17 LCT W4 Scarp and W5 Open Arable which both sit outside the Converter Station Area.

1.3.1.5. The landscape is of high to medium sensitivity; sensitivity levels increasing progressively away from the Converter Station Area as the SDNP exerts an influence in terms of condition and management. The landscape within which the Converter Station sits is of medium sensitivity (LCT 17 W2).

1.3.1.6. The magnitude of change would range from medium (LCT 17 W2) within the Converter Station Area (resulting from moderate changes in a localised area and which would form a small proportion of the overall landscape character type) to small - negligible elsewhere (LCT 17 W2 and W5). This would generate respectively direct moderate adverse temporary short-term localised (significant) effects and indirect minor-moderate to negligible adverse temporary short-term localised (not significant) effects. Effects associated with the latter relate to indirect perceptual / experiential impacts associated with inter visibility and tranquillity. LCT 17 W4 would not experience any indirect effects, the scarp sloping down in a northerly direction away from the Converter Station Area.

EHDC LCT 3: Downland Mosaic:

1.3.1.7. The eastern part of the Converter Station Area which includes the Access Road to the Converter Station would sit within LCT 3 Downland Mosaic LCA 3fi: Horndean Clanfield Edge. Further north and east on higher more undulating ground are LCA 3ai Clanfield Enclosed forming the lower dip slopes, at a lower elevation and with a greater proportion of woodland and 3aii Clanfield Open which relates to the escarpment, consists of open fields and includes Butser Hill.

1.3.1.8. The landscape is of high (3ai and 3aii) to medium (3fi) sensitivity; sensitivity levels increasing progressively away from the Converter Station Area as the SDNP exerts an influence in terms of condition and management. The landscape within which the Access Road sits is of medium sensitivity (3fI).

1.3.1.9. The magnitude of change would be medium within the Converter Station Area (covering construction and Laydown Areas / Works Compounds to the north and south of the road and Access Road) and resulting from a moderate change in a localised area and which would form a small proportion of the overall landscape character area. Elsewhere the magnitude of change would be small-negligible. Effects generated during construction would be direct moderate adverse temporary short-term localised (significant) effects and indirect minor-moderate adverse temporary short-term localised (not significant) effects, respectively. The latter resulting from indirect perceptual / experiential impacts associated with inter visibility and tranquillity.

EHDC LCT 10 Wooded Claylands – LCA 10a Havant Thicket and Southleigh Forest:

1.3.1.10. The landscape to the east and southeast of the Converter Station and forming part of 10a is a densely wooded landscape, part of a relic fragment of the Forest of Bere and heavily enclosed. Inter visibility with other character areas is restricted by woodland or pasture with a wooded skyline beyond. LCA 10a falls outside of the SDNP.

1.3.1.11. The sensitivity of this LCA is medium and magnitude of change is small to negligible/no change. Whilst there would be no direct effects on this LCA, there would be indirect perceptual/experiential effects associated with inter visibility but these are only likely to be concentrated to the southwest of the LCA partially screened by layers of intervening trees in the foreground. During construction it is considered that there would be an indirect minor to negligible adverse temporary short-term localised (not significant) effect.

WCC 18 Forest of Bere Lowlands:

1.3.1.12. The landscape to the south and southwest of the Converter Station wraps around Denmead and covers both W1 Mixed Farmland and Woodland (Open) and W3 Mixed Farmland and Woodland (Enclosed). It falls outside the SDNP.

1.3.1.13. It is considered that this landscape is of medium sensitivity. Whilst there would be no direct effects on the LCA there would be indirect effects associated with the perceptual / experiential qualities of this character and relating to inter visibility.

1.3.1.14. Although the ZTVs indicates that there are views across to the Converter Station, inter visibility from publicly accessible locations is low given the nature of the well wooded lanes and surrounding vegetation. On this basis the magnitude of change is small and there would be an indirect minor adverse temporary, short-term localised (not significant) effect.

Setting of the SDNP

1.3.1.15. The setting of the SDNP within 3 km of the Converter Station has been considered in Appendix 15.5 (South Downs National Park) of the ES Volume 3 (document reference 6.3.15.5) and would be of medium sensitivity on the basis that inter visibility is localised to short distance views and partially screened in middle distance views by intervening vegetation in the foreground. Furthermore, there is also a transition in landscape quality and condition resulting in scope for some landscape change.

1.3.1.16. The magnitude of change would be medium (resulting from moderate changes in a localised area) generating a moderate adverse indirect temporary short-term localised (significant) effect.

Specific Local Landscape Features (drawn from the local landscape character):

1.3.1.17. It is considered that the sensitivity of local landscape features would range from medium to low and that the magnitude of change would vary from medium to negligible / no change. The effect on each local landscape feature which contributes to local landscape character is summarised below:

Landform

1.3.1.18. The gently sloping landform would be altered because of construction activities. Through a cut and fill exercise the finished platform level would be created for the Converter Station cutting into the slope at the northern side and raising existing ground levels to the south. The Access Road would be raised slightly and attenuation ponds created.

1.3.1.19. Reprofiling of land would take place to provide some visual screening to the north and south of the Converter Station utilising fill from on site and there would be temporary stock piles positioned where feasible to form partial screens to construction activities.

1.3.1.20. The sensitivity of the existing landform is medium on the basis it forms a continuation of the undulating topography north and west and part of the dip slope within the SDNP. Magnitude of change is medium resulting in a direct moderate adverse permanent long-term localised (significant) effect.

1.3.1.21. For a future baseline it is assumed that landform on National Grid land would alter to accommodate the Lovedean Substation extension. Works would be concentrated within a localised area and whilst the extent of reprofiling may be slightly greater than the current baseline it would not alter the level of effect.

Landuse

1.3.1.22. The Converter Station Area would result in the loss of pasture and arable land for both options which is of medium sensitivity in this location. Farmland is a typical feature in this landscape character area and would either be lost temporarily or permanently to accommodate the construction and Laydown Area. Works Compound, Access Road, Telecommunications Buildings and associated compound and the Converter Station as well as new areas of planting.

1.3.1.23. Based on the Parameter Plans (document reference 2.6) there would be a medium magnitude of change resulting in a direct moderate adverse permanent long- term localised (significant) effect.

Vegetation – woodland, hedgerow trees / woodland groups and hedgerows

1.3.1.24. Existing woodland would be protected through construction offsets outlined in Chapter 15 section 15.7 Proposed Mitigation. Both Option B(i) and B(ii) however would result in the loss of existing hedgerows / hedgerow tree and woodland groups resulting from unmanaged hedgerow trees to accommodate the Converter Station, associated cut and fill, Access Roadand Laydown Area / Works Compound.

1.3.1.25. For Option B(i) the following sections of hedgerow / hedgerow trees / woodland groups forming part of the hedgerows would be lost:

- Western boundary: Part of the hedgerow / woodland groups running north-south and east-west along the western boundary would be lost because of Option B(i). The hedgerow / woodland groups form an important screening function particularly in terms of local views from the northeast and west and adds to the layering effect of vegetation between Old Mill Lane and the site. The hedgerow is gappy with mature hedgerow trees which have matured into a woodland group and unmanaged. Some of this hedgerow forms part of G705, G639 and H769 which are categorised in the Arboriculture Report (document reference 16.3) as high value (Category A features). Remaining hedgerows and trees (T552, T553, H794 and H853) are of medium value (Category B features).
- Hedgerow running east-west: The hedgerow and hedgerow trees running east-west through the centre of the Converter Station Area (H834, T561 and G576) are categorised as medium value features based on the Arboriculture Report. The hedgerow is relatively low and unmanaged with occasional groups of hedgerow trees. Whilst it is in good condition, it does not exhibit the maturity of the above hedgerow or serve a visual screening function from the northeast due to the nature of the topography.

- Hedgerow running north-south: This hedgerow runs to the east of the Converter Station and joins with hedgerow described above running east-west. It is unmanaged, low and in good condition, though does not serve a strong visual screening function particularly from the northeast.
- Hedgerow running north-south on lower slopes: This hedgerow lies south of the Converter Station Area and would be removed to accommodate the temporary construction and Laydown Areas, site office and car parking. This hedgerow is gappy, unmanaged and in poor condition.
- Hedgerows across Access Road / Laydown Area / Works Compound: Six sections of hedgerow would be lost because of the Access Road and the construction and Laydown Are / Works Compound (H107 / H109 / H112 / H113 / H115 / LG108) (H882, H820, H848, H849, H891 and C846) based on the Arboriculture Report). These hedgerows range in condition from good to poor; the majority unmanaged, gappy and considered of a low value in terms of arboriculture. Three of the hedgerows (H882, H849, H819) however are historic field boundaries and recorded on the Ordnance 1st edition maps. One identified as H819 (a linear group of hawthorn) in the Arboriculture Report is of significant size and maturity.
- Hedgerow to the east of Broadway Lane: Part of this hedgerow would be lost to accommodate the Access Road and associated visibility splays which would cut a corner between Day and Broadway Lane. This hedgerow whilst unmanaged is in good condition.

1.3.1.26. For Option B(ii), all the above hedgerows would be lost apart from the hedgerow / woodland groups running north-south and east-west along the western boundary. These hedgerows include high to medium value trees would remain intact and continue to serve as a mature visual screen and are important landscape features.

1.3.1.27. For both Options National Grid mitigation planting close to the Converter Station's eastern boundary would be lost not just to accommodate the Converter Station Area but also in response to ESQCR Regulations.

1.3.1.28. It is considered that the vegetation within Section 1 is of medium sensitivity and the magnitude of change would be large based on Option B(i) and medium for Option B(ii). There would be a direct moderate-major adverse permanent long-term localised (significant) effect on vegetation associated with Option B(i) and a direct moderate adverse permanent medium-term localised (significant effect) for Option B(ii).

1.3.1.29. Whilst a section of hedgerow running east-west on National Grid land would have to be removed to accommodate Lovedean Substation extension, this is gappy and in poor condition and would not alter the assessment of effects for each option.

Drainage

1.3.1.30. Construction activities would entail the creation of an infiltration swale and attenuation ponds as referred to in the Design Principles within the Design and Access Statement (document reference 5.5). Given the nature of the underlying geology no above ground water features are apparent. The sensitivity of the landscape feature is medium on the basis that features would appear incongruous in the landscape and there would be a small magnitude of change (the features not readily noticeable) and a minor change in a localised area resulting in a direct minor-moderate adverse permanent long-term localised (not significant) effect.

Immediate Public Rights of Ways

1.3.1.31. PRoW DC16 / HC04: This route runs parallel within the Access Road and within to the Order Limits for Section 1. Access would be required along the eastern part of the PRoW during construction for early plant and deliveries which would be for approximately two to three weeks as well as undergrounding works associated with an overhead 11 kv line. Access would also be required to plant up and maintain a new hedge to the north of the PRoW which would provide visual screening and ensure necessary measures are taken to protect plants from damage see Figure 15.49 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.49). The PRoW as a physical landscape feature is of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small based on the assumption no direct works would take place to the PRoW itself and that the PRoW in this location has capacity to carry early construction vehicles and equipment. A direct / indirect minor to negligible adverse, temporary short-term (not significant effect) would be generated

1.3.1.32. Public Right of Way HC28: This route runs to the south of PRoW DC16/HC04 across an arable field from the edge of Broadway Lane to the south of Little Denmead Farm, whilst there would be no physical impacts on the route itself, there would be indirect experiential and perceptual impacts resulting from construction activities. The magnitude of change would be small to negligible resulting in an indirect minor to negligible temporary short-term (not significant) effect.

Infrastructure

1.3.1.33. A new access point would be created off Broadway and Day Lane resulting in a break in the hedgerow / scrub which runs in this location west of Broadway Lane. A permanent Access Road would also be created to the east of the Broadway Lane. It would also cut a corner of an arable field to link Broadway Lane to Day Lane resulting in the loss of existing hedgerows to accommodate both the Access Road and visibility splays. The nature of the lane is relatively enclosed. The creation of a new entranceway would open an otherwise enclosed lane changing a physical and perceptual and experiential feature of this landscape and would result in extending infrastructure further east. This feature is of medium sensitivity and the magnitude of change, whilst localised, would be medium resulting in a direct and indirect moderate adverse permanent long-term localised (significant) effect.

Tranquillity

1.3.1.34. As outlined in the baseline, tranquillity levels vary across the site and on this basis sensitivity would range from medium to low. Construction activities would result in a medium magnitude of change through the generation of noise. It is considered that there would be indirect moderate to minor temporary short-term localised (significant) effects and such effects would vary depending on the nature and focus of activities as well as programme.

1.3.2. VISUAL AMENITY - CONSTRUCTION

1.3.2.1. All effects during the construction period are temporary, short-term and direct. For the sake of legibility, this is not repeated in the individual assessments below.

Residential (receptors between 3 to 8 km, including settlements)

1.3.2.2. No changes greater than negligible magnitude were found for residential receptors beyond 3 km from the Converter Station. Those residential receptors that do have a view of the Convertor Station would be subject to a negligible effect (see Figure 15.45).

1.3.2.3. This is illustrated by representative viewpoint photographs and winter and summer wirelines from the northwest (Figure 15.33a, b and c Viewpoint 16), the northeast (Figure 15.19a, b and c Viewpoint 2 and Figure 15.34a, b and c Viewpoint 17) and (Figure 15.25a, b and c Viewpoint 8 and Figure 15.26a, b and c Viewpoint 9 to the south) of the ES Volume 2 (document references 6.2.15.33, 6.2.15.19, 6.2.15.34, 6.2.15.25, 6.2.15.26).

Residential (receptors between 1.2 to 3 km, including settlements)

1.3.2.4. Between 1.2 and 3 km from the Converter Station, the assessment considered residents at individual properties in the countryside and those on the edge of, and within, settlements (see Figure 15.46).

1.3.2.5. From the north and northwest, there would be views from a number of individual farmsteads and properties on the higher ground between Rushmere and Broadhalfpenny Down. These would be subject to a small to no / negligible magnitude of change, resulting in a minor-moderate (not significant) adverse to negligible effect (see Figure 15.31a, b and c Viewpoint 14 and Figure 15.32a, b and c Viewpoint 15 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.31 and 6.2.32)).

1.3.2.6. From the east and southeast there would theoretically be views from parts of Horndean, Lovedean and Cowplain) as well as isolated properties and farmsteads including Shrover and Clarendon Farm. However, in reality the extent of intervening vegetation and built form is such that there would be a small to no / negligible magnitude of change. The resultant effects would be between minor-moderate adverse (not significant) to negligible.

1.3.2.7. From the south and southwest there would be well-filtered views from Anmore and from the edges of Denmead as well as isolated properties and farmsteads including Merritt's and Pyles Farms. Trees and hedgerows in the foreground of the views are sufficiently dense that the magnitude of change would be small to negligible, giving rise to minor-moderate adverse (not significant) adverse to negligible effects (see Figure 15.24a, b and c Viewpoint 7 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.24)).

1.3.2.8. West of the Converter Station there would be some visibility from a small number of isolated farmsteads and properties in the open country between Denmead and Rushmere, and from the parts of the edge of Anthill Common. Trees and hedgerows, particularly trees around individual properties, would substantially filter most views such that the magnitude of change would range from small to negligible, depending on distance and the precise degree of screening. The resulting effect would be between minor-moderate adverse and negligible: in all cases not significant (see Figure 15.31a, b and c Viewpoint 14).

Residential (individual receptors within 1.2 km)

1.3.2.9. The location and orientation of residential receptors within 1.2 km of the Converter Station are given in Table 3 of Appendix 15.6 (Visual Amenity) (see Figure 15.47). For ease receptors are grouped based on their relative position to the Converter Station. Where there are variations in the assessment these are identified for each position. Where feasible representative viewpoint photographs and associated winter / summer wirelines have been included to demonstrate the nature of the effect.

1.3.2.10. There are six residential receptors in close proximity to the north of the Converter Station (No 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6):

- Nos 1 and 2 would have a direct close view of construction activities although for No 1 partly screened by their own outbuildings and vegetation surrounding the property. The views would be clearer in winter, particularly for No 2, whilst in summer existing trees would provide partial screening. These receptors would experience a large magnitude of change, a major (significant adverse) effect (see Figure 15.37a, b, c and d Local Viewpoint C of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.37)).
- Nos. 3 and 5 benefit from local screening by vegetation edging their properties and / or by adjacent built form, and No 5 also sits on a hillside falling to the north such that topography reduces the extent of the view. These receptors would experience a small magnitude of change, a minor-moderate adverse significant effect on the basis of their proximity.

- Nos. 4 and 6 would experience a partial view of the Converter Station (largely of the external equipment to the east of the valve halls), filtered to some degree by vegetation in the foreground. These receptors would experience a small magnitude of change, giving rise to minor-moderate adverse (significant) effect on the basis of their proximity (see Figure 15.30a, b and c Viewpoint 13 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.30)).

1.3.2.11. There are four residential properties at between approximately 0.9 km and 1.2 km to the northeast of the Converter Station (Nos No 19, 20, 21 and 22).

- Mature trees surround Nos 19, 20 and 22 such that views towards the Converter Station would be heavily filtered if not entirely screened, and for Nos. 19 and 20 the prime aspect of the houses appears to be away from the Converter Station whilst for No. 22 the topography would serve a visual screening function. The magnitude of change for these receptors would be negligible and thus the resulting effect negligible.
- No. 21 is unoccupied and very dilapidated. There would be oblique, partially filtered views, particularly from upper storey windows, a small magnitude of change resulting in a minor-moderate (significant) effect based on proximity (see Figure 15.20a, b and c Viewpoint 3 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.20)).

1.3.2.12. There are four properties east of the Converter Station (Nos. 17, 18, 27 and 28). The magnitude of change of views from these properties would range from medium to negligible. Nos. 17 and 18 include seven individual receptors in total, some of which would have a direct rear view across to the construction of the Access Road and Laydown Area / Work Compound, and an oblique front view of the temporary access track from Day Lane. Residents of properties further east (Nos. 27 and 28) which lie off Day Lane and New Road respectively would experience either direct or oblique views at a distance, filtered by intervening vegetation and a small magnitude of change. The worst affected properties, Nos.17 and 18 are anticipated to be subject to moderate-major (significant) adverse effects whilst Nos. 27 and 28 would experience a minor-moderate (not significant) effect the Access Road to the east of Broadway Lane located beyond a solar farm in the foreground (see Figure 15.21a, b and c Viewpoint 4 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.21)).

1.3.2.13. There are seven receptors or receptor groups southeast of the Converter Station (Nos. 14, 15, 16, 23, 24, 25 and 26). Properties forming part of Nos.14, 15 and 23 would have either direct or oblique filtered views of the construction works and work associated with the Access Road / Laydown Area / Works Compound in the foreground resulting in a medium to small magnitude of change, a moderate-major adverse to minor-moderate adverse (significant) effect because of proximity. Properties to the east of Broadway Lane would have limited views of construction works, a small to negligible magnitude of change, giving rise to a minor-moderate (not significant) adverse to negligible effect (see Figure 15.23a, b and c Viewpoint 6 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.23)).

1.3.2.14. Visual receptors immediately south of the Converter Station (Nos 10, 11, 12 and 13) would have views ranging from direct open to oblique filtered views across to the Converter Station and activities in the foreground including the construction of the Telecommunications Buildings, Laydown Area, Works Compound, attenuation ponds, Access Road and reprofiling work. This would be a large magnitude of change, resulting in a major adverse (significant) effect (see Figure 15.27a, b and c Viewpoint 10 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.27)).

1.3.2.15. There are four visual receptors southwest of the Converter Station, Nos 7, 8, 9 and 29. Views of the construction works would range from direct open to oblique filtered. The magnitude of change varies depending on proximity, orientation and intervening vegetation / built form. No. 9 would have direct views above outbuildings and barns in the foreground and be subject to a medium magnitude of change, giving rise to a moderate - major (significant) adverse effect based on proximity, whilst Nos. 7, 8 and 29 would be subject to a small magnitude of change due to intervening vegetation, giving rise to a minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effect (see Figure 15.28a, b and c Viewpoint 11 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.28)).

1.3.2.16. There are four visual receptors off Pitt Hill Lane, west of the Converter Station, Nos. 30, 31, 32 and 33. Due to the orientation of properties, density and siting of vegetation and presence of built form (for Nos. 30 and 31) and the nature of the topography (for Nos. 32 and 33) there would be limited visibility of the construction works. The magnitude of change experienced and the resultant effect would be negligible.

Recreational and visitor receptors between 3 and 8 km:

Windmill Hill

1.3.2.17. There would be very limited distant visibility of construction works from Windmill Hill, filtered through existing trees. The works would not alter the overall composition or depth of view. The magnitude of change and the resultant effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.19a, b and c Viewpoint 2).

Fort Widley

1.3.2.18. There would be distant visibility of construction works from Fort Widley, forming a small element of the view. The works would not alter the overall composition or depth of view. The magnitude of change and the resultant effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.26a, b and c Viewpoint 9).

Old Winchester Hill (South Downs Way and Open Access Land):

1.3.2.19. From Old Winchester Hill, the construction works would be barely discernible well filtered by existing vegetation in the foreground of the view. The works would not intrude into or alter the overall composition of the view. The magnitude of change and the resultant effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.33a, b and c Viewpoint 16).

Butser Hill (South Downs Way and Open access land):

1.3.2.20. There would be limited visibility of the construction works from Butser Hill. Whilst the emerging structures would be visible above the ridgelines in the middle distance they would form a small element of the overall view. The works would not significantly intrude into the view or alter its overall composition. The magnitude of change and the resultant effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.34a, b and c Viewpoint 17).

Monarch's Way / South Downs Way / Wayfarers Walk

1.3.2.21. There would be limited visibility of the later stages of construction work from certain locations along these long-distance footpaths beyond 3 km from the Converter Station. However, given the distance and extent of intervening vegetation the magnitude of change experienced and the resultant effect on the visual amenity of these routes would be negligible.

Public Rights of Way

1.3.2.22. There would be limited visibility of the later stages of construction work from certain locations on PRoWs beyond 3 km from the Converter Station. However, given the distance and the extent of intervening vegetation (and in some locations, intervening built development) the magnitude of change experienced and the resultant effect on the visual amenity of the PRoWs would be negligible.

Cycle Routes

1.3.2.23. National Cycle Network (NCN) route 222 runs through the built-up areas of Horndean and Clanfield to the east of the Converter Station and there are a number of locally promoted cycle routes (including Horndean, Broadhalfpenny Down, Horndean Technology College and River Alre) that follow minor roads and tracks around the Converter Station Area, connecting Denmead and Horndean and up into the downs to the North (see Figure 15.45 and 15.46.).

1.3.2.24. There would be no or extremely limited visibility of the construction works from NCN 222 and a negligible magnitude of change, and thus negligible effect on it.

1.3.2.25. Local effects on the local routes are discussed below. Overall however, the extent to which the Converter Station and Converter Station Area would be visible from these routes is limited. The magnitude of change and thus the visual effect on the visual amenity experienced by users of these routes as a whole would be negligible.

Recreational and visitor receptors within 3 km:

Monarch's Way (DC21 / HC06)

1.3.2.26. This route runs between Broadway Lane and Old Mill Lane, wrapping round the northern edge of Mill Copse and through arable fields north and northwest of the Converter Station. A user of this route would have views varying from direct and open to oblique and filtered by intervening vegetation, largely woodland trees, hedgerows and hedgerow trees.

1.3.2.27. The magnitude of change experienced would range from small to medium. The change to the visual experience of the route as a whole would be medium, resulting in a moderate-major (significant) adverse effect (see Figure 15.20, 15.29 and 15.30a, b and c for Viewpoint 3, 12 and 13 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.20, 6.2.15.29 and 6.2.15.30) respectively).

Catherington Down

1.3.2.28. Catherington Downs is an area of open access land crisscrossed by a number of footpaths. The Converter Station would be well screened by existing vegetation such that the magnitude of change and thus the resulting effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.22a, b and c Viewpoint 5 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.22)).

Wayfarers Walk (Denmead 5 / Hambledon 32 and Soberton 5)

1.3.2.29. The Wayfarer's Walk is a long-distance footpath, which runs from Emsworth in Hampshire to Walbury Hill in Berkshire. Within the study area the route lies to the west of the Converter Station, running approximately north-south between Denmead and Hambledon. Foreground vegetation would screen many potential views of the construction works. As such, the effect on the visual amenity of the route across the study area would be small to negligible. Whilst the effect on the visual amenity of the route as a whole across the study area would be negligible, there would be some locations from which there would be a local minor-moderate (not significant) adverse effect (see Figure 15.31a, b and c Viewpoint 14).

Local Public Rights of Way

1.3.2.30. There is a dense network of local PRoWs in the area surrounding the Converter Station, including footpaths and bridlepaths such as those along Pitt Hill Lane, Horsepost Lane, Harrowgate Lane and Sawyer's Hill. The assessment below focusses on PRoWs in the immediate vicinity of the Converter Station and Access Road on the assumption that these would represent the worst-case scenario. It does not therefore refer to every PRoW within the 3 km study area (see Figure 15.46 and 15.47).

1.3.2.31. The paragraphs below describe the PRoW according to their location in relation to the Converter Station Area.

1.3.2.32. To the north and northwest PRoW Hambledon Footpath 25a/b and Footpath HC41 runs north and wraps around Broadhalfpenny Down linking with Monarch's Way. Due to the topography there would be some visibility of the construction works through intervening vegetation (in the form of overgrow hedgerows and hedgerow trees) which would serve a partial screening function. The magnitude of change as a whole along the route would be negligible to small and thus the resultant effect would be negligible to minor adverse (not significant). At worst there would be a small to medium magnitude of change in specific locations resulting in a minor to moderate (significant) adverse localised effect.

1.3.2.33. To the northeast PRoW Horndean Footpath 41 (H41) runs from Hinton Manor Lane to Hambledon Road, contouring round the hill below the reservoirs and observatory. There would be very limited visibility of the construction works, primarily due to the extent of intervening vegetation including Ludmore Hangers, particularly in the foreground of views from the path. The magnitude of change as a whole along the route and thus the resulting effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.18a, b and c Viewpoint 1 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.18)).

1.3.2.34. PRoW Horndean Byway Open to All Traffic 46 (H46) is representative of the various PRoW to the east. From here existing vegetation would partially screen views of construction activities. As a whole there would be a small to negligible magnitude of change along the route, giving rise to a minor adverse to negligible (not significant) effect (see Figure 15.23a, b and c Viewpoint 6).

1.3.2.35. To the south PRoW Footpath 13 / Bridleway 41 (DC13 / DC41) runs to the north of Anmore Dell, cutting across Edney's Lane to the south west and Anmore Road to the southeast linking Denmead and Lovedean. Construction activities would be only partially perceptible beyond layers of intervening vegetation. The magnitude of change as a whole along the route perceived by users of the route and thus the resultant effect on visual amenity would be negligible (see Figure 15.24a, b and c Viewpoint 7).

1.3.2.36. To the southeast two PRoWs run to the south of the Converter Station and Access Road connecting Broadway Lane (east) with Broadway Lane (south).

- PRoW Denmead Footpath 16 / Horndean Footpath 4 (DC16 / HC04) would be directly affected as works would take place along the eastern end of the route for early deliveries and hedgerow planting. The route may be stopped up and diverted resulting in a change of views and experience along the route itself as well as in the immediate and middle distance. The magnitude of change as whole would be medium resulting in a moderate adverse (significant) effect on visual amenity (see Figure 15.21a, b and c Viewpoint 4 and Figure 15.27a, b and c Viewpoint 10).

1.3.2.37. To the southwest views of construction activities from PRoW Denmead Footpath 17 (DC17) would be partly screened by intervening vegetation. As a whole users of the route would experience a change of small to negligible magnitude, a minor to negligible adverse effect, (not significant) (see Figure 15.28a, b and c Viewpoint 11).

1.3.2.38. Likewise, to the west, views of construction activities from PRoW Denmead Footpath 20 / Sawyer's Hill (DC20) would be partly screened by intervening vegetation. As a whole users of the route would experience a change of small to negligible magnitude resulting in a minor to negligible adverse (not significant) effect.

1.3.2.39. The Denmead Millennium Trail wraps around Denmead with the nearest part of the route following PRoW Footpath 13 / Bridleway 41 (DC13 / DC41). Construction activities would be only partially perceptible beyond layers of intervening vegetation. The magnitude of change perceived by users of the route and thus the resulting effect on visual amenity would be negligible (see Figure 15.24a, b and c Viewpoint 7).

Cycle Routes

1.3.2.40. Within the 3 km study area, the Horndean, Broadhalfpenny Down, and River Alre cycle routes follow minor roads and tracks to the west and north of the Converter Station, whilst Horndean Technology College cycle route runs to the east along Day Lane and Broadway Lane (called Anmore Lane further south). Views of construction works to the north and west would be generally quite limited because the existing hedges and hedgerow trees edging the lanes serve a strong screening function. To the east there would be a clear view of the site entrance, the permanent Access Road (east and west) and construction works at the junction of Day Lane and Broadway Lane. Elsewhere along the route existing vegetation would serve a strong screening function.

1.3.2.41. Whilst the effect on these routes as a whole would be negligible, locally glimpses of the Converter Station Area are sufficient that users of these routes would experience a negligible to small magnitude of change for routes to the north and east, and a negligible to medium magnitude of change to the east. This would result in localised negligible to negligible-minor adverse (not significant) effects to the north and west, and moderate (significant) localised adverse to negligible effects to the east (see Figure 15.28a, b and c Viewpoint 11 and Local Viewpoints B and C Figures 15.36 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.36) and Figure 37a, b, c and d).

Transport receptors between 3 and 8 km

1.3.2.42. Users of the local B roads (B2150, B2177, B2148 and B2149) would have occasional glimpses of the construction works and would be of low sensitivity. The magnitude of change perceived would be small to negligible, resulting in a minor adverse (not significant) to negligible effect on their visual amenity.

1.3.2.43. Likewise, users of minor roads in the wider study area and who would be of medium sensitivity would have occasional glimpses, primarily through gaps in the roadside hedges and usually filtered by intervening vegetation. The magnitude of change would be small to negligible, resulting in negligible-minor adverse (not significant) adverse to negligible effects.

Transport receptors within 3 km:

1.3.2.44. Transport receptors within 3 km and outlined below are considered to be of medium sensitivity. To the north of the Converter Station, the U218 (unnamed) links Old Mill and Broadway Lanes. There would be partial views of construction activity, filtered by the tree line to the north of the Converter Station and in parts screened by Mill Copse. Users of this lane would perceive a small to negligible magnitude of change, giving rise to a minor (not significant) to negligible effect (see Figure 15.29a, b and c: Viewpoint 12).

1.3.2.45. To the east of the Converter Station, people travelling between Denmead and Horndean along Broadway Lane (called Anmore Lane further south) would have a clear view of the site entrance being built at the junction with Day Lane, the Access Road to the west and east of Broadway Lane and a view into construction works. From most of the rest of the lane, views would be substantially restricted by the high roadside hedges. Users of Day Lane approaching the Converter Station Area from the east would likewise have a clear view of the creation of the Access Road off Day Lane, site entrance and a view into construction works, as they arrive at the junction with Broadway Lane. Overall the magnitude of change would be small resulting in a minor adverse (not significant) effect, however there would be localised effects and users of these two lanes near the Converter Station entrance would perceive a medium magnitude of change, giving rise to a moderate adverse (significant) effect

(see Figure 15.21a, b and c: Viewpoint 4).

1.3.2.46. To the south of the Converter Station users of the U200 Broadway Lane (south) (named Crossways Road on some maps) which links Old Mill Lane and Anmore Lane would have views of the construction works, partly filtered by roadside trees and hedges where these are present. Users of this lane would perceive a medium to small magnitude of change, giving rise here to a moderate to minor-moderate (significant) adverse effect on their visual amenity based on proximity to construction works (see Figure 15.35a, b, c and d: Local Viewpoint A of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.35)). Further south users of Anmore Lane / C40 Anmore Road would perceive a small to negligible magnitude of change associated with the Converter Station resulting in a minor adverse (not significant) adverse to negligible effect.

1.3.2.47. To the west and southwest there are potential views from a network of minor roads including U165 Old Mill Lane/ Edneys Lane, U200 White Horse Lane, Kidmore Lane, Tanners Lane, U200 Pitt Hill Lane and Rushmere Lane. From most of these there would be limited or no views of construction activities but from the U165 Edneys Lane /Old Mill Lane there would be occasional glimpses through gaps in the roadside hedges. This would be a small to negligible magnitude of change, resulting in a minor to negligible (not significant) adverse effect (see Figure 15.28a, b and c Viewpoint 11 and Local Viewpoints B and C Figures 15.36 and 15.37a, b, c and d).

1.4. SECTION 1 LOVEDEAN (CONVERTER STATION AREA): OPERATIONAL STAGE

1.4.1. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER – OPERATIONAL PERIOD

Landscape Character Areas /Types: SDNP / District / City Landscape Character Area/ Types

1.4.1.1. This section considers the effects arising from the Converter Station Area at the time of completion. The changes occurring over time as the planting matures and thus the effects at year 10 and year 20.

SDNP D Downland Mosaic:

1.4.1.2. As outlined previously the landscape is of high sensitivity. Indirect perceptual / experiential impacts would be notable associated with inter visibility which would be particularly noticeable immediately on the edge of the SDNP's boundary and from higher ground. In year 0 and on completion of construction works the magnitude of change would be medium concentrated within a localised area resulting in an indirect moderate-major adverse permanent long-term localised (significant) effect.

1.4.1.3. In terms of future baseline, Option B(ii) would "read" as part of the Lovedean Substation extension, whilst Option B(i) would be appear divorced from the extension and result in a more fragmented landscape. The difference between levels of magnitude of change for both options would be negligible, and therefore insufficient to alter the assessment of effects.

1.4.1.4. By year 10 the magnitude of change would reduce to medium to small. This is on the basis that whilst hedgerows "recently" planted or gapped up would have matured, new woodland planting edging the Converter Station would take longer to mature and reduce inter visibility particularly on the edge of the SDNP. The LVIA considers that the effect would reduce to indirect moderate-major / minor-moderate adverse permanent long-term localised (significant) effect.

1.4.1.5. After 20 years the magnitude of change would reduce to small. This is on the basis that mitigation planting including both hedgerows and woodland planting edging the Converter Station would near maturity and inter visibility particularly on the edge of the SDNP reduced. The LVIA considers that the effect be indirect minor-moderate permanent long-term localised (significant) effect.

WCC 17 Hambledon Downs

1.4.1.6. WCC LCA 18 LCT W2 and W5 is of high to medium sensitivity; sensitivity levels increasing progressively away from the Converter Station Area as the SDNP exerts an influence in terms of condition and management. The landscape within which the Converter Station sits is of medium sensitivity.

1.4.1.7. In year 0 and on completion the magnitude of change would range from large (LCT W2) within the Converter Station Area to small elsewhere (LCT W2 and W5) generating respectively direct moderate-major adverse permanent long-term localised (significant) effects and indirect minor adverse permanent long-term localised (not significant) effects. As outlined above Option B(i) would appear divorced in the landscape compared to Option B(ii) which would appear to connect and form part of Lovedean Substation.

1.4.1.8. By year 10 the magnitude of change would be medium based on planting starting to mature generating a direct moderate adverse permanent long-term localised (significant) effect. The magnitude of change would decrease further after 20 years based planting reaching maturity generating a direct minor adverse permanent long-term localised (not significant) effect.

EHDC LCT 3: Downland Mosaic:

1.4.1.9. The eastern part of the Converter Station Area (which includes the Access Road to the Converter Station) would sit within LCT 3 Downland Mosaic LCA 3fi: Horndean Clanfield Edge, whilst further north and east on higher more undulating ground beyond the Converter Station Area are LCA 3ai Clanfield Enclosed and 3aii Clanfield Open.

1.4.1.10. The landscape is of high (3ai and 3aii) to medium (3fi) sensitivity; sensitivity levels increasing progressively away from the Converter Station Area as the SDNP exerts an influence in terms of condition and management. The landscape within which the Access Road sits is of medium sensitivity (3fi).

1.4.1.11. The magnitude of change would be medium within the Converter Station Area (and covering the Access Road) to small-negligible elsewhere (LCA 3ai and aii) generating respectively a direct, moderate adverse permanent medium-term localised significant effects and indirect minor-moderate to negligible adverse permanent medium-term localised (not significant) effects. The latter resulting from indirect perceptual / experiential impact.

1.4.1.12. By year 10 the magnitude of change for LCA 3fi would alter to small. This is on the assumption that the Access Road's surface would blend in with surrounding calcareous grassland, the hedgerow would have matured and some of the hedgerow trees starting to become noticeable features. On this basis the LVIA considers that the effect would reduce to direct minor adverse permanent long-term localised (not significant) effect and this would remain unchanged after 20 years.

EHDC LCT 10 Wooded Claylands – LCA 10a Havant Thicket and Southleigh Forest:

1.4.1.13. The sensitivity of LCA10a is medium and magnitude of change is small. Whilst there would be no direct effects on this LCA, there would be indirect perceptual / experiential effects associated with inter visibility but these are only likely to be concentrated to the southwest of the LCA partially screened by layers of intervening trees in the foreground. In year 0 it is considered that there would be an indirect minor adverse permanent long-term localised (not significant) effect and effects would remain unchanged in year 10 and 20.

WCC 18 Forest of Bere Lowlands:

1.4.1.14. It is considered that WCC18 (W1 and 3) is of medium sensitivity. Whilst there would be no direct effects on the LCA there would be indirect effects associated with the perceptual / experiential qualities of this character and relating to inter visibility.

1.4.1.15. In year 0 it is considered that the magnitude of change would remain as small due to the intervening vegetation and enclosed nature of many of the rural lanes and there would be an indirect minor adverse permanent long-term localised (not significant) effect and effects would remain unchanged in year 10 and 20.

Setting of the National Park:

1.4.1.16. The setting of the SDNP within 2 km of the Converter Station is of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be large to medium for both Option B(i) and B(ii) for year 0 resulting in an indirect /moderate-major to moderate adverse permanent long-term significant effect.

1.4.1.17. By year 10 the magnitude of change would reduce to medium based on planting starting to mature generating a direct moderate adverse permanent long-term localised significant effect. After 20 years the magnitude of change would reduce to small as planting reaches maturity generating a direct minor adverse permanent long-term localised (not significant) effect.

Landscape Features:

Landform:

1.4.1.18. Following construction activities, the landform for the Converter Station and reprofiling would be complete. The result would be a finished construction platform which would be cut into the topography to the north and raised to the south with reprofiling works to integrate the platform into the surrounding levels.

1.4.1.19. Whilst there would be no further changes to the landform it is considered that this would be a new feature in the landscape. On this basis the sensitivity of the feature would remain as medium and the magnitude of change would be medium, resulting in a direct moderate adverse permanent long-term (significant) effect.

1.4.1.20. By year 10, planting would have softened the profile of the platform, therefore, whilst the sensitivity would remain as medium, the magnitude of effect would reduce to small resulting in a direct minor-moderate adverse permanent long-term localised (not significant) effect. After 20 years planting would have continued to soften the profile of the platform, therefore whilst the sensitivity would remain as medium, the magnitude of effect would range from small to negligible resulting in a direct minor-moderate to negligible adverse permanent long term localised (not significant) effect.

Landuse:

1.4.1.21. Following construction activities, it is expected land temporarily used for construction and Laydown Area / Works Compound would be reinstated, planted and enhanced. From year 0 onwards whilst the sensitivity of the feature would remain as medium the magnitude of change would alter to small - negligible / no change resulting in a direct minor to negligible / no change neutral permanent long-term (not significant) effect. Mitigation planting would result in a change of land use from farmland to scrub/ woodland.

Vegetation – woodland, hedgerow trees and hedgerows:

1.4.1.22. Mitigation planting would be implemented either during or at the end of the construction period. Vegetation temporarily lost because of the construction and Laydown Area / Works Compound would be reinstated and replaced with calcareous grassland (a feature of this landscape), scrub, hedgerow or tree planting in the form of hedgerow trees, trees within scrub and mixed woodland. Hedgerows lost during construction would be replaced where feasible i.e. across the Onshore Cable Route.

1.4.1.23. Since mitigation and enhancement planting takes time to mature, immediate benefit would not be realised in year 0 and therefore there would still be a large to medium magnitude of change. Based on a medium sensitivity for vegetation, the resultant effects for Option B(i) would be direct moderate-major adverse permanent short to long term localised (significant) effects and for Option B(ii) direct moderate adverse permanent short to long term localised (significant) effects.

1.4.1.24. By year 10, planting (a combination of trees and scrub) would have reached a height of 8 m (maximum depending on species) as indicated in Appendix 15.7 (Landscape Schedules, Planting Heights and Image Board) of the ES Volume 3 (document reference 6.3.15.7). Hedgerows which have been planted or gapped up would have matured and maintained to either a height of 2 m or an existing height ranging from 2 to 4 m plus. Planting would provide a partial screening function from certain directions, improve connectivity and enhance landscape character.

1.4.1.25. The LVIA considers that the sensitivity of vegetation is medium and the magnitude of change following mitigation would be small resulting in a minor beneficial direct permanent long-term (not significant) effect for both Options.

1.4.1.26. By year 20 planting (a combination of trees and scrub) would have reached a height of up to 13 m (maximum depending on species) as indicated in Table 13 Appendix 15.7 (Landscape Schedules, Planting Heights and Image Board). Existing and mitigation planted hedgerows would continue to be maintained at the above heights. Planting would provide a partial to full screening function from certain directions, improve connectivity and enhance landscape character. Some planting would be allowed to regenerate increasing the extent of woodland whilst respecting the site's constraints in terms of overhead and underground cables.

1.4.1.27. The LVIA considers that the sensitivity of vegetation is medium and the magnitude of change following mitigation and after 20 years of planting growth would be medium to small resulting in a moderate to minor beneficial direct permanent long-term (significant) effect for both Options.

Drainage:

1.4.1.28. On completion of construction works and from year 0 onwards no further activities would take place apart from occasional maintenance to ensure ponds and associated culverts / pipework remain clear. Whilst the sensitivity of this landscape receptor is medium the magnitude of change would alter to negligible / no change resulting in a direct negligible / no change neutral permanent long-term (not significant) effect

Immediate Public Rights of Ways:

- Public Rights of Way (PRoW) DC16 / HC04: Following construction activities and from year 0 onwards it is expected that hedgerow planting would mature overtime to provide a visual screen. Occasional maintenance operations would be required to oversee the growth from the PRoW, including checking on shelter guards, stakes as well as temporary protective hedgerow fencing which would be removed once the hedgerow reaches maturity. The hedgerow would be selectively flailed at agreed intervals to thicken growth, allow for hedgerow trees to mature above the top of the hedgerow and in accordance with the Outline Landscape and Biodiversity Strategy (document reference 6.10). The PRoW is of medium sensitivity and the magnitude of change would be negligible for direct impacts and small for indirect impacts resulting in indirect minor adverse and direct negligible adverse permanent long-term (not significant) effects.

1.4.1.29. As outlined above the nature of the Access Road is of medium sensitivity. On completion of construction works the Access Road both west and east of Broadway Lane would remain a permanent feature Whilst there would be no further changes to the Access Road it is considered that this would be a new feature in the landscape.

1.4.1.30. By year 10 the surfacing and planting would have softened the Access Road both west and east of Broadway Lane including the entranceway. Whilst the sensitivity would remain as medium, the magnitude of effect would reduce to small resulting in a direct minor adverse permanent long-term localised (not significant) effect and this would remain unchanged after 20 years.

Tranquillity:

1.4.1.31. Whilst sensitivity would be medium construction activities would cease by year 0 onwards. The Converter Station would be unmanned with occasional maintenance visits resulting in a negligible / no change in magnitude and an indirect negligible / no change neutral permanent long-term (not significant) effect.

1.4.2. VISUAL AMENITY – OPERATIONAL PERIOD

1.4.2.1. All effects during the operational period are permanent and long-term although the degree of effect may reduce over time as the mitigation planting matures. For the sake of legibility, "permanent and long-term" is not repeated in the individual assessments below.

1.4.2.2. Figures 15.17 Viewpoint Location Plan of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.17), Figures 15.17 to 15.34a, b and c Viewpoints and accompanying Wirelines, Figure 15.35 to 37a, b, c and d Local Viewpoints and Illustrative Photomontages plus Figure 15.48 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.48) and 15.49 indicative landscape mitigation plans support and illustrate this assessment, and should be read alongside the text below.

1.4.2.3. The text is also supported by Figures 15.45, 15.46 and 15.47 which show the extent of visibility for visual receptors based on cumulative baseline ZTVs for both Options B (i) and B(ii) and Figures 15.13, 15.14, 15.15 and 15.16 of the ES Volume 2 (document references 6.2.15.13 to 6.2.15.16) supported by Table 3 in Appendix 15.6 (Visual Amenity). Figures 15.13 to 15.16, and Table 3 demonstrate the extent of visibility based on mitigation screening at 20 years growth covering both an 8 and 3 km radius and the subtle differences between Option B(i) and B(ii).

Residential (receptors between 3 to 8 km, including settlements)

1.4.2.4. Beyond 3 km from the Converter Station, no changes greater than small magnitude were found for residential receptors, and most changes would be of negligible magnitude. Most residential receptors that do have a view of the Convertor Station would be subject to a negligible effect.

1.4.2.5. Receptors who experience a small magnitude of change would be subject to a minor-moderate adverse effect (not significant) in year 0, falling to negligible by year 20 as the mitigation planting develops, as described below. The extent of residents who would experience a view would be limited, due to intervening vegetation and the orientation of properties as well as the sparsity of residents within specific locations:

- From the north, northwest and northeast there would be theoretical views from pockets of high ground including near Stoke Wood, Hyden Wood, Queen Elizabeth Country Park and Windmill Hill. In this area, the number of residential properties is low. From the east and southeast there would be theoretical views from parts of Rowlands Castle, Horndean, Lovedean, Cowplain and Havant) however built form and intervening vegetation would serve a strong screening function.
- From the south there would be theoretical views from parts of Purbook, Waterlooville, the northern slopes of Portsdown Hill, Southwick and around the Forest of Bere. Views would be from where there are pockets of high ground between intervening vegetation.
- From the west there would be theoretical views from Newtown, Soberton Heath and the north-western edge of Forest of Bere. In this area, the number of residential properties is relatively low.

1.4.2.6. The impact of the Converter Station on residential receptors between 3 and 8 km is illustrated by representative viewpoint photographs and winter / summer wirelines from the northwest (see Figure 15.34a, b and c Viewpoint 17), the northeast (see Figure 15.19a, b and c Viewpoint 2 and Figure 15.34a, b and c Viewpoint 17) and the south (see Figure 15.25 and 26a, b and c Viewpoints 8 and 9).

Residential (receptors between 1.2 to 3 km, including settlements)

1.4.2.7. Between 1.2 and 3 km from the Converter Station, the assessment considered residents at individual properties in the countryside and those on the edge of, and within, settlements.

1.4.2.8. From the north and northwest, there would be views for a number of individual farmsteads and properties on the higher ground between Rushmere and Broadhalfpenny Down. In views from this area, the Converter Station would sit below the horizon, with the upper half of the northern / western elevation visible (same for both Options). It would form a small proportion of overall view and the depth of view would remain unchanged. Given the proximity of such properties to the Converter Station and based on the reasons outlined above there would be a small magnitude of change, resulting in a minor-moderate (not significant) adverse effect in year 0. The level of effect would reduce over time as the mitigation planting matures, reaching minor-moderate to negligible adverse (not significant) by year 20 (see Figure 15.31a, b and c Viewpoint 14 and Figure 15.32a, b and c Viewpoint 15).

1.4.2.9. From the northeast there would be partial and generally well filtered views for a small number of isolated properties on the higher ground around Hinton Manor and from parts of Catherington. Due to extent of intervening vegetation, combined with the presence of the existing Lovedean Substation, these would be subject to a change of no more than small magnitude and thus the effects would be minor-moderate (not significant) (see Figure 15.22a, b and c Viewpoint 5). This would remain unchanged over time.

1.4.2.10. From the east and southeast there would theoretically be views from parts of Horndean, Lovedean and Cowplain) as well as from individual properties and farmsteads including Shrover and Clarendon Farm. In reality, however, the extent of intervening vegetation and built form is such that there would be a small to no / or negligible magnitude of change. The resultant effects would be between minor-moderate adverse (not significant) to negligible. This would remain unchanged over time.

1.4.2.11. From the south and southwest, from Anmore and from the edges of Denmead as well as isolated properties and farmsteads including Merritt's and Pyles Farms, the Converter Station is anticipated to be visible above the horizon but with views of the buildings well-filtered (more so in summer) by the trees and hedgerows in the foreground. There would be a small magnitude of change, giving rise to minor-moderate adverse effects (not significant) (see Figure 15.24a, b and c Viewpoint 7). Over time, as mitigation planting develops the effect would reduce, reaching minor-moderate to negligible adverse (not significant) by year 10 and negligible by year 20.

1.4.2.12. West of the Converter Station there would be some visibility from a small number of isolated farmsteads and properties in the open country between Denmead and Rushmere, and from the parts of the edge of Anthill Common. Given the relative elevation, properties in this area tend to overlook the Converter Station, and the proposed buildings would interrupt the skyline. Trees and hedgerows, including trees around individual properties, would filter the view, particularly in the summer (see Figure 15.31a, b and c Viewpoint 14). Depending on distance and the precise degree of screening, the magnitude of change would range from small to negligible, giving rise to adverse effects ranging from minor-moderate (not significant) to negligible. This would remain unchanged over time.

Residential (individual receptors within 1.2 km)

1.4.2.13. The location and orientation of residential receptors within 1.2 km of the Converter Station are given in Table 3 of Appendix 15.6 (Visual Amenity). For ease receptors are grouped based on their relative position to the Converter Station. Where there are variations in the assessment these are identified for each position. Where feasible representative viewpoints photographs and associated winter / summer wirelines have been included to demonstrate the nature of the effect.

1.4.2.14. There are six residential properties in close proximity to the north of the Converter Station (Nos. No 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6):

- Nos. 1 and 2 would have a direct close view of the Converter Station particularly its northern elevation which would form a large proportion of the overall view changing its composition and depth. For Property No. 1 the view from lower storeys would be partly screened by their own outbuildings and vegetation edging their property. The views would be clearer in winter, particularly for No. 2, whilst in summer existing trees would provide partial screening. These receptors would experience a large magnitude of change and therefore a major adverse

1.4.2.15. Over time, the developing mitigation planting would reduce the effects. By year 10, the magnitude of change would fall to medium for No 1, small for Nos 4 and 6 and negligible (3 and 5). No. 1 would remain subject to a significant effect (moderate-major adverse) whilst the others would become non-significant (minor-moderate adverse 4 and 6, and negligible for 3 and 5). For No. 2 new planting would change the depth and composition of view resulting in a moderate-major neutral significant effect.

1.4.2.16. By year 20, the tallest trees are anticipated to reach up to 13 m high, reducing the effects at No. 1 to minor-moderate adverse (not significant). Effects on No. 2 would remain unchanged as moderate-major neutral significant. Effects for No.1 would differ from No. 2 on the basis that mitigation planting is set back from the property and strengthens existing planting edging No. 1's boundary.

1.4.2.17. There are four residential properties at between approximately 0.9 and 1.2 km to the northeast of the Converter Station (Nos. 19, 20, 21 and 22).

- Mature trees surround Nos. 19 and 20 such that views towards the Converter Station would be heavily filtered if not entirely screened, and for Nos. 19 and 20 the prime aspect of the houses appears to be away from the buildings. The magnitude of change for Nos. 19 and 20 would be small, giving rise to a minor-moderate adverse effect (not significant).
- Property 21 is unoccupied and very dilapidated. There would be oblique, partially filtered views, particularly from upper storey windows, a medium magnitude of change resulting in a moderate-major adverse (significant) effect (see Figure 15.20a, b and c Viewpoint 3).
- Property 22 lies outside of the ZTV. Due to the nature of the topography and surrounding vegetation there would be no visibility of the Converter Station. The magnitude of change experienced and the resultant effect would be negligible.

1.4.2.18. These effects would remain unchanged over time.

1.4.2.19. There are four properties east of the Converter Station (Nos. 17, 18, 27 and 28). The magnitude of change for these properties would range from medium-small to negligible. Nos. 17 and 18 include seven individual receptors in total, some of which would have a direct rear view of the Access Road and the Converter Station beyond, with part of the upper elevations noticeable in views behind Stoneacre and Crabdens Copses. Some would also have an oblique front view of the Access Road to the east of Broadway Lane. At worst receptors would experience a medium magnitude of change. Properties further east (Nos. 27 and 28) lie off Day Lane and New Road respectively and would experience either direct or oblique views at a distance, filtered by intervening vegetation and a small magnitude of change. The worst affected properties at Nos. 17 and 18 are anticipated to be subject to moderate-major adverse (significant) effects (see Figure 15.21a, b and c Viewpoint 4).

1.4.2.20. Over time mitigation planting would reduce the significance of adverse effects such that by year 20 the effects associated with No. 17 would reduce to minor – moderate (not significant) adverse. For No. 18 new planting would change the composition and depth of view and whilst the planting is slightly set back from the curtilage of the properties (stepping up from scrub to woodland) the view would alter resulting in a minor-moderate neutral (significant) effect based on proximity.

1.4.2.21. There are seven receptors or receptor groups southeast of the Converter Station (Nos. 14, 15, 16, 23, 24, 25 and 26). Residents of properties forming part of Nos. 14, 15 and 23 would have either direct or oblique filtered views of the Converter Station Area with the Access Road in the foreground resulting in a medium-small magnitude of change, a moderate-major adverse (significant) effect. Properties to the east of Broadway Lane would at worst have views of part of the upper elevations, behind Stoneacre and Crabdens Copses, a small-negligible magnitude of change, giving rise to a minor-moderate (not significant) adverse effect (see Figure 15.23a, b and c Viewpoint 6).

1.4.2.22. Over time mitigation planting would reduce the significance of adverse effects, such that by year 20 the effect from parts of Nos. 14, 15 and 23 would fall to minor-moderate (not significant) adverse.

1.4.2.23. Visual receptors immediately south of the Converter Station Area (Nos. 10, 11, 12 and 13) would have views ranging from direct open to oblique filtered, changing the depth and overall composition of the view. There would be a large to small magnitude of change, resulting in a major adverse (significant) effect for No. 12, a moderate-major adverse (significant) effect for No.10 and minor-moderate adverse (significant) effects for Nos.11 and 13 (see Figure 15.27a, b and c Viewpoint 10). There would be subtle differences between Option B(i) and B(ii) but not enough to alter the level of effect.

1.4.2.24. Over time mitigation planting immediately south of the Converter Station would alter the significance of adverse effects. By year 20 the screening effect of the planting would result in a moderate-major neutral (significant) effect based on proximity for No.12 and a minor-moderate adverse (not significant as planting reaches maturity) effect for Nos. 10, 11 and 13.

1.4.2.25. There are four visual receptors southwest of the Converter Station, Nos. 7, 8, 9 and 29. Views would range from direct open to oblique filtered and for both Options, the composition and depth of view would be affected. The magnitude of change varies depending on proximity, orientation and intervening vegetation / built form. No. 9 would be subject to a medium-large magnitude of change, giving rise to a moderate-major to major (significant) adverse effect based on proximity, whilst Nos. 7, 8 and 29 would be subject to a small magnitude of change, giving rise to a minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effect (see Figure 15.28a, b and c Viewpoint 11).

1.4.2.26. Over time, mitigation planting would reduce the degree of significance. By year 10, mitigation planting would screen parts of the Converter Station, although roughly the upper half southern / western elevation would still noticeable from No. 9. By year 20, mitigation planting would screen most of the Converter Station, the top of the southern / western elevation would still noticeable from No. 9, but the degree of effect would have reduced to minor-moderate adverse (not significant).

1.4.2.27. There are four visual receptors off Pitt Hill Lane, west of the Converter Station, Nos 30, 31, 32 and 33. The orientation of properties, density and siting of vegetation, presence of built form and nature of the topography is such that there would be limited visibility. Whilst the composition of the view would change slightly, the depth of view would remain unaltered. The magnitude of change would be between small and negligible, giving rise to effects between minor-moderate adverse (not significant) and negligible.

1.4.2.28. Over time, mitigation planting would reduce the degree of significance as mitigation planting increasingly screens the Converter Station. However, the upper half of the western elevation would remain noticeable from No. 31. By year 20, the degree of effect from this property would remain unchanged, minor-moderate adverse (not significant).

Recreational receptors between 3 and 8 km

Windmill Hill

1.4.2.29. Whilst part of the upper north-eastern elevation and roof of both Options would be visible from Windmill Hill and introduce a new horizontal feature, the Converter Station would be seen filtered through existing trees and it would not alter the overall composition, depth of view or break the skyline. The magnitude of change would be small in year 0, giving rise to a minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effect (see Figure 15.19a, b and c Viewpoint 2).

1.4.2.30. Over time, the development of mitigation planting would reduce the extent of the new buildings that are visible, such that by year 20 the effect would fall to minor-moderate to negligible adverse (not significant).

Fort Widley

1.4.2.31. The southern elevations of both Options would be apparent from Fort Widley but seen at a distance, forming a small proportion of the overall view. The depth of view would remain unaltered and the structures would not interrupt the skyline. The magnitude of change would be small in year 0 and the resultant effect would be minor-moderate adverse (not significant) (see Figure 15.26a, b and c Viewpoint 9).

1.4.2.32. Over time, the development of mitigation planting would reduce the extent of the new buildings that are visible, such that by year 20 the effect would fall to minor-moderate to negligible adverse (not significant).

Old Winchester Hill (South Downs Way and Open Access Land):

1.4.2.33. From Old Winchester Hill, the upper parts of the northern / western elevation and roofline would be barely discernible behind existing vegetation in the foreground of the view. This would be a small to negligible magnitude of change, resulting in a minor-moderate adverse (not significant) to negligible effect (see Figure 15.33a, b and c viewpoint 16).

1.4.2.34. These effects would remain unchanged over time.

Butser Hill (South Downs Way and Open access land):

1.4.2.35. The upper parts of the northern and eastern elevations and the roof line would be visible in views from Butser Hill. Whilst the structures would protrude above the ridgelines in the middle distance, introducing a horizontal feature, they would not interrupt the skyline or affect the depth of the view and they would form only a small proportion of the overall view. The magnitude of change in year 0 would be small to negligible resulting in a minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effect (see Figure 15.34a, b and c Viewpoint 17).

1.4.2.36. Over time, the development of mitigation planting would reduce the extent of the new buildings that are visible, such that by year 20 the effect would fall to minor-moderate to negligible adverse (not significant).

Monarch's Way / South Downs Way/ Wayfarers Walk

1.4.2.37. The upper parts of the Converter Station elevations and roof would be visible from some sections of these long-distance footpaths beyond 3 km from the Converter Station. However, given the distance and the extent of intervening vegetation the effect on the visual amenity of these routes considered as a whole would be negligible. There would be a small magnitude of change, giving rise in year 0 to a minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effect.

1.4.2.38. Over time, the development of mitigation planting would reduce the extent of the new buildings that are visible, such that by year 20 the effect would fall to minor-negligible adverse (not significant) to negligible.

Public Rights of Way

1.4.2.39. The upper parts of the Converter Station elevations and roof would be visible from certain locations on PRoWs beyond 3 km from the Converter Station. However, given the distance and the extent of intervening vegetation (and in some locations, intervening built development) the effect on the visual amenity of the PRoWs considered as a whole would be negligible. In certain locations, there would be a small magnitude of change, giving rise in year 0 to a minor-moderate adverse effect (not significant).

1.4.2.40. Over time, the development of mitigation planting would reduce the extent of the new buildings that are visible, such that by year 20 the effect would fall to minor-negligible adverse (not significant) to negligible.

Cycle Routes

1.4.2.41. National Cycle Network ('NCN') route 222 runs through the built-up areas of Horndean and Clanfield to the east of the Converter Station. There are also a number of locally promoted cycle routes (including Horndean, Broadhalfpenny Down, Horndean Technology College and River Alre) that follow minor roads and tracks around the Converter Station Area, connecting Denmead and Horndean and up into the downs to the North (see paragraph 1.5.3.54 and Figure 15.46).

1.4.2.42. There would be no or extremely limited visibility of the Converter Station Area from NCN222 and a negligible magnitude of change, and thus negligible effect on it.

1.4.2.43. Local effects on the local routes are discussed below. Overall however, the extent to which the Converter Station would be visible from these routes is limited. The magnitude of change and thus the visual effect on the visual amenity experienced by users of these routes as a whole would be negligible.

Recreational receptors within 3 km:

Monarch's Way (DC21 / HC06)

1.4.2.44. This route runs between Broadway Lane and Old Mill Lane, wrapping round the northern edge of Mill Copse and through arable fields northwest and north of the Converter Station. A user of this route would have views varying from direct and open to oblique and filtered by intervening vegetation, largely woodland trees, hedgerows and hedgerow trees. The magnitude of change experienced would range from small to medium. The change to the visual experience of the route as a whole would be medium, resulting in a moderate-major adverse (significant) effect (see Figure 15.20, 15,29 and 15.30 Viewpoint 3, 12 and 13). Option B(ii) would be more noticeable in the view compared to Option B(i) (which would be set back) but Option B(ii) would be perceived to form part of Lovedean Substation (including the extension based on a future baseline).

1.4.2.45. After 10 years part of the upper eastern elevations of the Converter Station would still be noticeable in views behind surrounding existing and mitigation planting and after 20 years part of the upper eastern elevations of the Converter Station would continue to be noticeable, although the extent of views would be reduced. Views would be most noticeable to the northeast of the Converter Station and east of Mill Copse. Views would consist of external structures and be perceived to form part of Lovedean Substation. The change to the visual experience of the route as a whole would fall to small, resulting in a minor-moderate (not significant) adverse effect. It should be noted that the effect diminishing would be dependent on the maturity of National Grid planting on land between the Converter Station and Lovedean Substation.

Catherington Down

1.4.2.46. Catherington Downs is an area of open access land crisscrossed by a number of footpaths. The Converter Station would be well screened by existing vegetation such that the magnitude of change and thus the resulting effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.22a, b and c Viewpoint 5).

Wayfarers Walk (Denmead 5 / Hambledon 32 and Soberton 5)

1.4.2.47. The Wayfarer's Walk is a long-distance footpath, which runs from Emsworth in Hampshire to Walbury Hill in Berkshire. Within the study area the route lies to the west of the Converter Station, running approximately north-south between Denmead and Hambledon. Foreground vegetation would screen many potential views of the Converter Station. As such, the effect on the visual amenity of the route across the study area would be small to negligible. The effect on the visual amenity of the route as a whole across the study area would be negligible, however in some locations there would be a local minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effect (see Figure 15.31a, b and c Viewpoint 14).

Local Public Rights of Way

1.4.2.48. There is a dense network of local PRoWs in the area surrounding the Converter Station, including footpaths and bridlepaths such as those along Pitt Hill Lane, Horsepost Lane, Harrowgate Lane and Sawyer's Hill. The assessment below focusses on PRoWs in the immediate vicinity of the Converter Station and Access Road on the assumption that these would represent the worst-case scenario. It does not therefore refer to every PRoW within the 3 km study area.

1.4.2.49. The paragraphs below describe the PRoW according to their location in relation to the Converter Station Area.

1.4.2.50. To the north and northwest, PRoW Hambledon 25a/b and Footpath HC41 (H25a/b / H41) runs north and wraps around Broadhalfpenny Down linking with Monarch's Way. In year 0 part of the upper elevations of the northern and western elevation would be partially visible through surrounding vegetation which largely consist of mature and over mature hedgerows and hedgerow trees lining these paths. The magnitude of change along the route as a whole would be small resulting in a minor adverse (not significant) effect. At worst there would be a medium magnitude of change resulting in moderate adverse (significant) localised effect. By year 10 and 20 it is likely that upper parts of the northern and western elevations would remain partially visible: the magnitude of change and resultant effect would remain unchanged over time.

1.4.2.51. To the northeast PRoW Horndean Footpath 41 (H41) runs from Hinton Manor Lane to Hambledon Road contouring round the hill below the reservoirs and observatory. There would be very limited visibility of the Converter Station, primarily due to the extent of intervening vegetation, particularly in the foreground of views from the path. In year 0 the magnitude of change and thus the resultant effect would be negligible, and the effect would not alter over time (see Figure 15.18a, b and c Viewpoint 1)

1.4.2.52. PRoW Horndean BOAT 46 (H46) is representative of the various PRoW to the east. From this route, the upper parts of the southern and eastern elevation would be noticeable, albeit in views filtered by existing vegetation. Users of the route as a whole would perceive a small magnitude of change resulting a minor adverse (not significant) effect in year 0 (see Figure 15.23a, b and c Viewpoint 6). There is no mitigation planting that would affect these views, so the effect would remain unchanged over time.

1.4.2.53. To the south PRoW Denmead Footpath 13 / Bridleway 41 (D13 / D41) runs to the north of Anmore Dell, cutting across Edney's Lane to the southwest and Anmore Road to the southeast linking Denmead and Lovedean. From here both Option B(i) and B(ii) would interrupt the skyline and alter the view's composition but not the depth of view. The Converter Station would form a small proportion of the overall view, be "read" in context with the clustering of pylons and overhead lines around Lovedean Substation but interrupt the skyline. Option B(ii) would appear to have a closer relationship with the existing Substation but the distance is insufficient to alter the level of the effect. In year 0 the magnitude of change of the route as a whole would be small and the resultant effect minor (not significant) adverse. At worst there would be a medium magnitude of change resulting in moderate (significant) adverse localised effect. By year 10 mitigation planting is unlikely to have become apparent in the view and the effect would remain unchanged. By year 20 the mitigation planting is anticipated to reach near mature height and would provide some screening to the lower parts of the western and southern elevations. This would alter the magnitude of change slightly and therefore the resultant effect, which would change to minor to moderate (not significant) adverse (see Figure 15.24a, b and c Viewpoint 7).

1.4.2.54. To the southeast two PRoWs run to the south of the Converter Station and Access Road connecting Broadway Lane (east) with Broadway Lane (south). At year 0 mitigation planting would have been implemented but would not be visually effective. Immediate planting would include hedgerow planting, woodland planting around the ancient woodland and north of the cluster of properties around Little Denmead Farm (Nos. 10, 11, 12 and 13) as well as around No.18 off Broadway Lane.

- From PRoW Denmead Footpath 16 and Horndean Footpath 4 (DC16 / HC04) the Converter Station would break the skyline and would be partially visible through gaps between the existing hedgerow which runs immediately north of the PRoW for most of its length (apart from to the east). The magnitude of change would be small to medium, resulting in a minor to moderate adverse (significant) effect based on proximity. By year 10 mitigation planting would screen immediate views reducing the magnitude of change perceived to small and thus the effect to minor adverse (not significant). By year 20 mitigation planting would have nearly reached maturity and given the immediate proximity of the planting would reduce the magnitude of change perceived and thus the effect on visual amenity to negligible.

- From PRoW Denmead Footpath 19 and Footpath 28 (DC19 / HC28) the Converter Station would occupy much of the view to the north and break the skyline. The buildings (up to 26m high) would be particularly noticeable above intervening existing vegetation compared to the proposed external structures to the east which are up to 15m high (excluding lighting masts) and would add slightly to the existing visual clutter associated with Lovedean Substation. At year 0, both Options would cause a change of medium magnitude, resulting in a moderate adverse (significant) effect based on proximity. By year 10 mitigation planting (hedges, hedgerow trees where feasible and woodland and scrub planting in the distance) would serve a limited screening function, slightly reducing the magnitude of change perceived to small to medium and the resultant effect to minor to moderate adverse, but remaining significant. By year 20 the mitigation planting would have nearly reached maturity although upper parts of the southern and eastern elevation would still be noticeable. This would reduce the magnitude of change perceived from small to negligible, resulting in a minor to negligible adverse, (not significant) effect (see Figure 15.21a, b and c Viewpoint 4 and Figure 15.27a, b and c Viewpoint 10).

1.4.2.55. To the southwest, from PRoW Denmead Footpath 17 (DC17), the Converter Station would form a small part of the overall panoramic view, with the upper parts of the west and south elevations visible, interrupting the skyline but “read” in the context of the clustering of pylons and overhead lines. Option B(ii) would appear slightly more recessive than Option B(i) from this direction but not a sufficient variation to change the magnitude of change and consequential level of effect. Overall users of the route as a whole would experience a small magnitude of change in year 0 and a resultant effect of minor adverse (not significant). At worst in some specific locations there would be a medium magnitude of change resulting in a moderate adverse (significant) localised effect. The magnitude of change would remain unchanged by year 10 but by year 20 as mitigation planting matures the effect would reduce to small to negligible. The resultant effect would be minor adverse to negligible, (not significant).

1.4.2.56. To the west, from PRoW Denmead Footpath 20 / Sawyer's Hill (DC20), the western elevation of the Converter Station would be partially visible, well filtered by the hedgerow vegetation in the foreground of the views. Overall the magnitude of change perceived by users of the route as a whole would vary from medium to negligible depending on orientation of the receptor and topography which falls away to the west resulting in a minor (not significant) adverse effect. In specific locations there would be a localised medium magnitude of change resulting in moderate adverse (significant) localised effect. Effects along the whole route and localised effects by year 10 would remain unchanged but by year 20 mitigation planting would have reached near mature height. Whilst there would still be partial views of the upper western elevation these would not be as noticeable in the view, reducing the perceived magnitude of change to small to negligible and thus a minor adverse (not significant) to negligible effect.

1.4.2.57. The Denmead Millennium Trail wraps around Denmead with the nearest part of the route following PRoW Footpath 13 / Bridleway 41 (DC13 / DC41). In year 0 the magnitude of change of the route as a whole would be negligible to small and the resultant effect minor (not significant) adverse. Such effects would remain unchanged by year 20.

Cycle Routes

1.4.2.58. Within the 3 km study area, the Horndean, Broadhalfpenny Down and River Alre cycle routes all follow minor roads and tracks to the west and north of the Converter Station, whilst the Horndean Technology College cycle route runs to the east of the Converter Station along Day Lane and Broadway Lane (called Anmore Lane further south). Views from the north and west of the Converter Station Area are generally quite limited because the existing hedges and hedgerow trees edging the lanes serve a strong screening function. To the east there would be a clear view of the site entrance and Access Road on either side of Broadway Lane; whilst for the remainder of the route existing vegetation would serve a strong screening function.

1.4.2.59. Whilst the effect on these routes as a whole would be negligible, locally glimpses of the Converter Station Area are sufficient that users of these routes would experience a small to medium magnitude of change. This would result in localised minor to moderate adverse effects (not significant) for western routes and moderate adverse (significant) for Horndean Technology cycle route (see Figure 15.28a, b and c Viewpoint 11 and Figure 15.36 and 15.37a, b, c and d Local Viewpoints B and C).

1.4.2.60. By year 10 the magnitude of change for western routes would fall to small as mitigation planting increases the degree to which the lower parts of the buildings and site entranceway / Access Road are screened, and the effect would fall to minor adverse (not significant). By year 20 the increased screening effect would reduce the magnitude of change to small to negligible and the resulting effect to minor to negligible (not significant). For Horndean Technology College route the effect would reduce to minor adverse (not significant) and remain unchanged in year 20.

Transport receptors between 3 and 8 km

1.4.2.61. Users of the local of B roads (B2150, B2177, B2148 and B2149) would have occasional glimpses of the Converter Station and be of low sensitivity. The magnitude of change during operation would be small, resulting in a minor localised adverse effect in Year 0 (not significant).

1.4.2.62. Likewise, users of minor roads in the wider study area would be of medium sensitivity and have occasional glimpses, primarily through gaps in the roadside hedges and usually filtered by intervening vegetation. The magnitude of change would be small to negligible, resulting in minor to negligible adverse effects in year 0 (not significant).

1.4.2.63. Over time, for most users of the wider road network, the mitigation planting would reduce the degree to which the buildings were visible, reducing the degree of significance.

Transport receptors within 3 km

1.4.2.64. Transport receptors within 3 km and outlined below are considered to be of medium sensitivity. To the north of the Converter Station Area, the U218 (unnamed) links Old Mill and Broadway Lanes. There would be partial views of the Converter Station, filtered by the hedge and tree lines to the north (which are due to be maintained and gapped up as part of the Proposed Development) and in parts screened by Mill Copse. Users of this lane would perceive a small to medium magnitude of change, giving rise to a minor to moderate (not significant) adverse effect (see Figure 15.29a, b and c Viewpoint 12).

1.4.2.65. By year 10 mitigation planting to the north of the Converter Station would provide an additional layer of screening reducing the perceived magnitude of change and resulting effect to negligible. The mitigation planting would reach near mature height by year 20, with the effect remaining as negligible.

1.4.2.66. From the east of the Converter Station Area, for people travelling between Denmead and Horndean along Broadway Lane (called Anmore Lane further south) over half of the southern and eastern elevations of the Converter Station would be noticeable in many views between / behind surrounding existing vegetation particularly in the section to the north of the existing Lovedean Substation and approaching the entrance from the south (exactly what is visible would vary according to distance, direction and the angle of view along the route). Views would include from north of Lovedean Substation the external structures to the east of the valve halls and, at the junction with Day Lane, the new Access Road on either side of Broadway Lane and widened visibility splays would be clearly noticeable. The magnitude of change perceived by users of the route would vary according to the extent of visibility through the roadside hedges and trees from negligible to medium, with the overall effect on the visual amenity of the route as a whole being small, resulting in a minor (not significant) adverse effect. Locally, for travellers heading north near the Converter Station Area the effect would be moderate adverse and significant.

1.4.2.67. Over time, the mitigation planting would provide some additional screening but the southern and eastern elevations of the Converter Station would remain sufficiently noticeable (particularly to the northeast of the Converter Station and east of Mill Copse) as well as the western side of the access road. Consequently, the magnitude of change and resulting effect as a whole would remain unchanged with localised effect remaining as moderate adverse (significant). The screening of views from this angle would also be dependent on the maturity of National Grid planting on land between the Converter Station and Lovedean Substation, which could provide some screening if it reaches maturity.

1.4.2.68. Users of Day Lane approaching the Converter Station Area from the east would have a clear view of the Access Road cutting across Day Lane and Broadway Lane and in closer views the site entrance and Access Road on both the western and eastern side of Broadway Lane. Views of the Converter Station itself would largely be screened by existing vegetation. Locally this would be a change of medium magnitude but perceived as small on the visual amenity of the road as a whole, giving rise to a minor (not significant) adverse effect (see Figure 15.21a, b and c: Viewpoint 4).For travellers near the Converter Station Area the effect would be localised moderate adverse and significant.

1.4.2.69. By year 10 mitigation planting would help integrate the entranceway into its surroundings reducing the perceived magnitude of change and thus the overall effect would be negligible to minor (not significant) but there would remain a localised moderate adverse (significant) effect. This would then remain unchanged over time.

1.4.2.70. To the south of the Converter Station users of the U200 Broadway Lane (south) (named Crossways Road on some maps) which links Old Mill Lane and Anmore Lane would have direct and oblique views of the Converter Station albeit partly filtered by roadside trees and hedges where they have not been grubbed out. Overall users of this lane would perceive a medium to small magnitude of change, giving rise here to a moderate (significant) adverse based on proximity to minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effect on their visual amenity (see Figure 15.35a, b and c: Local Viewpoint A). Further south users of Anmore Lane / C40 Anmore Road would experience a small magnitude of change resulting in a minor (not significant) adverse effect.

1.4.2.71. By year 10 the maturing mitigation planting (hedges and, where there are no overhead lines, hedgerow trees) would reduce the magnitude of change perceived to be small to negligible and the resultant effect to minor to negligible (not significant) adverse. By year 20 the mitigation planting would reduce the perceived magnitude of change and resultant effect to negligible. Effects for Anmore Lane /C40 Anmore Road would remain unchanged.

1.4.2.72. To the west and southwest there are potential views from a network of minor roads including U165 Old Mill Lane/ Edneys Lane, U200 White Horse Lane, Kidmore Lane, Tanners Lane and Rushmere Lane. There would be limited views of the Converter Station Area due to the nature of the enclosed winding well vegetated lanes which serves a strong screening function, although from the U165 Edneys Lane / Old Mill Lane there would be occasional clear views through gaps in the roadside hedges. Locally this would give rise to medium magnitude of change, resulting in a moderate (significant) effect, but overall the magnitude of change for visual amenity of the route as a whole would be small with a resultant effect of minor (not significant) (see Figure 15.28a, b and c Viewpoint 11 and Figure 15.36 and 15.37a, b, c and d Local Viewpoints B and C).

1.4.2.73. By year 10 the magnitude of change would reduce to small. The additional mitigation including along Old Mill Lane and within the Converter Station Area planting would partially screening lower elevations resulting in a negligible to minor (not significant) adverse effect. By year 20 the maturing mitigation planting would further reduce the perceived magnitude of change from small to negligible depending on the orientation of view resulting in a negligible-minor (not significant) to negligible adverse effect.

1.5. SECTION 1 LOVEDEAN (CONVERTER STATION AREA): DECOMMISSIONING STAGE

1.5.1. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER - DECOMMISSIONING

SDNP / District / City Landscape Character Area/ Types

SDNP D Downland Mosaic

1.5.1.1. As outlined previously the SDNP landscape is of high sensitivity. Whilst there would be no direct impacts, there would be indirect perceptual / experiential impacts associated with inter visibility which would be particularly noticeable immediately on the edge of the SDNP's boundary and from higher ground forming the secondary escarpment. During decommissioning the magnitude of change is small to negligible; inter visibility limited due to the visual screening function of surrounding hedgerows and within the immediate vicinity of the Converter Station Area, mitigation planting. This would result in an indirect minor-moderate to negligible adverse temporary short-term localised (significant) effect due to proximity) and further afield (not significant) effect.

WCC 17 Hambledon Downs

1.5.1.2. The landscape is of high to medium sensitivity; sensitivity levels increasing progressively as the SDNP exerts an influence in terms of condition and management. The landscape within which the Converter Station sits is of medium sensitivity (LCT17 W2).

1.5.1.3. The magnitude of change would range from medium (LCT 17 W2) within the Converter Station Area (resulting from moderate changes in a localised area and which would form a small proportion of the overall landscape character type) to small - negligible elsewhere (LCT 17 W2 and W5). This would generate respectively direct moderate adverse temporary short-term localised (significant) effects and indirect minor-moderate to negligible adverse temporary short-term localised (not significant) effects. Effects associated with the latter relate to indirect perceptual / experiential impacts. LCT 17 W4 would not experience any indirect effects, the scarp sloping down in a northerly direction.

EHDC LCT 3: Downland Mosaic:

1.5.1.4. The landscape is of high to medium sensitivity; sensitivity levels increasing progressively as the SDNP exerts an influence in terms of condition and management. The landscape within which the Access Road sits is of medium sensitivity.

1.5.1.5. The magnitude of change would range from medium within the Converter Station Area (and covering the Access Road and Laydown Area / Works Compound) to small or negligible elsewhere generating respectively a direct moderate adverse temporary short-term localised (significant) effects and indirect minor-moderate to negligible adverse temporary short-term localised (not significant) effects. The latter resulting from indirect perceptual / experiential impacts=.

EHDC LCT 10 Wooded Claylands – LCA 10a Havant Thicket and Southleigh Forest:

1.5.1.6. The sensitivity of this LCA is medium and magnitude of change is small to negligible / no change. Whilst there would be no direct effects on this LCA, there would be indirect perceptual / experiential effects associated with inter visibility but these are only likely to be concentrated to the southwest of the LCA partially screened by layers of intervening trees in the foreground. During decommissioning it is considered that there would be an indirect minor to negligible adverse temporary short-term localised (not significant) effect.

WCC 18 Forest of Bere Lowlands:

1.5.1.7. It is considered that this landscape is of medium sensitivity. Whilst there would be no direct effects on the LCA there would be indirect effects associated with the perceptual / experiential qualities of this character and relating to inter visibility.

1.5.1.8. Although the ZTVs indicates that there are views across to the Converter Station, inter visibility from publicly accessible locations is low given the nature of the well wooded lanes and surrounding vegetation. On this basis the magnitude of change is low and there would be indirect minor adverse temporary, short-term localised (not significant) effect.

Setting of the SDNP

1.5.1.9. The setting of the SDNP would be of medium sensitivity on the basis that inter visibility is localised to the immediate edge of the SDNP and roads to the north, east and west of the Converter Station Area. Magnitude of change would be large to medium resulting in indirect minor-moderate temporary short-term localised (significant) effect.

Landscape Features:

Landform:

1.5.1.10. Following the removal of the Converter Station, the landform immediately around the Converter Station would be reprofiled where practicable whilst retaining surrounding mitigation planting. The sensitivity of the existing landform is medium whilst the magnitude of change would be medium resulting from moderate changes in a localised area which may be discernible. For both Option B(i) and B(ii) there would be a direct moderate neutral long-term permanent significant effect.

Landuse:

1.5.1.11. It is assumed that the land would remain as a mix of mitigation planting consisting of woodland, scrub, hedgerows and grassland and therefore the extent of farmland which could be used in the future would be limited. Some land however would be required on a temporary basis to accommodate Laydown Areas / Works Compound and whilst the feature is of medium sensitivity, the magnitude of change would be medium to small generating a direct moderate to minor-moderate adverse short-term temporary (significant) effect.

Vegetation – woodland, hedgerow trees and hedgerows:

1.5.1.12. It is possible that decommissioning works could result in temporary land take to accommodate Laydown Area / Works Compound and therefore the loss of some mitigation and existing planting. At this point in time it is unclear exactly which areas could be affected and hence which areas of planting. Vegetation is considered to be medium and the magnitude of change given the uncertainty medium resulting in direct moderate adverse temporary short-term localised (significant) effects.

1.5.1.13. It is expected that remaining planting would remain in perpetuity and existing and "recent" planting lost would be reinstated.

Drainage:

1.5.1.14. It is assumed all above ground works would be removed and as for landform; the ponds reprofiled. The sensitivity of drainage as a feature is medium and the magnitude of change would be small resulting in a direct minor-moderate adverse short-term temporary (not significant) effect =.

Infrastructure:

1.5.1.15. It is assumed that the Access Road both west and east of Broadway Lane would be removed, seeded and the entranceway / exits onto Broadway Lane and Day Lane planted up with new hedgerow planting working with existing constraints associated with the SSE cables. The feature is of medium sensitivity and the magnitude of change whilst localised would be medium resulting in a direct moderate adverse temporary short-term (significant) effect.

Tranquillity:

1.5.1.16. As outlined in the baseline, tranquillity levels across Section 1 vary from medium to low sensitivity. Decommissioning activities would result in a medium magnitude of change through the generation of noise. It is considered there would be an indirect moderate temporary short-term localised (significant) effects.

Immediate Public Rights of Ways:

1.5.1.17. Public Rights of Way (PRoW) DC16 / HC04 and HC28: It is expected that there would be no further changes to PRoW DC16 / HC04 and HC28 during decommissioning so whilst the features are of medium sensitivity, there would be a negligible magnitude of change resulting in an indirect negligible temporary short-term (not significant) effect on the basis that "recently" planted hedgerows would be retained providing visual screening.

1.5.2. VISUAL AMENITY - DECOMMISSIONING

1.5.2.1. By decommissioning stage mitigation planting would have matured to reach heights referred to in Appendix 15.7 (Landscape Schedules, Planting Heights and Image Board) and provide a visual screening function. As outlined under landscape features whilst the majority of planting would remain, some land would be required to accommodate Laydown Areas / Works Compound. This could therefore result in the loss of some mitigation planting and existing vegetation within the Converter Station Area. At the time of writing it is not known which areas of planting could be affected and therefore the assessment assumes that all planting would remain.

1.5.2.2. Demolition stage effects would be a mixture of short-term adverse effects as works were undertaken and long-term beneficial effects arising from the removal of the Converter Station buildings based on a future baseline.

Residential (receptors between 3 to 8 km, including settlements)

1.5.2.3. Beyond 3 km from the Converter Station, no changes greater than negligible magnitude were found for residential receptors. Those residential receptors that do have a view of the Converter Station Area would be subject to a negligible effect during demolition.

Residential (receptors between 1.2 to 3 km, including settlements)

1.5.2.4. Between 1.2 and 3 km from the Converter Station, the assessment considered residents at individual properties in the countryside and those on the edge of, and within, settlements.

1.5.2.5. From the north and northwest, there would be views from a number of individual farmsteads and properties on the higher ground between Rushmere and Broadhalfpenny Down. These would be subject to a small to negligible magnitude of change, resulting in a minor-moderate adverse (not significant) to negligible effect in the short term and beneficial in the long term.

1.5.2.6. From the northeast there would be partial and generally well filtered views for a small number of isolated properties on the higher ground around Hinton Manor and from parts of Catherington. The extent of intervening vegetation including the established mitigation planting is such that these would be subject to a change of negligible magnitude and thus the effects would be negligible.

1.5.2.7. From the east and southeast there would theoretically be views from parts of Horndean, Lovedean and Cowplain as well as individual properties and farmsteads including Shrover and Clarendon Farm. In reality however, the extent of intervening vegetation and built form is such that there would be a small to no or negligible magnitude of change. The resultant effects would be minor-moderate adverse (not significant) to negligible effect in the short term and beneficial in the long term.

1.5.2.8. From the south and southwest there would be well-filtered views from Anmore and from the edges of Denmead as well as from individual properties and farmsteads including Merritt's and Pyles Farms. Trees and hedgerows in the foreground of the views and the established mitigation planting would provide sufficient screening that the magnitude of change would be small to negligible, giving rise to minor-moderate adverse (not significant) to negligible effect in the short term and beneficial in the long term.

1.5.2.9. West of the Converter Station there would be some visibility from a small number of isolated farmsteads and properties in the open country between Denmead and Rushmere, and from the parts of the edge of Anthill Common. Trees and hedgerows, particularly trees around individual properties and the mitigation planting within and edging the Converter Station Area, would substantially filter most views such that the magnitude of change would range from small to negligible, depending on distance and the precise degree of screening. The resulting effect would be between minor-moderate and negligible (not significant), in all cases adverse in the short term and beneficial in the long term.

Residential (individual receptors within 1.2 km)

1.5.2.10. The location and orientation of residential receptors within 1.2 km of the Converter Station are given in Table 3 of Appendix 15.6 (Visual Amenity). For ease receptors are grouped based on their relative position to the Converter Station. Where there are variations in the assessment these are identified for each position. Where feasible representative viewpoints and associated winter wirelines have been included to demonstrate the nature of the effect.

1.5.2.11. There are six residential receptors in close proximity to the north of the Converter Station (Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6). The magnitude of change and thus the effect would be negligible for Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6) on the assumption that the mitigation planting would not be removed and would screen the changes from view. For No. 2 the magnitude of change and effect would remain unchanged at moderate-major neutral (significant).

1.5.2.12. There are four residential receptors between approximately 900 and 1,200m to the northeast of the Converter Station (Nos. 19, 20, 21 and 22). Mature trees surround Nos. 19 and 20 such that views towards the Converter Station would be heavily filtered if not entirely screened and the prime aspect of the houses appears to be away from the Converter Station, whilst for No. 22 the topography and trees serve a screening function. The magnitude of change and effect for these receptors would be negligible. No. 21 is unoccupied and very dilapidated. There would be oblique, partially filtered views, particularly from upper storey windows, a small magnitude of change resulting in a minor-moderate effect (significant because of proximity), adverse in the short term and beneficial in the long term.

1.5.2.13. There are four properties east of the Converter Station (Nos. 17, 18, 27 and 28). The magnitude of change for residents of these properties would range from medium to negligible. Nos. 17 and 18 include seven individual receptors in total, some of which would have a direct rear view across to the Access Road. Properties further east (Nos. 27 and 28) lie off Day Lane and New Road respectively and would experience either direct or oblique views at a distance. The magnitude of change would be small for No. 17 resulting in a minor-moderate effect significant effect based on proximity, adverse in the short-term and beneficial in the long term. The magnitude of change and consequential effect would remain unchanged for No. 18 as minor-moderate

1.5.2.14. neutral (significant) whilst for Nos. 27 and 28 the change and effect would be negligible.

1.5.2.15. South east of the Converter Station (Nos. 14, 15, 16, 23, 24, 25 and 26): The magnitude of change would range from small to negligible for properties to the south east. Residents of properties forming part of Nos. 14, 15 and 23 would have either direct or oblique filtered views of the demolition works resulting in a small magnitude of change, and thus a minor-moderate effect, not significant, adverse in the shortterm and beneficial in the long-term. For residents of properties to the east of Broadway Lane (Nos. 16, 23 and 24) there would be a negligible magnitude of change and thus negligible effect.

1.5.2.16. South of the Converter Station (Nos. 10, 11, 12 and 13): For Nos. 10, 11 and 13 the magnitude of change would be small to negligible due to the screening effect of the mitigation planting, resulting in a minor-moderate effect, not significant, adverse in the short term and beneficial in the long term. For No. 12 effects would remain unchanged as moderate-major neutral (significant).

1.5.2.17. South west of the Converter Station (Nos. 7, 8, 9 and 29) the magnitude of change would range from small (No. 9) to negligible (No. 7, 8 and 29) based on the proximity, orientation and intervening vegetation / built form. No 9 would be subject to a minor-moderate effect, not significant, adverse in the short-term and beneficial in the long-term, whilst for Nos. 7, 8 and 29 the effect would be negligible.

1.5.2.18. West of the Converter Station the visual receptors off Pitt Hill Lane (Nos. 30, 31, 32 and 33) would receive a small to negligible magnitude and a minor-moderate effect, not significant, adverse in the short term and beneficial in the long term.

Recreational and visitor receptors between 3 and 8 km:

Windmill Hill

1.5.2.19. There would be very limited distant visibility of decommissioning works from Windmill Hill, filtered through existing trees. The works would not alter the overall composition or depth of view and therefore the magnitude of change and the resultant effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.19a, b and c Viewpoint 2).

Fort Widley

1.5.2.20. There would be distant visibility of decommissioning works from Fort Widley, forming a small element of the view. The works would not alter the overall composition or depth of view and therefore the magnitude of change and the resultant effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.26a, b and c Viewpoint 9).

Old Winchester Hill (South Downs Way and Open Access Land):

1.5.2.21. From Old Winchester Hill, the decommissioning works would be barely discernible well filtered by existing vegetation in the foreground of the view. The works would not alter the overall composition of the view. The magnitude of change and the resultant effect would therefore be negligible (see Figure 15.33a, b and c Viewpoint 16).

1.5.2.22. Monarch's Way / South Downs Way / Wayfarers Walk

1.5.2.23. There would be limited visibility of the decommissioning works at certain locations along these long-distance footpaths beyond 3 km from the Converter Station Area and works would remove a small element from certain views. However, given the distance and the extent of intervening vegetation the magnitude of change experienced and the resultant effect on the visual amenity of these routes would be negligible.

Public Rights of WayThere would be limited visibility of the decommissioning works from certain locations on PRoWs beyond 3 km from the Converter Station Area. However, given the distance and the extent of intervening vegetation (and in some locations, intervening built development) the magnitude of change experienced and the resultant effect on the visual amenity of the PRoWs would be negligible.

Cycle Routes

1.5.2.24. National Cycle Network (NCN) route 222 runs through the built-up areas of Horndean and Clanfield to the east of the Converter Station and there are a number of locally promoted cycle routes (Horndean, Broadhalfpenny Down, Horndean Technology College and River Alre) that follow minor roads and tracks around the Converter Station Area, connecting Denmead and Horndean and up into the downs to the North (see paragraph 1.5.3.54 and Figure 15.46).

1.5.2.25. There would be no or extremely limited visibility of the decommissioning works from NCN222 and a negligible magnitude of change, and thus negligible effect on it.

1.5.2.26. Local effects on the local routes are discussed below. Overall however, the extent to which the decommissioning works would be visible from these routes is limited. The magnitude of change and thus the visual effect on the visual amenity experienced by users of these routes as a whole would be negligible.

Recreational and visitor receptors within 3 km

Monarch's Way (DC21 / HC06)

1.5.2.27. This route runs between Broadway Lane and Old Mill Lane, wrapping round the northern edge of Mill Copse and through arable fields north and northwest of the Converter Station. A user of this route would have views of the decommissioning works varying from direct and open to oblique and filtered by intervening vegetation, largely hedgerows and hedgerow trees.

1.5.2.28. The magnitude of change experienced would generally be small, resulting in a minor-moderate (significant due to its proximity) effect, adverse in the short-term whilst activity was ongoing but beneficial in the long-term (see Figure 15.20a, b and c Viewpoint 3, Figure 15.29a, b and c Viewpoint 12 and Figure 15.30a, b and c Viewpoint 13).

Catherington Down

1.5.2.29. Catherington Downs is an area of open access land crisscrossed by a number of footpaths. The Converter Station would be well screened by existing vegetation reinforced by the mitigation planting, and as such the magnitude of change and thus the resulting effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.22a, b and c Viewpoint 5).

Wayfarers Walk (Denmead 5 / Hambledon 32 and Soberton 5)

1.5.2.30. The Wayfarer's Walk is a long-distance footpath, which runs from Emsworth in Hampshire to Walbury Hill in Berkshire. Within the study area the route lies to the west of the Converter Station Area, running approximately north-south between Denmead and Hambledon.

1.5.2.31. Existing foreground vegetation would screen most potential views of the decommissioning works. As such, the effect on the visual amenity of the route across the study area would be small to negligible. The effect on the visual amenity of the route as a whole across the study area would be negligible although there would be some locations from which there would be a local minor-moderate temporary short-term (not significant) effect (see Figure 15.31a, b and c Viewpoint 14).

Local Public Rights of Way

1.5.2.32. There is a dense network of local PRoWs in the area surrounding the Converter Station, including footpaths and bridlepaths such as those along Pitt Hill Lane, Horsepost Lane, Harrowgate Lane and Sawyer's Hill. The assessment below focusses on PRoWs in the immediate vicinity of the Converter Station Area and Access Road on the assumption that these would represent the worst-case scenario. It does not therefore refer to every PRoW within the 3 km study area.

1.5.2.33. The paragraphs below describe the PRoW according to their location in relation to the Converter Station Area.

1.5.2.34. To the north and northwest PRoW Hambledon 25a/b and Footpath HC41 (H25a/b and H41) runs north and wraps around Broadhalfpenny Down linking with Monarch's Way. Due to the topography there would be some visibility of the decommissioning works though the extent of intervening vegetation in the form of overgrown hedgerows and hedgerow trees would serve a partial screening function. The magnitude of change would be small resulting in a minor (not significant) adverse effect in the short term and To the northeast PRoW Horndean Footpath 41 (H41) runs from Hinton Manor Lane to Hambledon Road, contouring round the hill below the reservoirs and observatory. There would be very limited visibility of the decommissioning works, primarily due to the extent of intervening vegetation, particularly in the foreground of views from the path. The magnitude of change and thus the resulting effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.18a, b and c Viewpoint 1).

1.5.2.35. PRoW Horndean BOAT 46 (H46) is representative of the various PRoW to the east. From here existing vegetation would partially screen views of decommissioning activities. There would be a small to negligible magnitude of change, giving rise to a minor to negligible effect (not significant) adverse in the short term and beneficial in the long term (see Figure 15.23a, b and c Viewpoint 6).

1.5.2.36. To the south PRoW Denmead Footpath 13 / Bridleway 41 (DC13 / DC14) runs to the north of Anmore Dell, cutting across Edney's Lane to the south west and Anmore Road to the southeast linking Denmead and Lovedean. Decommissioning work may be just perceptible beyond layers of intervening vegetation including mitigation planting. The magnitude of change perceived by users of the route and thus the resulting effect on visual amenity would be negligible (see Figure 15.24a, b and c Viewpoint 7).

1.5.2.37. To the southeast two PRoWs (DC16 / HC04 and DC19/HC28) run to the south of the Converter Station Area connecting Broadway Lane (east) with Broadway Lane (south). By the time of decommissioning the mitigation planting would have reached maturity and together with the existing vegetation provide an effective screening function. For both routes the magnitude of change would be negligible to small generating a negligible to minor (not significant) effect, adverse in the short term and beneficial in the long term.

1.5.2.38. beneficial in the long term. To the southwest views of decommissioning activities from PRoW Denmead Footpath 17 (DC17) would be screened, partly by existing vegetation and partly by the mitigation planting. Whilst there might be occasional glimpses of decommissioning works, the magnitude of change to the visual amenity of the route as a whole and thus the resulting effect would be negligible (see Figure 15.28a, b and c Viewpoint 11.)

1.5.2.39. Likewise, to the west, views of decommissioning activities from PRoW Denmead Footpath 20 / Sawyer's Hill (DC13 / DC41) would be partly screened by existing vegetation and partly by the matured mitigation planting. Users of the route would experience a change of negligible magnitude and thus a negligible effect.

1.5.2.40. The Denmead Millennium Trail wraps around Denmead with the nearest part of the route following PRoW Footpath 13 / Bridleway 41 (DC13 / DC41). Decommissioning work may be just perceptible beyond layers of intervening vegetation including mitigation planting. The magnitude of change perceived by users of the route and thus the resulting effect on visual amenity would be negligible.

Cycle Routes

1.5.2.41. Within the 3 km study area, the Horndean, Broadhalfpenny Down and River Alre cycle routes all follow minor roads and tracks to the west and north of the Converter Station, whilst Horndean Technology College cycle route runs to the east. Views of the decommissioning works.

1.5.2.42. To the west of the Converter Station Area views would be limited both by the existing roadside hedges and hedgerow trees and by the mitigation planting. The magnitude of change to the visual amenity of the routes overall, and thus the resultant effect would be negligible, although locally there may be occasional glimpses of demolition work. To the east of the Converter Station views of decommissioning works would be noticeable from localised sections of Broadway Lane and Day Lane forming part of the Horndean Technology Cycle route generating a localised medium magnitude of change and a moderate adverse (significant) effect whilst overall the route would be negligible.

Transport receptors between 3 and 8 km

1.5.2.43. Users of the local of B roads (B2150, B2177, B2148 and B2149) in the wider study area would have occasional glimpses of the decommissioning works and be of low sensitivity. The magnitude of change perceived and the resultant effect would be negligible.

1.5.2.44. Likewise, users of minor roads in the wider study area who would be of medium sensitivity would have occasional glimpses, primarily through gaps in the roadside hedges and usually filtered by intervening vegetation. The magnitude of change would be small to negligible, resulting in short-term negligible-minor (not significant) adverse to negligible effects.

Transport receptors within 3 km

1.5.2.45. Users of the local road network within 3 km are considered to be of medium sensitivity and would have occasional glimpses of the decommissioning works while they were under way and occasional views where the Converter Station buildings were no longer part of the scene. However, from most of the area views into the Converter Station Area from the roads would be screened either by existing roadside hedges and trees or the established mitigation planting resulting in a negligible magnitude of change and effect.

1.5.2.46. There would be a temporary local effect for users travelling between Denmead and Horndean along Broadway Lane and Day Lane, from views of decommissioning works through the site entrance. This would be a medium magnitude of change and a short-term moderate adverse effect (significant).

1.5.3. ONSHORE CABLE ROUTE

1.5.3.1. The assessment of the Onshore Cable Route focused on impacts and consequential effects during construction. Following construction and reinstatement it is anticipated that there would be no effects during the operation of the Onshore Cable Route. All effects during construction on visual receptors are temporary, short-term and localised. For the sake of legibility this is not repeated in the following assessments. Where relevant assumptions relating to trees and hedgerows are made these should be cross referenced with Appendix 16.3 (Arboriculture Report) of the ES Volume 3 (document reference 6.3.16.3).

1.6. SECTION 2 – ANMORE

1.6.1. CONSTRUCTION EFFECTS

Landscape Character

1.6.1.1. Construction activities would impact on the landscape character area referred to in Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) and covering WCC17 and 18 as well as EHDC District LCA 3fi Horndean Clanfield Edge. It is expected that the current and future baseline would remain the same.

Landscape Character

1.6.1.2. WCC LCA 17 (W1 / W3) and LCA 18 (W2) are of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small given the scale of works relative to the character area which is predominately within LCA 17 WCC 2. There would be a direct, temporary short-term minor (not significant) effect on landscape character. Whilst the study area for Section 2 cuts through a small area of EHDC District LCA 3fi Horndean Clanfield Edge it is considered that the magnitude of change and consequential effect in this section is negligible.

1.6.1.3. There would however be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to character, namely PRoW Denmead 13 which is well used and may be closed during the works with a temporary diversion, a temporary change in use of farmland and loss of native hedgerows which form a strong pattern and typical of LCA 17. There would also be an interruption to the sense of openness within this urban fringe landscape and tranquillity levels, which for this LCA are described as "tranquil and rural in nature".

Landscape Features

1.6.1.4. Features described above would be of medium sensitivity. There would be a small magnitude of change and the LVIA considers that there would be a direct and indirect, temporary short to medium term localised minor (not significant) effect.

Visual Amenity

1.6.1.5. Construction activities would be noticeable in immediate views of the Onshore Cable Route installation particularly along Broadway Lane (south) and Anmore Road, and off Edneys Lane and the north-western edge of Clifton Crescent. There would be full, partial to filtered views depending on the relative proximity of receptor to the works and the screening function of intervening built form and adjacent vegetation

Residential users

1.6.1.6. The sensitivity of residential receptors would be high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effects. Whilst construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate residential receptors; particularly those to the north of Anmore Road and east of Edney's Lane there would be minor changes in a localised area, the duration of immediate works would be limited and reversible.

1.6.1.7. Remaining residential receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects depending on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Recreational users

1.6.1.8. The sensitivity of recreational receptors would be medium. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor adverse (not significant) effects. Whilst construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate recreational receptors i.e. PRoW users of Denmead 13, there would be a minor change in a localised area and short duration of works which would be reversible

1.6.1.9. Remaining recreational receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Transport users

1.6.1.10. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium (based on the nature of the roads and traffic levels). The magnitude of change would be small, generating a direct minor adverse localised (not significant) effect for the same reasons outlined above.

1.6.1.11. Remaining transport receptors would experience a negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

1.7. SECTION 3 – DENMEAD / KINGS POND MEADOWS

1.7.1. CONSTRUCTION EFFECTS

Landscape Character

1.7.1.1. Construction activities would impact on the landscape character area see Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) and covering WCC LCA 18 (W1 / W3) and the eastern residential edge of Denmead.

Landscape Character

1.7.1.2. WCC LCA 18 (W1 / 3) is of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be medium in W3 (given the local landscape designation, pastural lowland meadow landscape and numerous mature trees including TPO'd trees to south of Hambledon Road). The magnitude of change would be small in W1 given the scale of works relative to the character area. For WCC LCA18 W3 there would be a direct, temporary medium-term localised moderate (significant) effect, and for W1 a direct, temporary short-term localised minor (not significant) effect on landscape character.

1.7.1.3. There would be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to character, namely roadside footpaths which may be diverted during the works to the north and south of Kings Pond Meadows.

1.7.1.4. There would also be an impact on the local landscape gap (Denmead Gap) and more specifically landscape features (the lowland meadows, native hedgerows and mature trees some of which are TPO'd) through the siting of a compound associated with HDD to the southeast and trenching further north as well as cable installations within the road / footpath. Tranquillity levels would also be affected short-term.

Landscape Features

1.7.1.5. Physical impacts on the road / footpath would be of low sensitivity whilst the impact of the Onshore Cable Route installation on the local landscape gap which is of local value and specific landscape features would be of medium sensitivity. Intangible indirect experiential and perceptual impacts relating to an increase in noise levels would be of medium sensitivity. There would be a medium magnitude of change resulting in a direct and indirect, temporary short to medium term localised moderate (significant) effect.

Visual Amenity

1.7.1.6. Construction activities would be noticeable in immediate views of the cable route installation along Anmore and Hambledon Roads as well as from the edge of Soake and Anmore. There would be full, partial to filtered views depending on the relative proximity of receptor to the works and the screening function of intervening built form and adjacent vegetation.

Residential users

1.7.1.7. The sensitivity of residential receptors would be high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor-moderate adverse localised (not significant) effects. Whilst construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate residential receptors these would be minor changes in a localised area and a short duration of works which would be reversible.

1.7.1.8. Remaining residential receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Recreational and educational users

1.7.1.9. The sensitivity of recreational and educational receptors would be medium and the magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor adverse (not significant) effects. Whilst construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate recreational receptors, there would be minor changes in a localised area and works would take place over a short duration which would be reversible.

1.7.1.10. Remaining recreational receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Transport users

1.7.1.11. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium to low (based on the nature of the roads and traffic levels). The magnitude of change would be small, generating a direct minor to negligible-minor temporary, localised not significant effect.

1.7.1.12. Remaining transport receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

1.8. SECTION 4 HAMBLEDON ROAD TO BURNHAM ROAD

1.8.1. CONSTRUCTION EFFECTS

Landscape Character

1.8.1.1. Construction activities would impact on the landscape character area referred to in Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) and covering a number of LCAs / LCTs / UCAs including WCC LCA18, HVDC B and C and PCC Urban Character Area (UCA) 7 and 9.

Landscape Character

1.8.1.2. All the above LCAs / LCTs are of medium sensitivity with most of the route running through HVDC C Urban Lowland. The magnitude of change would be small given the scale of works relative to the character area would be concentrated within the road / verge / footway. The LVIA therefore considers that there would be a direct, temporary short-term minor (not significant) effect on landscape character on current and future baseline.

1.8.1.3. There would however be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to character, namely a direct impact on The Wayfarers Walk which may be temporarily diverted during the works and open space particularly within Portsdown Hill Country Park; a number of PRoWs (Footpaths 11 / 18 / 19 / 20 / 24 and bridleway 15/17) which intersect / meet Hambledon / London Roads and Farlington Avenue and the presence of machinery / cable installation equipment interrupting views and the sense of openness. In addition, a group of trees to the north of Hambledon Road and south of Milton Road may be affected by the Onshore Cable Route. There would also be indirect effects on tranquillity though levels of tranquillity along Hambledon / London Road and Farlington Avenue are already low as evidenced in HVDC LCA C which refers to *"high volume of traffic" which "detracts from any sense of tranquillity."*

Landscape Features

1.8.1.4. Features outlined above range from medium (Wayfarers Way / PRoWs, TPO'd trees and groups of trees and locally designated open spaces) to low sensitivity (footpaths passing through the landscape and tranquillity levels). There would be a medium to low magnitude of change resulting in direct and indirect, temporary short to medium term localised moderate (significant) effects.

Visual Amenity

1.8.1.5. Construction activities would be noticeable in immediate views of the Onshore Cable Route installation along Hambledon / London Roads and Farlington Avenue. There would be full, partial to filtered views depending on the relative proximity of receptor to the works and the screening function of intervening built form and adjacent vegetation.

Residential users

1.8.1.6. The sensitivity of residential receptors would be high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effects. Whilst construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate residential receptors these would be minor changes in a localised area over short duration which would be reversible.

1.8.1.7. Remaining residential receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Recreational, church and educational users

1.8.1.8. The sensitivity of recreational and educational receptors would be medium. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor adverse (not significant) effects. Whilst construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate recreational and educational receptors there would be minor changes in a localised area and short duration of works which would be reversible.

1.8.1.9. Remaining recreational and educational receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects depending on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Transport, commercial, industrial and retail users and workers

1.8.1.10. The sensitivity of local transport, commercial, industrial and retail users and workers would be low (nature of the road and traffic levels). The magnitude of change would be small, generating a direct negligible-minor temporary, short term localised (not significant) effect.

1.8.1.11. Remaining transport, commercial, industrial and retail users and workers would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects depending on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

1.9. SECTION 5 FARLINGTON

1.9.1. CONSTRUCTION EFFECTS

Landscape Character

1.9.1.1. Construction activities would impact on the landscape character area referred to in Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) and covering PCC UCA 9.

Landscape Character:

1.9.1.2. UCA 9 is of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small given the scale of works relative to the character area. The LVIA therefore considers that there would be a direct, temporary short-term minor (not significant) effect on landscape character on current and future baseline.

1.9.1.3. There would however be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to character, namely PRoWs 7 / 30 and 31 which may be diverted during the works, open space and tranquillity levels as outlined below.

Landscape Features

1.9.1.4. Physical impacts on landscape features relate to road / footway (of low sensitivity) and PRoWs (of medium sensitivity) intersecting within the road and passing through landscape. The land associated with Portsmouth Water, ornamental street and TPO'd trees would be of medium sensitivity on the basis that there are of local value and contribute to the well vegetated area. Some trees and hedgerows may be affected by the cable installation, albeit measures would be considered where practicable for Onshore Cable Micrositing. Intangible, indirect, experiential and perceptual impacts relate to an increase in noise levels (medium sensitivity). There would be a medium magnitude of change and a direct and indirect, temporary short to medium term localised moderate (significant) effect.

Visual Amenity

1.9.1.5. Construction activities would be noticeable in immediate views of the Onshore Cable Route installation along Farlington Avenue, Evelegh, Havant and Eastern Roads. There would be full, partial to filtered views depending on the relative proximity of receptor to the works and the screening function of intervening built form and adjacent vegetation.

Residential users

1.9.1.6. The sensitivity of residential receptors would be high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effects. Whilst construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate residential receptors this would generate minor changes in a localised area, for a short duration which would be reversible.

1.9.1.7. Remaining residential receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Recreational and educational users

1.9.1.8. The sensitivity of recreational and educational receptors would be medium. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor adverse (not significant) effects. Although construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate recreational and educational receptors, there would be minor changes in a localised area and short duration of works which would be reversible.

1.9.1.9. Remaining recreational and educational receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form).

Transport users

1.9.1.10. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium to low (depending on the nature of the road and traffic levels). The magnitude of change would be small, generating a direct minor to negligible-minor adverse (not significant) effect.

1.9.1.11. Remaining transport receptors within the study area would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

1.10. SECTION 6 ZETLAND FIELD AND SAINSBURY'S CAR PARK

1.10.1. CONSTRUCTION EFFECTS

Landscape Character

1.10.1.1. Construction activities would impact on the landscape character area referred to in Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) and covering PCC UCA 9.

Landscape Character

1.10.1.2. UCA 9 is of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small given the proportion of works relative to the character area. The LVIA therefore considers that there would be a direct, temporary short-term minor (not significant) effect on landscape character on current and future baseline.

1.10.1.3. There would be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to landscape character, namely footpaths which may be diverted during the works and impacts on tranquillity levels as outlined below.

Landscape Features

1.10.1.4. Physical impacts on landscape features relate to road / footway (of low sensitivity) and ornamental street within Zetland Field which would be of medium sensitivity on the basis that there are of local value, contribute to visual screening and amenity. Some mature trees and shrubs would be affected by the cable installation, albeit measures would be considered where practicable for Onshore Cable Micrositing. Intangible indirect experiential and perceptual impacts relate to an increase in noise levels (of low sensitivity). This would be in addition to the A27 current baseline, which as described in UCA 9 "is a significant impact", the playing fields and employment uses acting as a buffer. There would be a medium magnitude of change there would be a direct, temporary medium-term localised moderate (significant) effect on trees and a minor adverse (not significant) effect on tranquillity.

Visual Amenity

1.10.1.5. Construction activities would be noticeable in immediate views of the Onshore Cable Route installation along Eastern Road and Fitzherbert Road. There would be full, partial to filtered views from side roads and the rail line depending on the relative proximity of receptor to the works and the screening function of intervening built form and adjacent vegetation.

Residential users

1.10.1.6. The sensitivity of residential receptors would be high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effects. Whilst construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate residential receptors there would be minor changes in a localised area and over a short duration of works which would be reversible.

1.10.1.7. Remaining residential receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form

Recreational users

1.10.1.8. The sensitivity of recreational receptors would range from medium to low. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor to negligible-minor adverse (not significant) effects. Although construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate recreational receptors there would be minor changes in a localised area, short duration of works which would be reversible.

1.10.1.9. Remaining receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Transport, commercial and retail users and workers

1.10.1.10. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium to low (depending on the nature of the road and traffic levels). Commercial, retail and rail users and workers would also be of low sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small, generating a direct minor to negligible-minor (not significant) effect for the reasons outlined above.

1.10.1.11. Remaining transport, commercial and retail receptors within the study area would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects depending on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

1.11. SECTION 7 – FARLINGTON JUNCTION TO AIRPORT SERVICE ROAD

1.11.1. CONSTRUCTION EFFECTS

Landscape Character

1.11.1.1. Construction activities would impact on the landscape character area referred to in Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) and covering PCC UCA 1 and 9.

Landscape Character

1.11.1.2. UCA 1 and 9 are of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small given the scale of works relative to the character area. The LVIA therefore considers that there would be a direct, temporary short-term minor localised (not significant) effect on landscape character.

1.11.1.3. There would however be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to landscape character, namely PRoW 31 and 33 which may be temporarily diverted or stopped up during the works, trees around Baffins Milton Rovers Football Ground (Kendall Stadium) / Wharf / Andrew Simpson Watersports Centre and impacts on tranquillity levels as outlined below.

Landscape Features

1.11.1.4. Physical impacts on the road / footway and PRoWs passing through landscape would be of low to medium sensitivity and open space / associated trees of medium sensitivity on the basis that these include locally designated areas, are of local value and contribute to the visual amenity of the area.

1.11.1.5. Intangible, indirect experiential and perceptual impacts (of low sensitivity) relate to an increase in noise levels and change in views along Eastern Road. The current baseline describes both the A27 and Eastern Road as a *"key detractor in an otherwise quiet area"* despite Eastern Road being a *"pleasant and scenic route with wide landscaped verges with wide views".*

1.11.1.6. There would be a medium magnitude of change and direct, temporary medium-term localised moderate (significant) effects, for tranquillity this would be negligible-minor.

Visual Amenity

1.11.1.7. Construction activities would be noticeable in immediate views of the Cable Route installation across Farlington Fields, Langstone Harbour, the A27 and side roads off Eastern Road where it joins to the southern part of this section. There would also be full, partial to filtered views depending on the relative proximity of receptors to the works and the screening function of intervening built form and adjacent vegetation.

Residential users

1.11.1.8. The sensitivity of residential receptors including visitors to the hotel would be high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would range from small (visitors of the hotel with a direct view) to negligible (residential receptors in Anchorage Park) where construction works would only form a small proportion of the overall view. Properties in Anchorage Park are set back from Eastern Road and the harbour, and screened by intervening vegetation in the foreground, there would be minor changes in a localised area and over a short duration of works which would be reversible.

1.11.1.9. There would be direct minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effects on visitors to the hotel and direct / indirect negligible adverse (not significant) effects on receptors within Anchorage Park and remaining receptors within the hotel / Anchorage Park based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Recreational users

1.11.1.10. The sensitivity of recreational receptors would range from medium to low. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor to negligible-minor adverse (not significant) effects. Construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate recreational receptors especially those utilising Farlington Fields, Langstone Harbour, Baffins Milton Rovers Football Ground (Kendall Stadium) and NCR 22 / 222 however works would be over a short duration, reversible and result in minor changes.

1.11.1.11. Remaining receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Transport, retail / industrial users and workers

1.11.1.12. The sensitivity of local transport users would be low (based on A27, Eastern Road, junctions off Eastern Road and traffic levels). Industrial, retail and rail users and workers would also be of low sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small, generating a direct negligible (not significant) effect. The same effects would be experienced by remaining transport, retail / industrial users and workers based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

1.12. SECTION 8 GREAT SALTERNS GOLF COURSE TO MOORINGS WAY

1.12.1. CONSTRUCTION EFFECTS

Landscape Character

1.12.1.1. Construction activities would impact on the landscape character area referred to in Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) and covering PCC UCA 1, 2 and 17.

Landscape Character

1.12.1.2. UCA 1 and 17 are of medium sensitivity and UCA 2 medium to low sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small within UCA 1 and 2, and medium in UCA 17 given the scale of works relative to the character area. There would be a direct and indirect, temporary short-term moderate adverse localised significant effect on UCA17 and a direct, temporary short-term minor to minor-negligible localised (not significant) effects on UCA 1 and 2

1.12.1.3. There would be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to character, namely footpaths which may be temporarily diverted or stopped up during the works, open space and tranquillity levels as outlined below.

Landscape Features

1.12.1.4. Physical impacts on pathways through Milton Common and PRoW range from medium to low sensitivity. There would also be physical and perceptual / experiential impacts on open space / associated trees / shrubs which are of medium sensitivity on the basis that these include locally designated areas, are of local value contribute to the visual amenity and sense of openness of the area.

1.12.1.5. Intangible, indirect, experiential and perceptual impacts (of low sensitivity) relate to an increase in noise levels and change in views along Eastern Road. The current baseline LCA U1 / U2 describes Eastern Road as a *"key detractor in an otherwise quiet area" despite it being a "pleasant and scenic route with wide landscaped verges with wide views".*

1.12.1.6. There would be a medium magnitude of change and direct and indirect, temporary short to medium term localised moderate (significant) effects. For intangible impacts on tranquillity, effects would be minor temporary, short-term localised (not significant).

Visual Amenity

1.12.1.7. Construction activities would be noticeable in immediate views of the Onshore Cable Route installation along Eastern Road and linking roads. There would be full, partial to filtered views of works depending on the relative proximity of receptor to the works and the screening function of intervening built form and adjacent vegetation.

Residential users

1.12.1.8. The sensitivity of residential receptors would be high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor-moderate adverse localised (not significant) effects. Although construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate residential receptors there would be minor changes in a localised area and over a short duration of works which would be reversible.

1.12.1.9. Remaining residential receptors would experience negligible / no change localised effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Recreational, religious and educational users

1.12.1.10. The sensitivity of recreational receptors (including visitors to adjacent public houses) would range from medium (i.e. those using Milton Common) to low (i.e. those participating in outdoor sports) whilst receptors of the local nursery facilities (education) and Langstone Church would be medium. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor-moderate and minor adverse (not significant) effects. Construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate recreational and educational receptors, but as outlined above would be within a localised area, over a short duration and be reversible.

1.12.1.11. Remaining receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Transport and retail users and workers

1.12.1.12. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium to low (depending on the nature of the road and traffic levels). Whilst retail and public house workers would be of low sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small, generating a direct minor to negligible-minor (not significant) effect.

1.12.1.13. Remaining transport and retail receptors within the study area would experience to negligible / no change localised effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form).

1.13. SECTION 9 MOORINGS WAY TO BRANSBURY ROAD

1.13.1. CONSTRUCTION EFFECTS

Landscape Character

1.13.1.1. Construction activities would impact on the landscape character area referred to in Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) and covering PCC UCA 10 and 17.

Landscape Character

1.13.1.2. UCA 10 and 17 are of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small in UCA 10 and medium in UCA 17 given the scale of works relative to the character area. There would be a direct, temporary short-term moderate adverse localised (significant) effect on UCA17 and direct, temporary short-term minor localised (not significant) effects on UCA 10 on current and future baseline.

1.13.1.3. There would be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to character, namely pathways / footpaths, open space and tranquillity levels as outlined below.

Landscape Features

1.13.1.4. Physical impacts on pathways through the southern edge of Milton Common / Bansbury Park and pathways / footpaths along roads would be of low sensitivity. Open space / associated trees / shrubs are of medium sensitivity on the basis that these include locally designated areas, some are TPO;d (including along Furze Lane and along Henderson Road), are of local value, contribute to visual amenity and a sense of place.

1.13.1.5. Intangible, indirect experiential and perceptual impacts (of medium sensitivity) relate to an increase in noise levels and introduction of new temporary construction structures not normally present. There would be a medium magnitude of change and direct and indirect, temporary short to medium term localised moderate (significant) effects.

Visual Amenity

1.13.1.6. Construction activities would be noticeable in immediate views of the Onshore Cable Route installation in the southern edge of Milton Common, along Furze Lane, Longshore / Locksway Road, minor roads south and west of Eastney and Milton Allotments. There would be full, partial to filtered views depending on the relative proximity of receptor to the works and the screening function of intervening built form and adjacent vegetation.

Residential users

1.13.1.7. The sensitivity of residential receptors would be high (including residents of University of Portsmouth Langstone Campus who are considered to be immediate visual receptors). The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor-moderate adverse (not significant) effects. Whilst construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate residential receptors there would be minor changes in a localised area and over a short duration of works which would be reversible.

1.13.1.8. Remaining residential receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Recreational and educational

1.13.1.9. The sensitivity of recreational receptors (including visitors to the local public house) would range from medium to low whilst receptors of educational facilities would be medium. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small resulting in direct minor to negligible-minor adverse (not significant) effects. As outlined above although construction works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate recreational and educational receptors, works would be over a short duration, be reversible and result in minor changes over a localised area.

1.13.1.10. Remaining receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

Transport, retail users and workers

1.13.1.11. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium (based on the nature of the road / traffic levels and locally recognised views) whilst retail users and public house workers would be of low sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small, generating a minor to negligible-minor (not significant) effect.

1.13.1.12. Remaining transport receptors would experience negligible / no change (not significant) effects based on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form.

1.14. SECTION 10 - EASTNEY

1.14.1. CONSTRUCTION EFFECTS

Landscape

1.14.1.1. Construction activities would impact on the landscape character area referred to in Appendix 15.3 (Landscape and Visual Assessment Methodology) and covering PCC UCA 10 Eastney and local landscape character areas. Works would be concentrated along Fort Cumberland Road and within Fort Cumberland car park which is informal in nature. It is assumed the car park has been improved following proposals identified in the Seafront Masterplan SPD, (Portsmouth City Council, 2013 and on this basis there would be no change between current and future baseline.

Landscape Character

1.14.1.2. The UCA and more local landscape character areas are of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small given the proportion of works relative to the character area. There would be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to character, namely the car park and impacts on the relatively quiet, almost remote nature of the area through construction movement and noise as well as the sense of openness. The LVIA therefore considers that there would be a direct, temporary short-term localised minor (not significant) effect on landscape character.

Landscape Features

1.14.1.3. Direct physical impacts on landscape features are limited to the road, car park and footpaths which would include NCR2 (Shipwrights Trail) and the intersection of PRoW101 with Fort Cumberland Road which are of a medium to low sensitivity. Intangible, indirect experiential and perceptual impacts relate to changes in the relatively quiet, almost remote nature of the area and its sense of openness (medium sensitivity) which combined with direct physical impacts would result in a medium magnitude of change and direct and indirect, temporary short-term localised moderate (significant) effects.

Visual Amenity

1.14.1.4. Construction activities would be noticeable in immediate views surrounding the edge of the Landfall, from surrounding open space and residential properties and also associated with the Onshore Cable Route installation along Fort Cumberland Road / Bransbury Road. There would be full, partial to filtered views depending on the relative proximity of receptor to the works, and the screening function of intervening built form and adjacent vegetation surrounding Southsea Holiday Homes, Lodge and Leisure Park ('Southsea Leisure Park') to the southwest. Noticeable in the view would be drilling equipment, construction of the ORS buildings, movement of construction traffic as well as the installation of cable routes. Works would run for a maximum of 44 weeks and therefore it is considered compared to the remainder of the cable route the magnitude of change albeit for a relatively short duration would be medium see Figures 15.50 Viewpoint Location Plan (Landfall) and Figures 15.52 to 15.56 Viewpoints 18 to 22 and associated wirelines of the ES Volume 2 (document references 6.2.15.52 to 6.2.15.56).

Residential and recreational users

1.14.1.5. The sensitivity of residential and recreational receptors is high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be medium resulting in direct temporary short-term moderate-major adverse localised (significant) effects. Works would form a large proportion of the overall view for immediate visual receptors. Such effects would relate to residents and recreational users looking directly onto the cable route installations along Fort Cumberland Road / Henderson Road and the Landfall. These include residents of caravan homes which overlook the car park and have rear windows.

1.14.1.6. Remaining residential and recreational receptors within the 300 m study area would experience minor-moderate to negligible / no change (not significant) direct temporary short term localised effects depending on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form (thereby altering the magnitude of change).

Transport users

1.14.1.7. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium and the magnitude of change medium generating a direct moderate temporary, short-term localised (significant) effect.

1.14.1.8. Remaining transport receptors within the study area would experience negligible / no change temporary short term localised effects depending on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form (thereby altering the magnitude of change).

1.14.2. OPERATIONAL STAGE EFFECTS

Landscape Character:

1.14.2.1. On completion of works at the Landfall there would be up to two unmanned ORS, generators, compound with access, parking and security fencing. The buildings and enclosure would be surrounded by mitigation planting to provide some form of screening. The remainder of the car park would be reinstated.

Landscape Character Areas

1.14.2.2. The UCA and more local landscape character areas are of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small to negligible given the proportion of works relative to the character area. There would be some changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to character, namely the car park through the presence of new structures and mitigation planting. There would be direct, permanent long-term localised minor to negligible adverse (not significant) effects on landscape character.

Landscape Features

1.14.2.3. Physical impacts on landscape features during operation are limited to the car park itself (low sensitivity) and the presence of new physical structures in what is otherwise an open landscape (medium sensitivity). Intangible, experiential and perceptual impacts relate to changes in the relatively quiet, almost remote nature of the area and sense of openness which when combined with physical structures are of medium sensitivity. Whilst the Landfall would be unmanned and unlit with little additional vehicular movements on top of baseline minimising impacts on tranquillity, the sense of openness would be eroded. The magnitude of change would therefore be medium to small resulting in a direct / indirect, permanent medium-term localised moderate to minor adverse (significant) effect because the structures would be intrusive and are prominent in an otherwise open landscape. whilst impacts on the car park would be negligible-minor adverse

1.14.2.4. By year 10 such effects on the car park would reduce as planting matures resulting in a small magnitude of change and a direct / indirect, permanent long-term localised minor beneficial (not significant) effect which would remain unchanged at 20 years. Effects on the sense of openness would remain unchanged as moderate adverse.

Visual Amenity

1.14.2.5. On completion the ORS buildings, associated compound and planting would edge the existing car park. The buildings, compound and mitigation would result in a change in view and impact on the sense of openness. The view would be immediate, concentrated in a localised area and forming a small proportion of overall views see Figure 15.50 of the ES Volume 2 (document reference 6.2.15.50). Viewpoint Location Plan (Landfall) and Figures 15.52 to 15.56 Viewpoints 18 to 22 and associated wirelines.

Residential and recreational users (year 0)

1.14.2.6. The sensitivity of residential and recreational receptors is high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be medium to negligible. There would be direct permanent medium-term localised effects which would be moderate-major to minor-moderate adverse (significant) effects for immediate visual receptors overlooking the Landfall and a minor-moderate to negligible (not significant) effect for all other receptors in the study area.

Residential and recreational users (year 10 and 20)

1.14.2.7. The sensitivity of residential and recreational receptors is high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be small to negligible as planting matures to provide screening around the ORS buildings and compound resulting in a direct permanent medium-term localised minor-moderate and negligible (not significant) effect by year 10.

1.14.2.8. Remaining residential and recreational receptors within the study area would experience localised negligible / no change (not significant) effects in year 0, year 10 and year 20.

Transport users (year 0)

1.14.2.9. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium and the magnitude of change small to negligible generating a direct minor to negligible permanent medium-term localised (not significant) effect.

Transport users (year 10 and 20)

1.14.2.10. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium and the magnitude of change negligible as planting matures generating a direct negligible permanent medium-term localised (not significant) effect in year 10 and remaining unchanged by year 20.

1.14.3. DECOMMISSIONING EFFECTS

Landscape

Landscape Character Areas

1.14.3.1. The UCA and more local landscape character areas are of medium sensitivity. The magnitude of change would be small given the proportion of works relative to the character area. There would be changes to some existing landscape features which contribute to character, namely the car park, tranquillity and the area's sense of openness. The LVIA therefore considers that there would be a direct, temporary short-term localised minor (not significant) effect on landscape character.

Landscape Features

1.14.3.2. It is assumed that physical impacts on landscape features would be limited to the car park (low sensitivity) and no mitigation planting would be removed. Intangible experiential and perceptual impacts (of medium sensitivity) relate to changes in the relatively quiet, almost remote nature of the area and sense of openness through decommissioning activities which combined would result in a medium magnitude of change and a direct / indirect temporary short-term localised moderate (significant) effect.

Visual Amenity

Residential and recreational users

1.14.3.3. The sensitivity of residential and recreational receptors would be high. The magnitude of change experienced by receptors would be medium resulting in direct temporary short-term localised moderate-major adverse (significant) effects. Decommissioning works would form a large proportion of the overall view.

1.14.3.4. Remaining residential and recreational receptors within the study area would experience direct minor-moderate to negligible / no change temporary, short-term localised (not significant) effects depending on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form (thereby altering the magnitude of change).

Transport users

1.14.3.5. The sensitivity of local transport users would be medium and the magnitude of change medium generating a direct moderate temporary, short-term localised (significant) effect.

1.14.3.6. Remaining transport receptors within the study area would experience direct minor to negligible / no change temporary, short-term localised (not significant) effects depending on their location / orientation / intervening vegetation / built form (thereby altering the magnitude of change).

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