

APPENDIX 5.5B: LANDSCAPE EFFECTS SUMMARY TABLE

Landscape Receptor & Sensitivity	Comments	Development Phase	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
Topography and Land Form: Medium	Construction and decommissioning phases may cause temporary and minor changes to the topography of the Site. During the years 1 and 15, and post-decommissioning the topography would remain unchanged.	Construction (short term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Operation Year 1 (medium term)	No Change	No Change
		Operation Year 15 (medium term)	No Change	No Change
		Decommissioning (short term)	Negligible	Negligible
Land Use: Medium	The construction phase would cause an adverse effect, where the arable fields are replaced with pv panels and associated structures. Decommissioning at year 40 would remove all panels and associated structures (except for the DNO substation and proposed hedgerow) and reinstate the land to agricultural use.	Construction (short term)	Low	Minor
		Operation Year 1 (medium term)	Low	Minor
		Operation Year 15 (medium term)	Low	Minor
		Decommissioning (short term)	Low	Minor
Land Cover (Trees and hedgerows):	The Proposed Development would retain and protect trees, tree	Construction (short term)	Negligible	Negligible

Landscape Receptor & Sensitivity	Comments	Development Phase	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
<p>Medium</p> <p>Agricultural Grassland: Medium</p>	<p>groups and hedgerows during construction and the operational phase. Agricultural grassland would be disturbed or removed during construction.</p> <p>At Year 1 the proposed hedgerow and hedgerow infill planting mitigation will be yet to fully establish. However, measures such as hedgerow planting and establishment of new grasslands and a wildflower meadow would be beneficial. By year 15 these measures would help to maintain and enhance the existing framework of trees and hedgerows and grasslands across the Site.</p> <p>Mitigation such as hedgerow infill would mature by decommissioning and would remain after this phase.</p>	<p>Operation Year 1 (medium term)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Agricultural Grassland: Minor (beneficial) Trees and hedgerows: Minor (beneficial)</p>
		<p>Operation Year 15 (medium term)</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Agricultural Grassland: Moderate (beneficial) Trees and hedgerows: Moderate (beneficial)</p>
		<p>Decommissioning (short term)</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Agricultural Grassland: Moderate (beneficial) Trees and hedgerows: Moderate (beneficial)</p>
<p>Settlements, Built From and Infrastructure: Low</p>	<p>The wider settlement pattern would not be affected during construction, operation or decommissioning.</p> <p>Short term introduction of welfare facilities/ compound during construction (and decommissioning). Use of existing</p>	<p>Construction (short term)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Minor</p>
		<p>Operation Year 1 (medium term)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Minor</p>

Landscape Receptor & Sensitivity	Comments	Development Phase	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
	<p>farm track to access site from Cruxton Farm.</p> <p>Introduction of permeable access tracks, control unit, solar arrays and fencing during operation at Years 1 and 15; this would all be removed at decommissioning and the land returned to agricultural use. The need for CCTV cameras has been designed-out.</p> <p>Construction of DNO compound with substation would be permanent and so would be retained beyond the decommissioning period. The DNO substation compound has been sited on lower land below the skyline and set against established hedgerow to maximise screening.</p>	Operation Year 15 (medium term)	Low	Minor
		Decommissioning (short term)	Low	Minor
Public Rights of Way and Open Access Land: High	<p>No PROW or OAL outside of Site would be directly affected by the Proposed Development.</p> <p>PROW – S29/19 along Site access between Cruxton Farm and Site. Footpaths S29/19 and S29/20 would be retained on their existing alignment. Routes to remain open throughout 3-month construction works - Establish and maintain</p>	Construction (short term)	Low	Moderate
		Operation Year 1 (medium term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Operation Year 15 (medium term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Decommissioning (short term)	Low	Moderate

Landscape Receptor & Sensitivity	Comments	Development Phase	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
	<p>signage along route/banksman as required.</p> <p>Security fence to be installed at start of works to separate construction works from PROW users.</p> <p>Maintain a minimum 4m PROW corridor throughout operation, routes retained on existing alignments. Footpaths S29/19 and S29/20 would be separated from arrays by new hedgerows (see Landscape Strategy, Rev E).</p>			
<p>Watercourses and Drainage: Low</p>	<p>No existing watercourses or drainage features within Site.</p> <p>Construction of swales to intercept surface water run-off/protection of groundwater during construction and operation; no further change during operation.</p>	Construction (short term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Operation Year 1 (medium term)	No Change	No Change
		Operation Year 15 (medium term)	No Change	No Change
		Decommissioning (short term)	Negligible	Negligible

Landscape Receptor & Sensitivity	Comments	Development Phase	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
<p>Landscape Character within the Site: High</p>	<p>The construction and decommissioning phases would increase activity/vehicle movements across the Site for the short term. Key character-defining landscape features would be retained and enhanced as part of the proposals. The current agricultural land underneath the panels would be retained and enhanced with species-rich grassland and the existing framework of trees and hedgerows would be strengthened by the proposed landscape strategy for the site. The perception of the gently sloping topography within the Site would also be retained with the layout of the panels following the contours. Once in situ, the proposals would introduce built form into an area with little existing built form present.</p>	<p>Construction (short term)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
		<p>Operation Year 1 (medium term)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
		<p>Operation Year 15 (medium term)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
		<p>Decommissioning (short term)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>Beyond the Site NCA 134: Dorset Downs and Cranborne Chase: High</p>	<p>Very localised increase in activity/vehicle movements during short term (c.3 months) construction period.</p>	<p>Construction (short term)</p>	<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Negligible</p>
		<p>Operation Year 1 (medium term)</p>	<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Negligible</p>

Landscape Receptor & Sensitivity	Comments	Development Phase	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
(Natural England, 2013)	Prevailing pattern, scale and characteristics of NCA134 maintained during construction, operation and decommissioning. Decommissioning works would cause very short term disturbance to the landscape character including movement of traffic, however mitigation measures would be retained.	Operation Year 15 (medium term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Decommissioning (short term)	Negligible	Negligible
Beyond the Site Chalk Valley and Downland LCT: High Dorset Landscape Character Assessment (2009)	Very localised increase in activity/vehicle movements during short term (c.3 months) construction period. Pattern, scale and characteristics of LCT maintained, with open views from PROW beyond the site retained. Decommissioning works would cause very short term disturbance to the landscape character including movement of traffic.	Construction (short term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Operation Year 1 (medium term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Operation Year 15 (medium term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Decommissioning (short term)	Negligible	Negligible
Beyond the Site Dorset AONB: High Dorset Landscape Character Assessment (2009)	Very localised increase in activity/vehicle movements during short term (c.3 months) construction period. Pattern, scale and characteristics of Dorset AONB maintained, with open	Construction (short term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Operation Year 1 (medium term)	Negligible	Negligible

Landscape Receptor & Sensitivity	Comments	Development Phase	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
	views from PROW beyond the site retained. Following decommissioning the land will be returned to agricultural use with no adverse effects on the AONB in perpetuity.	Operation Year 15 (medium term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Decommissioning (short term)	Negligible	Negligible
Night-time Character: High	Existing night-time character is Dark Sky. If lighting is necessary, this will be restricted to safety and/or task lighting during working hours only; this would be similar to existing lighting at Cruxton farm and other farms and settlements in the Frome Valley and on the chalk plateau. Therefore, potentially very limited use of task lighting during construction and no full-time operational lighting negates the risk of a potential increase in sky glow and other light pollution.	Construction (short term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Operation Year 1 (medium term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Operation Year 15 (medium term)	Negligible	Negligible
		Decommissioning (short term)	Negligible	Negligible