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# Yorkshire Green Energy Enablemen (GREEN) Project

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Date	Version	Status	Description/Changes
05/04/2023	А	Final	First Issue

# 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 **Overview**

- 1.1.1 This Addendum (**Document 5.2.20**) has been prepared and submitted at Deadline 1 to detail an omission from **Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual, Document 5.2.6, [APP-078]** and **Appendix 6G Visual Receptor Assessment, Document 5.4.6G, [APP-114]** of the Environmental Statement (ES) for the Yorkshire Green Energy Enablement (GREEN) Project (referred to as Yorkshire GREEN or the Project).
- 1.1.2 As noted in paragraph 10.2 of the Applicant's Procedural Deadline A Submission [PDA-002], this Addendum has been prepared to include an assessment of visual effects on the Traveller Encampment at Monk Fryston (Section F) which was omitted as a sensitive receptor in the Landscape and Visual Assessment (Document 5.2.6) [APP-078]. Whilst the Traveller Encampment currently occupies the site without the benefit of planning permission, National Grid has otherwise included the Traveller Encampment as a sensitive receptor for the purposes of a precautionary and worst case assessment in relation to noise, air quality and health impacts (Document 5.2.14 [APP-086], Document 5.2.13 [APP-085], Document 5.2.15 [APP-087] respectively) as contained within the Environmental Statement.
- 1.1.3 This Addendum has been prepared subsequent to the submission of the application for development consent and should be read in conjunction with the following documents:
  - ES Non-Technical Summary, Document 5.1, [APP-072]
  - ES Chapter 3: Landscape and Visual, Document 5.2.6, [APP-078]
  - ES Appendix 6G, Visual Receptor Assessment, Document 5.3.6G, [APP-114].
  - ES Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual Figures Parts 1 to 15, Document 5.4.6, [APP-168 to APP-181]
  - ES Chapter 18 Cumulative Effects, Document 5.2.18, [APP-090]
- 1.1.4 Readers should note that this document (Document 5.2.20) only considers the assessment of visual effects for the Traveller Encampment. The assessment of effects on all other landscape and visual receptors can be found in ES Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual, Document 5.2.6, [APP-078]. Readers should also refer to ES Chapter 6 for details of the Project overview and limitations and assumptions (Section 6.1), relevant legislation, planning policy and technical guidance (Section 6.2), consultation and engagement (Section 6.3), data gathering methodology (Section 6.4), embedded environmental measures (Section 6.6), scope of the assessment (Section 6.7) and assessment methodology (Section 6.8) in respect of the landscape and visual assessment. This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third Edition (2013)<sup>1</sup>. Details of the full methodology are provided at ES Appendix 6C, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology, Document 5.3.6C, [APP-110].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (2013). Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third Edition. Routledge; Oxfordshire

1.1.5 In addition, since the submission of the ES and associated documents to the Examining Authority in November 2022, National Grid has identified a number of minor typographical corrections and clarifications to the ES, all of which are recorded in **Document 5.2.19** Environmental Statement Consolidated Errata submitted at Deadline 1. This Addendum (**Document 5.2.20**) should be read in conjunction with the ES Consolidated Errata (**Document 5.2.19**) submitted at Deadline 1.

## 2. Traveller Encampment: Assessment of Visual Effects

#### 2.1 Current visual baseline

- 2.1.1 The Traveller Encampment falls within Section F of the Project. Section F comprises the area of the Project around the existing Monk Fryston Substation. Works within the Order Limits within Section F would comprise the construction of Monk Fryston 400kV Substation (adjacent to the existing substation), reconfiguration of the existing 275kV XC Poppleton to Monk Fryston overhead line at its southern end to connect into the new substation at Monk Fryston and reconfiguration of the Monk Fryston to Eggborough 400kV 4YS overhead line to connect into the new substation at Monk Fryston overhead line to the new substation at Monk Fryston. More information on the Project description in this area can be found in **ES Chapter 3: Description of the Project, Document 5.2.3, [APP-075]** and **ES Figure 3.6, Document 5.4.3, [APP-164]**.
- 2.1.2 The Traveller Encampment is located south of the A63 and east of the A1(M), beneath and east of the 275kV XC overhead line realignment and is shown on **Figure 6.22a**, along with other visual receptors in the Monk Fryston Area, which is provided in **Appendix A** of this Addendum (**Document 5.2.20**).

#### 2.2 Scope of the assessment

- 2.2.1 Whilst the Traveller Encampment currently occupies the site without the benefit of planning permission (see **Table 2.2** of this Addendum) National Grid has decided to include the Traveller Encampment in the scope of the visual assessment to provide a precautionary and worst case assessment. This is on the basis that changes to baseline views from the addition of new transmission infrastructure associated with the Project, in this case reconfiguration of the existing 275kV XC Poppleton to Monk Fryston overhead line, could result in the potential for significant effects upon views experienced by people at the Traveller Encampment during the construction and/or operational phase of the Project.
- 2.2.2 Further information on the scope of the assessment and how visual receptors are identified is provided in Section 6.7 of ES Chapter 7 Landscape and Visual, Document 5.2.7, [APP-078].

#### 2.3 Assessment of visual effects

2.3.1 In line with the scope of the assessment outlined in Section 6.7 of ES Chapter 7 Landscape and Visual, Document 5.2.7, [APP-078] effects have been assessed in relation to the construction phase (a period of 4 years and 6 months from 2024-2028), Operation Year 0 (the first winter following the commencement of operations of all the principal components of the Project, i.e. winter 2028/2029) and Operation Year 15 (winter 15 years after the commencement of operation of the Project i.e. winter 2043/2044).

#### **Construction Phase**

2.3.2 Residents of the Traveller Encampment are located beneath and east of the 275kV XC overhead line realignment as shown in the Layout Plan on the Selby District Council website (Planning application Reference: 2022/0057/CPE)<sup>2</sup>. The residents would experience a Medium to High magnitude of change from the dismantling of pylon XC522T with a replacement pylon (XC522) 45m to the west that would be ~15m taller but further from the majority of the caravans. Notable removal and cutting back of existing trees and shrubs to the north of the Traveller Encampment would be required to accommodate temporary scaffolding and access to the pylons. The resulting level of effect is assessed to be **Major/Moderate to Moderate Adverse and Significant**.

#### **Operation Year 0**

2.3.3 Residents at the western end of the Traveller Encampment would experience a medium magnitude of change, noting that whilst the replacement pylon (XC522) would be a similar separation distance from the caravans as the dismantled pylon (XC522T) it would be ~15m taller. The overall effect would be **Moderate adverse** and **Not Significant** considering the baseline views where the XC522T pylon dominates views. Residents in caravans at the central and eastern parts of the Encampment would experience Neutral effects from pylon XC522 that whilst ~15m taller, is 45m further away than the dismantled pylon. Adverse visual effects would persist from the reduction in planting to the north of the Traveller Encampment and it is assessed that overall the magnitude would be Low with a **Minor Adverse** Effect that is **Not Significant**.

#### **Operation Year 15**

2.3.4 Residents of the Traveller Encampment, at the western end of the site would experience views of the taller replacement pylon XC522 to the west, with reinstatement planting established in views to the north. The change would represent a Low magnitude of change with a **Minor Adverse** effect that would be **Not Significant**. Residents of caravans at the central and eastern parts of the Encampment would experience a Very Low magnitude of change following the growth of reinstatement planting, with a **Minor/Negligible Adverse** effect that is **Not Significant**.

#### 2.4 Significance conclusions

2.4.1 **Table 2.1** provides a summary of the assessment of effects on the Traveller Encampment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Planning application Reference: 2022/0057/CPE, Layout Plan. Available at <u>https://publicaccess1.selby.gov.uk/PublicAccess\_LIVE/Document/ViewDocument?id=7E93012F</u> 64574E63885E7F26764FBE71 (Accessed March 2023).

Receptor Sensitivity (Viewpoint/s) of Receptor		Maximum Magnitude of Change	Maximum Level and Type of Effect, and Significance with Significant Effects identified in bold	
Traveller Encampment,	Medium	Construction: High to Medium	Major/Moderate to Moderate Adverse and Significant	
Monk Fryston		Operation Year 0: Medium to Low	Moderate to Minor Adverse and Not Significant	
		Operation Year 15: Low to Very Low	Minor to Minor/Negligible Adverse and Not Significant	

Table 2.1 Summary of significance of effects

#### 2.5 Detailed Visual Assessment

2.5.1 A detailed assessment of effects arising from the Project upon the views of receptors in the Traveller Encampment is set out in **Table 2.2**. The assessment of sensitivity, magnitude and significance of effect has been undertaken in accordance with **Appendix 6C: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology, Document 5.3.6C [APP-110]**. Best practice guidance<sup>1</sup> advises 'it is not essential to establish a series of thresholds for different levels of significance of landscape and visual effects, provided it is made clear whether or not they are considered significant'. **Table 2.2** should be read in conjunction with **Appendix 6G Visual Receptor Assessment**, **Document 5.3.6G, [APP-114]**.

<b>Relevant Figures:</b>	Figure 6.8, Document 5.4.6, [APP-167] and Figure 6.22a, Appendix A	of this Adder	ndum (5.2.20)		
Minimum separation distance from Project:	Underneath the XC 275kV overhead line south of pylon XC522T that is to approximately 45m to the west.	Inderneath the XC 275kV overhead line south of pylon XC522T that is to be replaced with pylon XC522, approximately 45m to the west.			
Visual Receptor Sensitivity:	Medium. This assessment is based on a Medium value of views and Medium to High susceptibility to change. The value of views is assessed as Medium to account for the presence of the existing pylon adjacent to the Traveller Encampment and the construction, being undertaken by those occupying the Traveller Encampment, of tall close board fencing around the perimeter of the Traveller Encampment to restrict outward visibility, resulting in views of reduced scenic value that would be experienced through small windows within the caravans. There is also an inherent flexibility of the caravans to modify their orientation should any residents wish to minimise views of construction activity or new infrastructure, which reduces the susceptibility slightly compared with residents in permanent dwellings, noting external views from the hardstanding surrounding the caravans and parts of the access drive would be more visible.				
Phase	Description	Magnitude	Effect and Significance		
Construction	The existing pylon XC522T (40.5m tall), which is to be dismantled, is located on the northern boundary of the Traveller Encampment towards the western end of the Encampment. The proposed replacement pylon XC522 (54.8m tall) is located approximately 45m west of existing pylon XC522T. The siting of the proposed pylon would require clearance of an existing area of scrub. The western end of the Traveller Encampment has been roughly levelled with crushed hardcore and road scalpings, however unlike the remainder of the Encampment, at the time of survey in February 2023, there was no concrete base or occupied caravans in this area. With reference to the layout plan and application form on the Selby District Council website (Planning application Reference: 2022/0057/CPE) <sup>2</sup> no caravans are indicated within 'Plot 10' at the western end of the Traveller Encampment closest to the A1 (M), where the proposed pylon XC522 would be sited. It is therefore reasonable to		Major/Moderate to Moderate adverse and Significant.		

assume that the current use of this area for storing loose materials and aggregates would continue.

As indicated on the Trees and Hedgerows Potentially Affected Plan -Section F (Document 2.11.6) [APP-065] to facilitate construction work there would be removal and cutting back of scrub and tree planting along the realigned and existing overhead line alignments and within the working areas of the pylon to be decommissioned and the pylon to be erected, noting the requirement for temporary scaffolding. The vegetation clearance and management works required are likely to impact the majority of the planting north of the Traveller Encampment and this would potentially reveal glimpses of traffic along the A63, near the junction 42 roundabout in places. The ground level of the Traveller Encampment is approximately 2-3m lower than the A63 road corridor and the change in level combined with retained vegetation, would serve to limit the extent of any visibility of vehicles on the A63. Views from the central and eastern parts of the site would be less affected by vegetation clearance than towards the western end of the Traveller Encampment resulting in a magnitude of change that varies from High at the western end to Medium at the eastern end of the Traveller Encampment.

In addition to works in the immediate vicinity of the Traveller Encampment there are currently views from the caravans to the south, that would be screened in due course by closeboard fencing that at the time of the site visit was under construction along the southern boundary of the Traveller Encampment by the occupiers of the site. Without the closeboard fencing completed there would be views from the caravans of the temporary pylon XC550 (59.1m tall) that is over 320m distant and located near pylon XC523T (37.4m tall) which is to be dismantled. Views to the south-east towards the temporary construction compounds and substation under construction in the context of the existing substation would be screened by the closeboard fencing erected along the eastern

	boundary of the Traveller Encampment and by fencing that is to be completed along the southern boundary of the Traveller Encampment.	
Operation Year 0	The reinstatement planting scheme would be designed (as secured under Requirement 8 of the Draft DCO, <b>Document 3.1(B)</b> , <b>[AS-011]</b> ) once the detailed engineering design has been completed and the actual (rather than maximum) extent of vegetation loss is known. Based on the worse- case scenario as shown on the <b>Trees and Hedgerows Potentially</b> <b>Affected – Section F plan (Document 2.11.6) [APP-065]</b> , it is assumed that all areas outside the easement of the new overhead line associated with the XC522 pylon would be replanted with a native woodland mix, similar to the species present between the Traveller Encampment and the A63 corridor. There would be no scrub or tree planting in the vicinity of the new pylon and only low growing shrub species under the overhead lines to take account of safety clearances. At Year 0 the trees, likely comprising whips and feathered stock, would have a minimal screening function. The proposed replacement pylon XC522 and changes to planting would have a medium magnitude of change to the residents at the western end of the Encampment, noting that whilst the replacement pylon would be a similar separation distance from the caravans as existing pylon XC522T, which is to be dismantled, it would be ~15m taller. The overall effect would be Moderate adverse and Not Significant considering the baseline views where the existing pylon XC522T dominates baseline views closer to the centre of the Traveller Encampment. Residents in caravans at the central and eastern parts of the Encampment would experience Neutral effects from the XC522 pylon, which whilst ~15m taller, is 45m further away than pylon XC522T to be decommissioned. When these Neutral effects are combined with an adverse visual effect from the reduction in planting to the north of the Traveller Encampment, it is assessed that the magnitude would be Low and adverse overall with a Minor Effect that is Not Significant.	Moderate adverse and Not Significant (western end of the Traveller Encampment) to Minor adverse and Not Significant (central and eastern parts of the Traveller Encampment).

	In addition to works in the immediate vicinity of the Traveller Encampment there would be theoretical views to the south, predicted to be screened in due course by close board fencing that at the time of the site visit was under construction by the occupiers of the site, along the southern boundary of the Traveller Encampment. It is predicted that views of the pylon XC523 (49.4m tall) that is over 360m away and located in the vicinity of the XC523T pylon (37.4m tall) to be dismantled would be screened by close board fencing, once completed, along the southern boundary of the Traveller Encampment.		
Operation Year 15	The growth of planting would re-establish screening in views northwards towards the A63 corridor. At the western end of the Traveller Encampment, views of the taller pylon with reinstatement planting enclosing views to the north would represent a Low magnitude of change with a Minor adverse effect that would be Not Significant. Residents of caravans at the central and eastern parts of the Encampment would experience a Very Low magnitude of change following the growth of reinstatement planting, with a Minor/Negligible adverse effect that is Not Significant.	Low to Very Low	Minor adverse and Not Significant to Minor/Negligible adverse and Not Significant.

#### 2.6 Conclusions

2.6.1 The assessment of the visual effects on the Traveller Encampment from the Project has concluded that there would be Significant effects on the visual amenity of residents during the construction phase. During the operational phase the effects would reduce to a Not Significant level.

# 3. Other ES Assessments

3.1.1 This section of the Addendum considers whether the conclusions of the assessment of visual effects on the Traveller Encampment could change the conclusions regarding significant effects in other assessments forming part of the ES.

#### 3.2 Health and Wellbeing

- 3.2.1 The assessment of health effects (**ES Chapter 15: Health and Wellbeing**, **Document 5.2.15, [APP-087]**) has assessed effects on air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity during construction and operation which takes into account the conclusions of the air quality, noise and landscape and visual assessments.
- 3.2.2 Chapter 15 concludes that during construction effects on air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity will be managed through the use of best practicable means included in the CoCP, **Appendix 3B**, **Document 5.3.3B**, **[APP-095]** and the use of temporary noise barriers where appropriate. Although a number of receptors, including the Traveller Encampment, would experience adverse effects relating to visual amenity, these effects will be temporary. Furthermore, air quality emissions resulting from the Project pose a low risk to human health and health and wellbeing is not likely to be impacted by construction noise or vibration. Therefore, the overall the effect of the Project on air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity as a determinant of health and wellbeing during construction is assessed to be neutral.
- 3.2.3 With regards to effects during operation Chapter 15 concludes that effects on neighbourhood amenity during operation would be managed, where required, through measures such as landscape planting, landscape earthbunds, and noise management measures to mitigate any adverse effects on residents, including those in the Traveller Encampment, in communities close to the Project and those more widely within the Study Area. Therefore, the overall effect of the Project on air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity as a determinant of health and wellbeing during operation is assessed to be neutral.

#### 3.3 Cumulative effects

#### **Intra-related effects**

3.3.2 As outlined in paragraph 18.7.3, **ES Chapter 18 Cumulative effects** (**Document 5.2.18, [APP-090]**), the assessment already concludes that the Traveller Encampment could experience significant short-term cumulative effects during construction and therefore there is no change in the significance of cumulative effects. No significant intra-related cumulative effects are likely during the operational phase of the Project.

#### **Inter-related effects**

3.3.3 Table 18.10, **Chapter 18 Cumulative effects** (**Document 5.2.18, [APP-090]**), sets out the potential cumulative visual effects from Lumby Quarry, the Service Station on the A1(M) and the Battery Storage projects south of the Monk Fryston Substation on receptors in the Monk Fryston Area. The potential for views of these projects under

construction or in operation from the Traveller Encampment is extremely limited given the construction, by the site occupiers, of the closeboard fence underway to the perimeter of the Traveller Encampment that currently restricts views east and when completed will fully restrict views south towards the battery storage projects. As described in detail above, the Project would result in a noticeable reduction in the height and extent of existing planting north of the Traveller Encampment to facilitate the construction of scaffolding and access for pylon erection and decommissioning during the construction phase. This vegetation reduction may reveal very limited glimpses of traffic along the A63 from caravans on the Traveller Encampment, however views of the bunds that would be constructed to the perimeter of Lumby Quarry to screen quarrying activity adjacent to the A63, and the construction activity and emerging built structures on the A1 (M) Service Station Site are predicted to be fully screened or barely perceptible from the Traveller Encampment, although some increases in construction traffic on the A63 may be perceptible. Overall, the visual changes as a result of the Lumby Quarry and the Service Station developments are predicted to represent up to a Very Low magnitude of visual change. The Minor Adverse effects as a result of the construction phase only of the Lumby Quarry and the A1(M) Service Station, should they be perceptible in combination with the construction phase of the Project, would result in a cumulative effect that is Not Significant. No long term cumulative effects are predicted during the Operational Phase of the Project in combination with Lumby Quarry, and the A1 (M) Service Station.

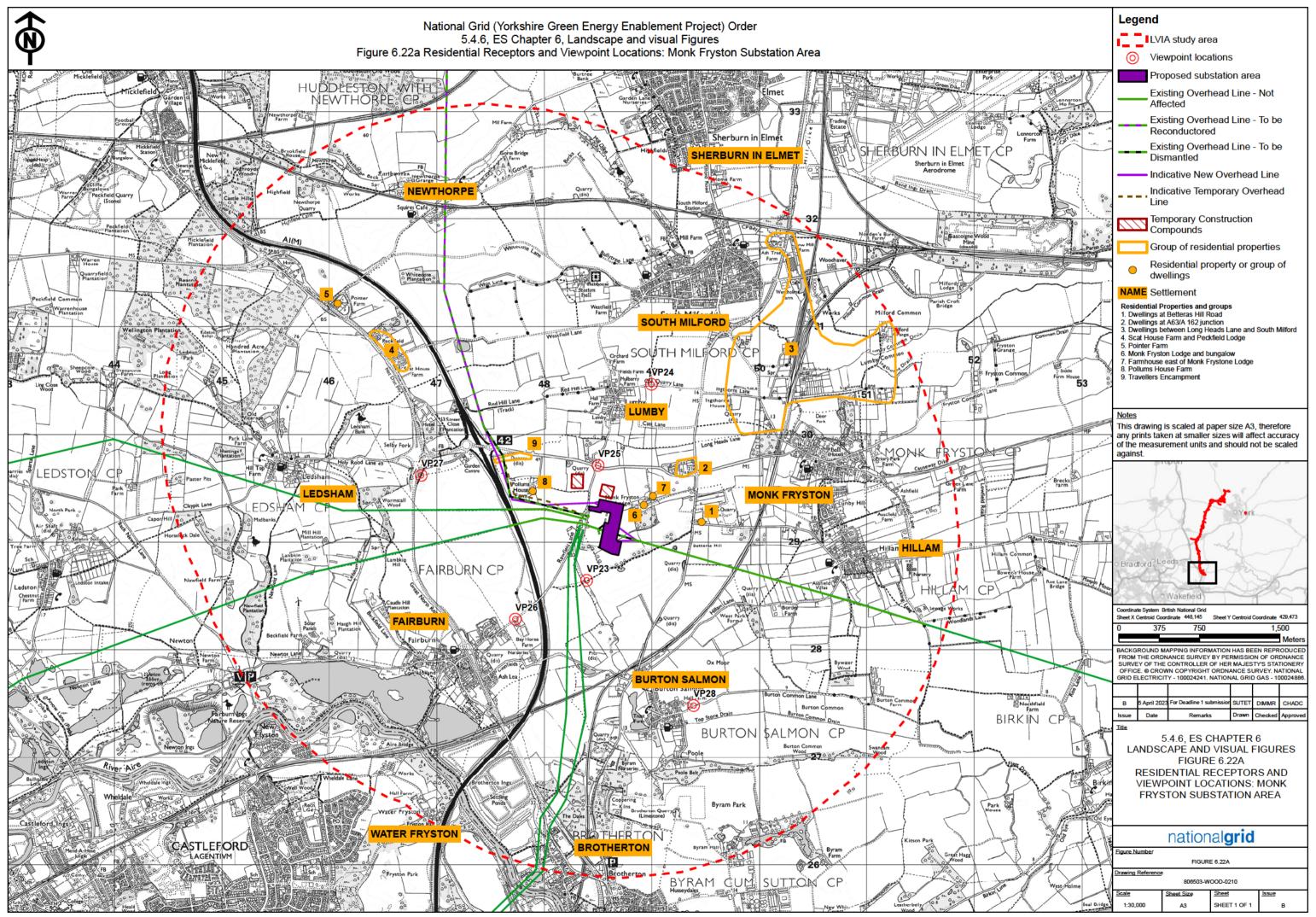
3.3.4 Therefore, there are no changes to the conclusions of the **ES Chapter 18 Cumulative** effects (Document 5.2.18, [APP-090]).

#### 3.4 Errata

- 3.4.1 As a result of this Addendum (**Document 5.2.20**) a number of Errata have been identified. These are also included in **Document 5.2.19**.
  - Non Technical Summary: Document 5.1, [APP-072]: Paragraph 5.3.8 is updated to refer to significant adverse visual effects during construction on the Traveller Encampment.
  - ES Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual, Document 5.2.6, [APP-078]:
    - Paragraph 6.5.68 is amended to read "Isolated dwellings that are located within approximately 500m of the Project comprise Monk Fryston Lodge, bungalow and farmhouse, to the north-east of the proposed substation. Dwellings at Pollums House Farm lie to the north of the 275kV XC overhead line realignment. In addition, a Traveller Encampment is present south of the A63 and east of the A1(M), beneath and east of the 275kV XC overhead line realignment."
    - Table 6.9 is amended to include the Traveller Encampment as an additional visual residential receptor considered as part of the scope of the assessment the Monk Fryston Substation Area: Section F.
    - Paragraph 6.12.5 is amended to read "All residential receptors scoped into this assessment have been assessed to have a High sensitivity, with the exception of The Traveller Encampment where the sensitivity is assessed to be Medium."
  - ES Chapter 15: Health and Wellbeing, Document 5.2.15, [APP-087]: Paragraph 15.9.31 has been updated to include the Traveller Encampment as a sensitive receptor which would experience significant adverse visual effects during construction.

• ES Chapter 18 Cumulative effects (Document 5.2.18, [APP-090]: Paragraph 18.7.3 (5<sup>th</sup> bullet point) is updated to include reference to significant visual effects on the Traveller Encampment during construction.

### Appendix A Figure 6.22A: Residential Receptors and Viewpoint Locations: Monk Fryston Substation Area



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