HyNet North West

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT (VOLUME III)

Appendix 12.3 Landscape Analysis

HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline DCO

Planning Act 2008

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

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HyNet CO₂ PIPELINE

Table 1 - Landscape Analysis

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Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning			
Local character	ocal character (England) A Landscape Strategy for Cheshire West and Chester Borough 2016 ¹								
LCA 4a Frodsham, Helsby and Lordship Marshes	 A flat, low-lying landscape of former mudflats and saltmarsh, contrasting with surrounding built development; Strong interconnection and intervisibility with LCT 16 Mudflats and Saltmarsh to the north; The landscape comprises a distinctive pattern of straight drainage ditches which delineates the field pattern of planned 19th century enclosure; Incomplete hedgerow boundaries provide partial enclosure along some field boundaries; Land to the south of Lordship Lane is in agricultural use – a mixture of pasture and arable with incomplete thorn hedgerows; The area is of local, national and international importance for its breeding, wintering and passage birds 	The landscape is broadly flat and characterised by agricultural land delineated by a drainage ditches and incomplete hedgerow boundaries. The landscape is open in character affording relatively clear views but with noticeable detracting features associated with the adjacent industrial areas towards Ince and the M56 road corridor, with electricity pylons also identified as distinctive features throughout this LCA. It is considered that the landscape has a high ability to accommodate the proposed change. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is therefore assessed as Low. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. While it is noted that parts of the LCA are more rural in character, the LCA is heavily impacted and influenced by urban and	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a small section within the western part of the LCA to the south and east of Elton and the industrial area at Ince Marshes. The LCA is already influenced by the industrial landscape nearby. The DCO Proposed Development will introduce new industrial features into the LCA and while a change will therefore not appear totally incongruous. The scale of change is considered to be Low. The DCO Proposed Development occupies a small section of the overall LCA with the majority of the LCA remaining unchanged. The geographical extent of change is considered to be Negligible. The construction stage is considered to change	At operation year 1 it is considered that changes to the landscape will be, for the most part, barely perceptible with the Ince AGI to Stanlow AGI Pipeline located underground. However, the Ince AGI will remain visible, situated to the south of the existing industrial area at Ince Park within the adjoining field. This will introduce a new industrial feature within the landscape however, the proximity of this feature to the adjacent industrial space will ensure that the Ince AGI will not appear incongruous and will be viewed within the context of the wider industrial landscape to the north and west. In addition, mitigation planting associated with the Ince AGI will be visible although not of a maturity at year 1 to provide sufficient screening. The scale of change is therefore recorded as Low. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the	At operation year 15 it is expected that the magnitude of change and effect will appear reduced. At year 15 mitigation planting associated the Ince AGI will have matured and will serve to better contain views towards the proposed AGI from the wider landscape. In addition, replacement planting along the pipeline route within the wider landscape will also serve to contain views towards the AGI, excluding where like for like mitigation is not able to be achieved. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. As mitigation planting matures, visibility towards the new industrial features will become even more localised. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the	For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape, similar to that of the construction period, and therefore significant effects are not anticipated. Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.			

¹ Available at: https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-control/total-environment/landscape-character-assessment.aspx

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	which add movement to the landscape; Settlement is limited to isolated farms linked by rough tracks between ditches; A system of surfaced tracks and bridleways serve the area, including National Cycle Route (NCR) 5; The M56 and railway utilise the flat landscape, crossing the marsh at the base of the Helsby to Frodsham Undulating Enclosed Farmland that gently rises to the south; Running parallel to the M56 area a number of largescale overhead power lines which are dominant features in this flat landscape; The flat, open landscape provides clear views to and from the adjacent Frodsham Sandstone Ridge and Helsby Hill; and Industrial works at Ince Marshes, and at Halton and Rocksavage in Runcorn, form a backdrop in views to the west and east respectively.	industrial elements with key infrastructure route and dense settlements also detracting from the overall quality of the landscape within this LCA. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Low. Overall Sensitivity: Low.	is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	landscape with only localised features such as vegetation loss and glimpsed views towards the Ince AGI perceptible. While some vegetation loss will be required for the installation of the DCO Proposed Development, trenchless crossings have ensured this will be kept to a minimum with the majority of vegetation cover to be retained. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be Low. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	DCO Proposed Development and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is assessed as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible neutral (not significant).	

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
LCA 4d: Burton and Shotwick Drained Marsh	 A flat, low-lying landscape of former tidal marsh alongside the Dee Estuary, contrasting with farmland sloping down from the east; Mixed agricultural pasture and arable land use; Ditches and areas of species rich grassland are of nature conservation interest; The landscape has a distinctive pattern of straight drainage ditches and channels which delineate the regular, rectangular field pattern; Incomplete hedgerow boundaries provide partial enclosure along some field boundaries; Lack of trees provides an open, exposed, windswept landscape; Absence of settlement and roads; National Cycle Route (NCR)5 crosses the LCA following the disused railway (now the Chester Millennium Greenway); The A550 cuts through the centre of the character area, and the Wrexham to Bidston railway passes along the eastern edge; 	The landscape is broadly flat, characterised by agricultural land and delineated by a drainage ditches and incomplete hedgerow boundaries. The landscape is open in character with limited tree cover creating an exposed landscape. Views into and out of this LCA are readily available with noticeable detracting features associated with the industrial park at Deeside visible to the west. It is considered that the landscape has a high ability to accommodate the proposed change. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is therefore assessed as Low. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. While the LCA is predominantly agricultural in character, it is intersected by a number of key transport routes associated with rail links and the Deeside Industrial Park Interchange which detract from this rural character. In addition, the LCA is located within close proximity to industrial areas and features associated with the	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a very small section within the southern part of the LCA to the south of Saughall. The landscape within this part of the LCA is notably more rural in character however outward views towards the industrial areas associated with Deeside to the west and Queensferry to the south will detract from this to some degree. While construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will be visible within the LCA and adjacent landscape, it will not appear wholly incongruous with industrial features already forming a part of the wider landscape context. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Low. The DCO Proposed Development occupies a small section of this LCA with the majority of the LCA remaining unchanged. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term	At operation year 1 it is considered that changes to the landscape will be, barely perceptible with the Ince AGI to Stanlow AGI Pipeline located underground. Minor changes associated with vegetation loss and replacement planting, and reinstated land will be visible. These will result in a very minor change and as such will not appear incongruous within the landscape. The change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised features such as vegetation loss, replacement planting and reinstated land perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	No above ground decommissioning works will take place within this LCA and as such there will be no significant effects associated with the decommissioning stage.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	 The transport corridors add movement and noise to an otherwise remote, empty landscape; The flat, open landscape provides clear views across the Dee Estuary to the hills of north Wales to the west and to the Shotton industrial area where Connah's Quay power station and the Dee Bridge are visually prominent; and Recreational fishing ponds and RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands reserve provide wetland habitats important for birds including internationally designated Ramsar site. 	Shotwick Solar Farm and Deeside Industrial Park which also serve to limit the overall quality of the landscape at this point. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Low. Overall Sensitivity: Low.	and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).			
LCA 9a Dunham to Tarvin Plain	 A flat landscape with some gentle undulation, and the Sandstone Ridge presenting a more elevated skyline to the east of the LCA; The landscape noted to be comprised of a fieldscape of small to medium enclosures with a land use of predominantly utilised by diary agriculture; Characterised by hedges and hedgerow trees providing limited vistas with hedgerow oaks forming an 	The landscape is broadly flat and characterised by pastoral agricultural land. Hedgerows and hedgerow trees define the fieldscape limiting clear long-distance views in places. The LCA is predominantly rural in character however influences from the industrial area outside the LCA and its associated infrastructure are evident within the northern part of the LCA as well as transport infrastructure. It is considered that the landscape has a moderate	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a small, linear section within the northern part of the LCA to the south of the industrial area at Ellesmere Port and towards the M56 road corridor. The LCA is already influenced by the industrial landscape nearby. During construction stage the DCO Proposed Development will introduce industrial features into the LCA and while a change, it will therefore not appear	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with both the Ince AGI to Stanlow AGI and Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground and the proposed Stanlow AGI located within the existing context of the industrial area at Stanlow. Vegetation loss and reinstated land may appear perceptible. While some vegetation loss will be required for the installation of the DCO Proposed Development, trenchless	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	No above ground decommissioning works will take place within this LCA and as such there will be no significant effects associated with the decommissioning stage.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	important element of the landscape; Petro-chemical and Industrial development outside the character area is prominent across the north of the LCA; Significant transport infrastructure dissects the LCA and diminishes tranquillity and rurality, particularly across the north of the LCA; and Settlement tends to be scattered across the plain in small linear hamlets and freestanding farmsteads.	ability to accommodate the proposed change. The susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA., it is predominantly rural in character with some degradation related to the influence from the nearby industrial development. Otherwise, a reasonably attractive landscape. The value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium	incongruous. While vegetation loss will be minimal for the most part, with vegetation towards the M56 to be largely retained, some areas of more extensive vegetation loss will be evident across the LCA, notably within the large construction compound proposed to the south of Elton. The scale of change is considered to be Low. The DCO Proposed Development will occupy a small section of the overall LCA with the majority of the LCA remaining unchanged. The geographical extent of change is considered to be Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant)	crossings have ensured this will be kept to a minimum, in addition vegetation towards the M56 is to be largely retained, however, some areas of more extensive vegetation loss will be evident to the south of Elton. However, the DCO Proposed Development only comprises a minor part of the larger LCA. The scale of change is therefore recorded as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
LCA 9d Saughall to Waverton Plain	The landscape is gently undulating with the Sandstone Ridge to the east presenting a more elevated skyline;	The landscape is heavily influenced by urban and industrial areas associated with Ellesmere Port, with a significant number of settlements creating an	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a large stretch of land within the northern part of the LCA to the south	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in	For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape similar to that of the

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	 An urban fringe landscape with significant settlement density and prominent features including key infrastructure routes associated with the urban fringe of Chester and extending across the northern part of this LCA. These features therefore serve to reduce the overall tranquillity of this LCA; The urban and industrial character and infrastructure at Ellesmere Port to the north is a prominent landscape feature; Urban fringe and industrial features within the landscape serve to dilute the areas of pastoral farmland, principally used for dairy farming, throughout the LCA with the character area forming a transitional landscape from rural pasture to suburbanised, busy urban fringe; Significant suburban villages are evident throughout the LCA with scattered settlements and farmsteads also forming characteristic features within the wider plain; and Characterised by hedges and hedgerow trees, notably oaks, providing limited 	urban fringe landscape. Some areas of the LCA are noted to be more rural in character with pastoral farmland defined by hedgerow boundaries creating enclosed areas within the lower lying areas of the landscape, limiting visibility. It is considered that the landscape has a high ability to accommodate the proposed change. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Low. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. While it is noted that parts of the LCA are more rural in character, the LCA is heavily impacted and influenced by urban and industrial elements with key infrastructure route and dense settlements also detracting from the overall quality of the landscape within this LCA. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Low. Overall Sensitivity: Low	of the existing industrial area at Ellesmere Port and towards the M56 road corridor, with settlements such as Mollington, Saughall and Chester to the south adding further urban/industrial character within the landscape. The DCO Proposed Development will add further industrial features into the LCA and will therefore not appear incongruous. Vegetation across the Newbuild Infrastructure Boundary will be evident within the landscape however principally limited to hedgerows and scattered trees, with trenchless crossings used throughout the development to limit vegetation loss where possible. The scale of change is considered to be Low. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a large section of the northern part of the LCA, with the southern area remaining unchanged. The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as Low. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change	ground. The Mollington BVS will remain visible within the landscape as an above ground feature alongside associated mitigation and replacement planting. However, this will be highly localised and will comprise a minor component within the wider LCA. In addition, some localised vegetation loss and reinstated land will be perceptible across the LCA however the DCO Proposed Developments have sought to reduce this as far as practicable through the use of trenchless crossings. Therefore, while some areas will experience greater vegetation loss, this will be limited to localised areas across the LCA and as such will not impact the wider LCA overall. The scale of change is therefore recorded as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible with only localised features such as vegetation loss and reinstated land perceptible within the landscape. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The	year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	construction period and therefore significant effects are not anticipated. Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	vistas, alongside limited woodland, confined to shelter belts, screening planting and some small copses.		is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	duration of change is recorded as <u>High</u> . Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
LCA 15i Gowy Valley	 The character within the northern part of the LCA is generally open and flat with open vistas in all directions possible; The northern reaches of the LCA are characterised by open, very low-lying pasture and some arable land use, with embanked river channels and an extensive drainage ditch network; Trees and woodland are sparse in the LCA, although more prevalent around small settlements and buildings and along limited stretches of the river as riparian habitat with some stand of rare Black Poplar trees evident within the character area; The M56 motorway and the oil refinery complex at Stanlow dominate views out of the LCA with few screening elements in the landscape to mitigate the visual impact; The Gowy Landfill Site also lies within the northern part 	The landscape within this LCA is predominantly rural in character with drained and pastoral farmland characterising the majority of the landscape within this LCA. Watercourses within valleys also form a characteristic feature of the LCA with more formal watercourses associated with the Shropshire Union Canal providing prominent features within the landscape setting. Within the northern part of the LCA infrastructure and industrial features associated with Stanlow, and the M56 among others form prominent detracting features. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The majority of the landscape is identified as tranquil with pastoral agriculture, valleys and watercourses forming the primary characteristic	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a small section of land within the northern part of the LCA to the south of the M56 road corridor and Ellesmere Port. Industrial and urbanising features dominate views within the more open landscape of the LCA to the north. The DCO Proposed Development will add further industrial features into the landscape and will therefore not appear incongruous. While construction activity will require some vegetation loss, this has been limited, with vegetation adjacent towards the M56 road corridor to be largely retained. The scale of change is considered to be Low. The DCO Proposed Development will extend across a small section of the northern part of the LCA, with the southern area remaining unchanged.	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. Some localised vegetation loss and reinstated land will be perceptible across the LCA however the DCO Proposed Development have sought to reduce this as far as practicable through the use of trenchless crossings. Therefore, while some areas will experience greater vegetation loss, this will be limited to localised areas across the LCA and as such will not impact the wider LCA overall. This will therefore represent a minor component within the wider landscape. The scale of change is therefore recorded as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible.	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	No above ground decommissioning works will take place within this LCA and as such there will be no significant effects associated with the decommissioning stage.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	of this LCA, limiting the visual quality of views both into this LCA from the east and views across the LCA from the surrounding landscape; The LCA is characterised by low-lying pasture and arable land use, with embanked river channels and extensive drainage ditches with a network of drains and cuts, particularly found around Stamford Bridge and Plemstall to the north.	features within the landscape. The Shropshire Union Canal also provides a key focal point and feature across this LCA. While industrial development and primary transport routes are located within the LCA these are more focused to the north with the majority of the LCA exhibiting a rural character. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium.	The geographical extent of change is therefore recorded as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
Local Level (Wal	es) – LANDMAP ²					I.
Dee coastal levels (FLNTVS076)	Open coastal and estuary levels with a mixture of arable (intensive) and pastoral farmland drained by ditches with wetland and urban fringe uses. Settlement is scattered including farmsteads. Hedgerows are low cut and gappy in places and there are few trees except associated with dwellings or other uses. Long views are possible to vertical elements such as power station chimneys and tower blocks to east. With reference to landscape value, it is noted that the LCA	The landscape is predominantly open the landscape characterised by mixed agricultural farmland. Influences from industrial areas are experienced to the east. The susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The majority of the landscape is characterised by farmland and the flat landscape associated with the estuary. The value of	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a large section of land across the central part of the LCA, extending through the predominantly agricultural land adjacent to Sealand before crossing the River Dee towards Standycroft. Industrial and urbanising features are evident within the wider landscape at Queensferry, Deeside and Connah's Quay, however the DCO Proposed Development will	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. Some localised vegetation loss and reinstated land will be perceptible across the LCA however the DCO Proposed Developments have sought to reduce this as far as practicable through the use of trenchless crossings. Therefore, while some areas will experience greater	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	No above ground decommissioning works will take place within this LCA and as such there will be no significant effects associated with the decommissioning stage.

² Retrieved from:

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	has pleasing rectilinear forms but there are minor detractors in urban fringe uses. The LCA is generally of consistent character and is productive although it is spoilt slightly by minor intrusive development. The rectilinear levels landscape is distinctive. This type of landscape is rare in Flintshire. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium.	introduce industrial features into a largely agricultural landscape. The scale of change is assessed as Medium. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a large section within the central part of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Medium. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Medium. Overall Effect: Moderate adverse (significant).	vegetation loss, such as towards Queensferry, this will be limited to localised areas across the LCA and as such will not impact the wider LCA overall. Key vegetation has therefore been largely retained, most notably along the Millennium Greenway. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
Shotton farmland fringe (FLNTVS072)	Gently rolling lowland farmland with a mixture of small traditional fields, larger more improved rectilinear fields and drainage ditches. Hedges are a low-cut with occasional field trees. Overall, the LCA appears well maintained and provides an important setting to adjacent	The landscape is predominantly rural in character with agricultural fields bound by hedgerows forming the primary character of the landscape. Features associated with key infrastructure routes and	Construction activity associated with theDCO Proposed Development will comprise a large section of land along the northern boundary of the LCA to the south of Sandycroft and extending around the northern and western edge	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. It is noted that the proposed BVS at Aston Hill BVS will remain visible within	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are	For a short period of time construction activity associated with the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape however this will be highly localised, with construction activity

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	settlements. The A550 passes through the northern part of the LCA reducing its tranquillity. There are views out from the LCA to the aircraft factory to the south and settlement to the north. With reference to landscape value, it is noted that the LCA has pleasing patterns including ditches although there are minor detractors. The LCA is in moderate condition and consistent character slightly spoilt by development. The LCA has a moderate sense of place defined by its field patterns and ditches. The LCA is fairly typical of Flintshire. There are noted to be attractive views both into and out of the LCA, in from the settlements adjacent and out to the backcloth of hills to the southwest. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	settlements are notable. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. It is clear that the landscape is in relatively good condition, however it is noted that features associated with settlements and infrastructure do diminish this quality to some degree. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium	of Mancot. Industrial and urbanising features associated with the industrial development along the River Dee and the settlements at Sandycroft and Mancot are evident with the Newbuild Infrastructure Boundary's character relating more to these features than the wider farmland to the south. Construction activity will introduce additional industrial features within the landscape with this existing context. The scale of change is assessed as Medium. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a large section along the northern edge of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Medium. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Medium Overall Effect: Moderate adverse (significant)	the landscape as an above ground feature, alongside associated mitigation and replacement planting. However, this will be highly localised and will comprise a minor component within the wider LCA. Localised vegetation loss along the northern and eastern boundary of the LCA will appear visible alongside features associated with reinstated land. However, this will represent a minor component within the wider landscape with trenchless crossings used to retain existing vegetation as far as practicable, with only small sections hedgerow and some scattered hedgerow trees to be removed. Vegetation loss will be principally limited to the northern part of the LCA with the wider area remaining unchanged. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible within the landscape. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is		only associated with the decommissioning of the Aston Hill BVS and the proposed pipeline to remain in place. The magnitude and effects are therefore anticipated to be as follows: Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant) Upon completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape character area will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
				therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as <u>High</u> . Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
Queensferry coastal and estuary urban area (FLNTVS022)	An extensive, often linear and interconnected urban area along the edge of the coast and estuary, with larger towns, sprawling suburban edges and large-scale heavy industry including docks. There are noted to be no attractive views into or out of the LCA. Low overall evaluation is assigned.	The landscape within this LCA is predominantly characterised by urban development with industry, docks and associated infrastructure forming the key characteristic features. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Low. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The landscape in this LCA is heavily influenced by industrial built form and urban development and as such is of limited value. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Low. Overall Sensitivity: Low	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a small section of land across the centre of the LCA and along the western boundary, extending round the northern and western edge of Mancot. Industrial and urbanising features associated with Mancot and industrial development along the River Dee at Queensferry to the north. Construction activity will introduce additional industrial features within the landscape with this existing context. The scale of change is assessed as Low. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a small section of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Low. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. Some localised vegetation loss and reinstated land be perceptible across the LCA however the DCO Proposed Developments have sought to reduce this as far as practicable through the use of trenchless crossings. Vegetation loss within this LCA will therefore be limited to highly localised areas and as such will not impact the wider LCA overall. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The		No above ground decommissioning works will take place within this LCA and as such there will be no significant effects associated with the decommissioning stage.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
			of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant)	operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
Connah's Quay coastal and estuary urban area (FLNTVS020)	An extensive, often linear and interconnected urban area along the edge of the coast an estuary, with larger towns, sprawling suburban edges and large-scale heavy industry including docks. There are noted to be no attractive views into or out of the LCA. Low overall evaluation is assigned.	The landscape within this LCA is predominantly characterised by urban development with industry, docks and associated infrastructure forming the key characteristic features. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Low. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The landscape in this LCA is heavily influenced by industrial built form and urban development and as such is of limited value. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Low. Overall Sensitivity: Low	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a very small portion of this LCA to the south of Aston. Industrial and urbanising features associated with Aston and industrial development along the River Dee at Connah's Quay to the north-west are evident. Construction activity will introduce additional industrial features within this existing context and will therefore not appear incongruous. The scale of change is assessed as Low. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a very small section of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground, in addition, while outside this LCA, the Aston Hill BVS will lie within close proximity to the southern LCA boundary and will likely appear visible within outward facing views to the south alongside associated mitigation and replacement planting. Vegetation loss and reinstated land may appear perceptible, however, given the limited construction proposed within this LCA, this will represent a minor component within the landscape. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible with only localised features such as vegetation loss	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	The Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline works will require no decommissioning works with the proposed pipelines to be left in place. It is noted however that some effects resulting from the decommissioning of the Aston Hill BVS will appear visible, albeit located within an adjacent LCA. The magnitude and effects are therefore anticipated to be as follows: Overall Magnitude: Low Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant) Upon completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape character

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect is therefore assessed as	Operation Year 1 perceptible within the	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning area will return to the
			Low. Overall Magnitude: Low Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant)	landscape. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High.		baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.
				Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
Hawarden inland urban area (FLNTVS033)	Nucleated settlements within the farmland fringe landscape character area, which are close spaced to create a suburban landscape, with a predominance of residential buildings and public open spaces, parks and golf courses. There are noted to be attractive views out of the LCA towards the surrounding farmland. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	The landscape is predominantly rural in character, with an agricultural landscape interspersed with small settlements introducing minor urban influences. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The landscape is in relatively good condition with only minor detracting influences associated with smaller settlements throughout the LCA. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a very small portion of this LCA to the north Hawarden and northeast of Ewloe. Urbanising features associated with the settlements to the south and the road A494 to the west are evident within the landscape. Construction activity will introduce industrial features within the landscape with this existing context of these features. The scale of change is assessed as Low. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a very small section of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. It is noted that minimal and highly localised vegetation loss may appear perceptible alongside reinstated land, however this will represent a minor component within the wider landscape. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible within the landscape. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	No above ground decommissioning works will take place within this LCA and as such there will be no significant effects associated with the decommissioning stage.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
			assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
Estuary Edge and Valleys (FLNTVS014)	Gently sloping and rolling lowland estuary edge with distinct east/west grain and mosaic of wooded linear stream valleys, traditional & improved farmland, and a linear settled and urban fringe lower edge; and an overall estuarine influence. There are noted to be attractive views both into and out of this LCA. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	The landscape is predominantly defined by the adjacent estuary and presents a rural character with agriculture interspersed by woodland and streams as key characteristics. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The landscape is in relatively good condition with features such as the estuary, valleys and woodland throughout the LCA providing features of scenic quality. Urban fringe development provides a minor detracting feature within the landscape. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a large portion of this LCA extending from the northern edge of Ewloe along the A494/A55 towards the southern edge of Flint. The landscape is predominantly characterised by improved farmland and the adjacent estuary to the north. Urban fringe associated with Shotton, Northop Hall AGI and Ewloe is evident within the landscape however it is considered that the DCO Proposed Development will introduce industrial features into a largely rural and agricultural landscape. The scale of change is assessed as High. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a large section of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is	At operation year 1 it is considered that the majority of changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. It is noted however that the DCO Proposed Development will introduce two AGIs at Flint and Northop Hall AGI alongside associated mitigation planting, within this LCA that will remain perceptible once construction is complete. These will however comprise minor additions within the landscape. Some localised vegetation loss and reinstated land will be perceptible across the LCA however the DCO Proposed Development have sought to reduce this as far as practicable through the use of trenchless crossings. Therefore, while some areas will experience greater vegetation loss, this will be	At operation year 15 it is expected that the magnitude of change and effect will appear reduced. It is considered that at year 15 mitigation planting associated the Flint and Northop Hall AGIs and replacement planting will have matured and will therefore serve to better contain views towards the proposed AGIs from the wider landscape. In addition, replacement planting along the pipeline route will also have matured limited serving to further integrate the DCO Proposed Development into the landscape, excluding where like for like planting is not able to be achieved. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. As mitigation planting matures, visibility towards the new industrial features	For a short period of time activity associated with the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape however this will be highly localised, with activity only associated with the decommissioning of the Flint and Norhop Hall AGIs, with the newbuild carbon dioxide pipeline to remain in place. The magnitude and effects are therefore anticipated to be as follows: Overall Magnitude: Low Overall Effect: Minor adverse (significant) Upon completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape character

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
			therefore assessed as High. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Medium Overall Effect: Moderate adverse (significant)	limited to localised areas across the LCA and as such will not impact the wider LCA overall. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Low. The majority of the DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible localised change associated with the introduction of the proposed Flint and Northop Hall AGIs will however be perceptible, albeit comprising a minor feature within the wider LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Low. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	will become even more localised. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the DCO Proposed Development and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is assessed as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible neutral (not significant).	area will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.
A55 and A494 Road Corridors (FLNTVS084)	The A55 and A494 are busy dual carriageways which link the North Wales coast to England and south Wales. These are busy roads with substantial commercial traffic and therefore affect the tranquillity of the adjacent areas. The embankments and cuttings consist of either rough grass or deciduous and mixed plantation which is now semimature helping to mitigate	The LCA is predominantly characterised by the busy infrastructure routes associated with the A55 and the A494 which form key transport routes across Wales and towards England. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Low. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The A55 and A494	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a small section within the eastern part of this LCA however a large extent of the Newbuild Infrastructure Boundary lies directly adjacent to LCA boundary and as such is likely to influence the LCA to some degree. To the east, industrial features	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. It is noted that minimal and highly localised vegetation loss in addition to reinstated land may appear perceptible however the DCO Proposed Development has been situated so as to	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	The pipeline works will require no decommissioning works with the proposed pipelines to be left in place. As such no effects are anticipated at decommissioning stage.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	the visual impact of the road in places although traffic is still visible from the lower land. Broad views of the coast are possible from the road and also of commercial areas. With reference to landscape value, it is noted that it is a road development of little scenic quality. The landscape treatment is well maintained generally although some gorse has encroached. The road has no distinct character. Roads of this type are common. There are noted to be attractive views out towards the coast. Low overall evaluation is assigned.	are key transport routes, with associated engineered features such as embankments and cuttings detracting from the overall quality of the landscape. Road noise associated with these also ensures that the landscape cannot be considered tranquil. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Low. Overall Sensitivity: Low	associated with Queensferry, and Connah's Quay are evident. Construction activity will be viewed within the context of these features and therefore will not appear incongruous. The scale of change is assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a small section of the LCA with the wider LCA remaining unchanged. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).	retain densely vegetated areas as far as reasonably practicable through the use of trenchless crossings. Vegetation loss will therefore represent a minor component within the wider landscape. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible within the landscape. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
Farmland Fringe (FLNTVS009)	Gently rolling lowland farmland with a mixture of small traditional fields, larger more improved fields and urban and fringe uses including currently unused quarries and golf courses. There is a large cement works in the southern part of the LCA. This has large structures, which are locally	The landscape is predominantly characterised by agricultural farmland within this LCA reinforcing the more rural quality of the landscape. Detracting features associated with the industrial development to the south are evident within the landscape	The DCO Proposed Development does not lie within the LCA but does form a part of its wider context to the north beyond the A55 road corridor. Construction activity will be viewed within the context of the existing road corridor which forms a prominent urbanising feature within	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. The Northop Hall AGI may however be perceptible, alongside associated mitigation planting. However, this will	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to	For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape similar to that of the construction period and therefore significant effects are not anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	prominent, rising out of the predominantly rural landscape. There are noted to be attractive views both into and out of this LCA. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	however, diminishing this more rural quality to some degree. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The majority of the LCA is in good condition with the predominantly agricultural landscape presenting a managed but predominantly rural landscape. The industrial elements to the south do detract from this scenic quality with prominent urbanising features detracting from the quality of the landscape. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium.	the landscape therefore will not appear incongruous. The scale of change is assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development does not lie within the LCA boundary but does lie within the 500m study area beyond the A494/A55 road corridor to the north-east. The landscape baseline will therefore remain unchanged. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).	be viewed beyond the existing A55 road corridor which already forms a significant urbanising feature within the landscape. It is noted that vegetation loss and reinstated land may appear perceptible however these works will like outside of the LCA and beyond the A55 and will be imperceptible. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible within the landscape. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).	year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.
Northop Hall AGI inland urban area (FLNTVS042)	Nucleated settlements within the farmland fringe landscape character area, which are close spaced to create a suburban landscape, with a predominance of residential	This LCA predominantly comprises the village of Northorp Hall and is bound by rural farmland with larger scale urban areas such as Shotton and Connah's Quay lying	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a very small portion of this LCA to the south-west of Northop Hall AGI. Urbanising features	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. It is noted that	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that	For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape similar to that of the construction period

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
	buildings and public open spaces, parks and golf courses. There are noted to be attractive views out of the LCA towards the surrounding farmland. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	within close proximity to the northeast. The landscape is characterised with residential development of a suburban character. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. As identified the LCA is primarily characterised by suburban residential development and as such can neither be considered wild nor tranquil. However, as noted the LCA is bound by rural farmland and is somewhat separated from the larger urban development to the northeast. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium.	associated with the settlements at Northop Hall AGI, Shotton and Connah's Quay characterise the landscape with the close proximity of the A55 also adding to this more urban character. Construction activity will introduce industrial features within the landscape within the existing context of these features. Some more extensive vegetation loss will be evident within the south western corner of the LCA, with some woodland to be removed towards the A55. However, this vegetation loss comprises only a minor portion of LCA. The scale of change is assessed as Low. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a very small section of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	vegetation loss, particularly towards the A55, and reinstated land may appear perceptible, however this will represent a minor component within the wider landscape. In addition, it is noted that some views out of this LCA will be available towards Northop Hall AGI to the west of Northop Hall AGI. These however are likely to be viewed within the existing context of the A55 and will likely be a barely perceptible change within the landscape. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		and therefore significant effects are not anticipated. Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
Wooded Valley and Parkland (FLNTVS011)	Narrow and moderately sloping sinuous lowland wooded small river valleys with associated parkland and pastoral farmland. There are noted to be attractive views both into and out of this LCA. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	The landscape is predominantly comprised of rural farmland interspersed with rivers, parkland and large woodland parcels creating a more intimate and enclosed landscape in places. Residential development is minimal within the LCA but lies along the boundary to the north and south-east. The A55 divides the LCA forming part of the boundary and detracting from the more rural quality of the landscape to some degree. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The landscape within this LCA is in relatively good condition with the extensive woodland cover, river valleys and pastoral landscape all presenting a more tranquil and intimate character. Detracting features associated with the surrounding settlements and the A55 road corridor do however diminish this tranquillity to some degree. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium.	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a very small portion of this LCA to the west of Flint. The landscape at this point is predominantly rural in character with few urbanising features aside from the A55 that divides the wider LCA. Construction activity will introduce industrial features within this more rural/agricultural landscape, introducing new detracting features. The scale of change is assessed as Medium. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a very small section of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be perceptible, with the introduction of the new Cornist Lane BVS, and associated mitigation planting, within the landscape. However, the well wooded and valley landscape of this LCA will serve to limit the perceived scale of this change to that of a barely perceptible feature within the wider landscape. The scale of change is therefore recorded as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised changes perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape similar to that of the construction period and therefore significant effects are not anticipated. Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
		Overall Sensitivity: Medium.				
Northop (FLNTVS057)	Nucleated settlements within the farmland fringe landscape character area, which are close spaced to create a suburban landscape, with a predominance of residential buildings and public open spaces, parks and golf courses. With reference to landscape value, it is noted that the traditional village core is attractive although new village to the west is not. The village expansion does not reflect traditional character of core. Core character has moderate positive sense of place. The village type is typical of the LCA. There are noted to be attractive views out towards the surrounding countryside. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	This LCA is predominantly characterised by the residential settlement associated with Northop, bound by the A55 to the east. Parkland associated with Lower Soughton Hall, and the Northop Country Park Gold Course bound the LCA to the south, presenting a more managed character within the landscape. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. As aforementioned the LCA is predominantly characterised by residential development with the surrounding infrastructure routes and managed parkland areas to the south ensuring that the landscape can neither be considered wild nor tranquil. While this is noted the village core itself is attractive and of scenic value within the landscape. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium.	The DCO Proposed Development does not lie within the LCA but does form a part of its wider context to the east beyond the A55 road corridor. Construction activity will be viewed within the context of the existing road corridor which forms a prominent urbanising feature within the landscape therefore will not appear incongruous. The scale of change is assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development does not lie within the LCA boundary but does lie within the 500m development buffer beyond the A55 road corridor to the east. The landscape baseline will therefore remain unchanged. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Negligible.	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible with the Stanlow AGI to Flint AGI Pipeline located below ground. Some vegetation loss and reinstated land may appear perceptible however these works will be located outside of the LCA and beyond the A55 and will therefore appear largely imperceptible. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised features such as vegetation loss perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape similar to that of the construction period and therefore significant effects are not anticipated. Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
Limestone Plateau (FLNTVS004)	A settled/domesticated limestone plateau with a diverse mosaic of traditional farmland with small regular semi-improved fields and hay meadows and contrasting pockets of rough grassland, wetland and scrub, punctuated by well-maintained traditional farm buildings The condition of the landscape is considered to be high and there are noted to be attractive views both into and out of this LCA. High overall evaluation is assigned.	This LCA is predominantly characterised by rural farmland and associated traditional farmsteads. The landscape is undulating in nature. The limited woodland structure within this LCA in addition to this undulating landscape therefore allows for some long-distance views particularly towards the valued landscape of the AONB to the west outside of this LCA. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be High. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. As identified the landscape within the LCA is considered to be in very good condition, with traditional farmland forming the primary landscape character within the LCA, with limited impact from settlements. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium.	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a small portion of this LCA to the south of Brynford. The landscape at this point is predominantly rural in character with few urbanising features aside from the A55 that divides the LCA to the north and those smaller settlements associated with Brynford and Lixwm. Construction activity will introduce industrial features within this more rural/agricultural landscape, introducing new detracting features. The scale of change is assessed as Medium. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a very small section of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be perceptible, with the introduction of the new Pentre Halkyn BVS, and associated mitigation planting, within the landscape, however this feature will form a very minor change within the context of the wider LCA. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised changes perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant)		For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape similar to that of the construction period and therefore significant effects are not anticipated. Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
Limestone Ridge (FLNTVS003)	High overall evaluation – an exposed open upland limestone ridge with a smooth profile and a mosaic of semi-natural moorland, rough grassland, scrub and bracken, often degraded by quarrying. There are noted to be attractive views both into and out of this LCA. High overall evaluation is assigned.	This LCA primarily comprises the elevated ridge towards Brynford and is predominantly characterised by moorland and scrub. Due to the elevated position of the LCA views both into the LCA and out towards the wider landscape, notably the AONB to the west are available. The LCA also lies within the common land associated with Holywell Common extending southwards towards Halkyn Mountain. While it is noted that some detracting features associated with quarries are evident within the LCA the overall elevated and open nature of the landscape are considered to reduce the LCA's capacity for change. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be High. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. As aforementioned the LCA occupies an area of elevated land, with limited woodland cover providing an open landscape with clear views into and out of the LCA. The parts of the area are	The DCO Proposed Development does not lie within the LCA but does lie within 500m to the west. Construction activity will be viewed within the context wider rural landscape to the west, introducing industrial features within views out of the LCA to the rising land towards the Clwydian Range AONB. It is noted however that these changes will form a minor feature within the wider landscape. The scale of change is assessed as Low. The DCO Proposed Development does not lie within the LCA boundary but does lie within the 500m development buffer. The landscape baseline will therefore remain unchanged. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible. While views towards the proposed Pentre Halkyn BVS, and associated mitigation planting, may be available these will from a minor feature within the landscape with the majority of the wider landscape to the west remaining unchanged. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised changes perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape similar to that of the construction period and therefore significant effects are not anticipated. Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
		identified common land/publicly accessible land and as such, therefore while it is noted part of the LCA is diminished by quarrying, the overall value of the landscape remains Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium.				
Rolling Farmland (FLNTVS008)	Gently rolling fertile lowland farmland with large sized improved grassland and arable fields of regular shape with blocks of conifer woodland punctuating hilltops There are noted to be no attractive views into or out of the LCA. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	This LCA is predominantly characterised by rural farmland of an arable nature and is interspersed by woodland parcels and rural road corridors. The LCA is divided to the north and south by the A55 road corridor which forms a detracting feature within the landscape. There is minimal other development evident throughout the LCA with rural farmsteads providing the primary residential development. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. The LCA sits partially within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB. There are no statutory designations within the remaining, majority of this LCA. The landscape is considered to be in overall	Construction activity associated with the DCO Proposed Development will comprise a very small portion of this LCA to the north of Babell. The landscape at this point is predominantly rural in character with few urbanising features aside from the A5151 and the A55 that divides the LCA to the north. Construction activity will introduce industrial features within this more rural/agricultural landscape, introducing new detracting features. The scale of change is assessed as Medium. The DCO Proposed Development extends across a very small section of the LCA. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be perceptible, with the introduction of the new Babell BVS, and associated mitigation planting, within the landscape, however this feature will form a very minor change within the context of the wider LCA. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised changes perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The operational stage comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High.		For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape similar to that of the construction period and therefore significant effects are not anticipated. Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity good condition, characterised by low-lying arable farmland. Minor detracting features associated with the A55 that divides the LCA to the north and south do disrupt the overall tranquillity of the landscape to some degree, however. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium. Overall Sensitivity: Medium.	Construction magnitude and effect considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).	Operation Year 1 Overall Magnitude: Negligible. Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
Valley Slopes and Plateau (FLNTVS015)	Open lowland plateaux spurs and associated lower wooded valley/scarp slopes with a mixture of traditional and improved farmland. Woodland clearance has been carried out in parts but is not significant. There are noted to be no attractive views into or out of the LCA. Moderate overall evaluation is assigned.	This LCA is predominantly characterised by farmland and woodland belts associated with the lower valley. Detracting features associated with commercial tourism at Barlows Caravan Park are evident within the landscape, presenting some urban influences alongside the settlements at Caerwys and Ysceifiog which form smaller residential developments within the LCA. The overall susceptibility of this LCA is considered to be Medium. There are no statutory designations within this LCA. The landscape within the LCA is considered to be relatively good	The DCO Proposed Development does not lie within the LCA but does lie within 500m to the south. Construction activity will be viewed within the context wider rural landscape to the north, introducing industrial features within views out of the LCA to the rising land towards the Dee Estuary. It is noted however that these changes will form a minor feature within the wider landscape. The scale of change is assessed as Low. The DCO Proposed Development does not lie within the LCA boundary but does lie within the 500m development buffer. The landscape baseline will therefore remain	At operation year 1 it is considered that the changes to the landscape will be barely perceptible. While views towards the proposed Babell BVS, and associated mitigation planting, may be available these will from a minor feature within the landscape with the majority of the wider landscape to the north and east remaining unchanged. The scale of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The DCO Proposed Development will be barely perceptible within the landscape with only localised changes perceptible. The geographical extent of change is therefore considered to be Negligible. The operational stage	As set out within the methodology, any receptors assigned overall negligible level of effect at year 1 will not be further considered or assessed in year 15 on the basis that effects are highly unlikely to increase. Effects are expected to be similar to year 1 or lesser. Not significant.	For a short period of time, the decommissioning will be experienced within the landscape similar to that of the construction period and therefore significant effects are not anticipated. Upon the completion of decommissioning, it is expected that the landscape will return to the baseline situation and therefore no significant effects are anticipated.

Landscape Character Area/Aspect Area	Baseline description	Susceptibility, value and overall sensitivity	Construction magnitude and effect	Operation Year 1	Operation Year 15	Decommissioning
		condition with only minor detracting features associated with the caravan park, and sand pits towards the A541 detracting from the more rural quality of the landscape. The overall value of the landscape is considered to be Medium.	unchanged. The geographical extent of change is therefore assessed as Negligible. The construction stage is considered to be short term and the duration of change is therefore assessed as Low. Overall Magnitude: Low.	comprises the life of the project and is therefore assessed as long term. The duration of change is recorded as High. Overall Magnitude: Negligible Overall Effect: Negligible adverse (not significant).		
		Overall Sensitivity: Medium.	Overall Effect: Minor adverse (not significant).			