

Appendix 9.4

Preliminary Viewpoint Analysis



Introduction

The LVIA presented in the ES will include a detailed viewpoint assessment carried out from a selection of representative viewpoint locations to inform the assessment of landscape and visual effects arising as a result of the Proposed Development.

Thirty eight (38) viewpoints have been identified, in consultation with North Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire County Council, as part of the scoping process to represent the main landscape and visual receptors found in the study area. Details for each viewpoint are provided in the table below.

The location of the viewpoints is shown on **Figure 9.4** (Viewpoint Location Plan) and also on the ZTVs presented in **Figures 9.5 to 9.8**.

Annotated panoramic photographs are provided to illustrate the potential extent of development visible at each viewpoint location in **Volume 4** of the PEIR (Viewpoints 1-38).

The viewpoint analysis presented in this appendix of the PEIR presents a preliminary assessment of the likely scale of change in landscape character and the view at each viewpoint based on a 'worst case' interpretation of the parameters plans in the PEIR.

Commentary is provided in the table below to indicate what measures may be proposed to mitigate the scale of the change. The likely scale of change identified in the final two columns of the following table makes an assumption that the proposed mitigation identified is adopted.

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
1	B1189/Moor Lane, Blankney TF 10040 60859	Eastern parcel only	No	None required	Potential glimpses of solar PV development through vegetation on the eastern boundary in winter only.	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible
2	Junction of Footpaths BLN/4/3, BLN/4/2 and BLN/738/1 TF 08662 60144	Eastern parcel only	No	Offsets from footpaths and potential new/enhanced hedgerow planting alongside new fence lines.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity in multiple directions. Potential new hedgerows and management of existing hedgerows could soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more enclosed than at present.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium
3	Junction of Footpaths Scop/738/1 and Scop/8/1 TF 09001 59249	Eastern parcel only	No	Offsets from footpaths and potential new/enhanced hedgerow planting alongside new fence lines.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity in to one side of footpath Scop/738/1 and distant glimpses of solar PV development in the winter in the opposite direction. Potential new hedgerows and management of existing hedgerows could soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more restricted than at present.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
4	Footpath Scop 7/2 at Junction with Footpath Scop 7/1 TF 08583 58371	Eastern parcel only	No	Potential infill planting to close gaps in hedgerow and management of hedges to 3m.	Filtered views of solar PV development through field boundary hedgerows – more prominent in winter than in summer. New hedgerows and management of existing hedgerows could soften and largely screen the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible
5	Footpath Scop 7/1 at Junction with B1191 in Kirkby Green TF 08651 57963	Eastern parcel only	No	None required	Potential glimpses of solar PV development through vegetation on the southern boundary in winter only but development would be barely discernible.	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible
6	Junction of Bridleway Scop/1135/4 and Acre Lane TF 08239 58901	Eastern parcel only	No	Offsets from footpaths and potential new/enhanced hedgerow planting alongside new fence lines.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity in multiple directions. Potential new hedgerows and management of existing hedgerows would soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more enclosed than at present.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
7	Permissive Path Between Footpaths Scop /1134/1 and BLN/4/2 TF 08016 59686	Eastern parcel only	No	Offsets from footpaths and potential new/enhanced hedgerow planting alongside new fence lines.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity in multiple directions. Potential new hedgerows and management of existing hedgerows would soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more enclosed than at present.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium
8	Footpath BLAN/4/2 TF 07771 60245	Eastern parcel only	No	Offsets from footpaths and potential new/enhanced hedgerow planting alongside new fence lines.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity in multiple directions. Potential new hedgerows and management of existing hedgerows would soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more enclosed than at present.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium
9	Footpath Scop/3/1 at Junction with Main Street, Scopwick TF 07616 58049	None visible	No	None required	No view of any development. Included to demonstrate that there would be no impact on views from Scopwick village.	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
10	Spires and Steeples Trail Junction with Trundle Lane – North of Scopwick TF 06972 58430	Eastern parcel only	No	A generous offset from the Spires and Steeples Trail and potential new planting between the trail and the site boundary fence line.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity in to one side of the Spires and Steeples Trail. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more restricted than at present.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium
11	B1188 Junction with Bloxholm Lane - East Side of Junction TF 06649 58523	Eastern parcel only	No	Enhanced planting along the route of the Spires and Steeples Trail (western boundary of eastern parcel) and management of intervening hedgerows to 3m.	A view of the access gates at the end of an existing wide farm track. Mid distance filtered views of the solar PV development beyond intervening hedgerows. Potential new hedgerows and management of existing hedgerows could soften and largely screen the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Small
12	Spires and Steeples Trail – South of Blankney TF 06855 59445	Eastern parcel only	No	A generous offset from the Spires and Steeples Trail and potential new planting between the trail and the site boundary fence line.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity to one side of the Spires and Steeples Trail. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more restricted than at present.	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Small

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
13	Blankney Stepping Out Car Park Picnic Area TF 07418 60577	Eastern parcel only	No	Enhanced planting along the northern boundary of eastern parcel.	Filtered mid distance views of solar PV development beyond a tree lined ditch – more obvious in winter months than in summer. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible
14	Blankney Walks Lane near Brickyard Cottage TF 08370 60628	Eastern parcel only	No	Offsets from Blankney Walks Lane and potential new planting between the road and the site boundary fence line. New/enhanced hedgerows along northern boundary of site.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity to one side of Blankney Walks Lane. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more restricted than at present.	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Small

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
15	B1191 - Western Edge of Scopwick TF 06358 57964	Central parcel only	No	Potential new hedgerow along northern edge of solar PV development in central parcel. Potential to manage the hedgerows south of Heath Road at a taller height.	Solar PV development likely to be largely screened by rising landform in the foreground and hedgerows in the intervening fields. Potential mid distance glimpses of the tops of the solar PV panels beyond the crest of the rising landform. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Negligible
16	Footpath Rows/5/1 - West of Sheffield House TF 06401 56655	Central parcel only	No	Infilling any gaps in hedgerows and management of intervening hedgerows to 3m.	Glimpses of solar PV development above intervening hedgerows. Enhanced hedgerows could potentially screen the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible
17	Footpath Rows/5/1 - North of The Maltings at Rowston Top TF 05581 56426	Central parcel only	No	A generous offset from the PROW and potential new planting between the footpath and the site boundary fence line.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity to one side of footpath Rows/5/1 and potentially views of collector compound behind solar panels. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more restricted than at present.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
18	Heath Road (B1191) near Digby Quarry TF 05316 57209	Central parcel only	No	Potential new hedgerow along northern edge of solar PV development in central parcel. Potential new woodland planting belt on the rising landform immediately north of the development. Potential to manage the hedgerows south of Heath Road at a taller height.	Solar PV development likely to be largely screened by rising landform in the foreground and hedgerows in the intervening fields. Potential mid distance glimpses of the tops of the solar PV panels beyond the crest of the rising landform in one field. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Negligible

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
19	Scopwick Heath Restricted Byway SCOP/12/2 TF 05372 57874	Central parcel only	No	Potential new hedgerow along northern edge of solar PV development in central parcel. Potential new woodland planting belt on the rising landform immediately north of the development.	Solar PV development likely to be partially screened by rising landform in the foreground and hedgerows in the intervening fields. However some distant views of the solar PV panels on the crest of the rising landform to the south. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Small
20	Main Street, West of Junction with B1188, Lincoln Road in Digby TF 07720 54830	Central parcel only	No	None required	No view of any development. Included to demonstrate that there would be no impact on views from Digby village.	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible
21	Main Street, Ashby de la Launde TF 05269 55085	Western parcel only	No	None required	Distant glimpses of solar PV development west of Heath Road (B1191) and alongside the A15. A minor feature in the distance in the context of the A15 and overhead pylons.	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Small

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
22	Junction of Heath Road (B1191) and Navenby Lane TF 04815 55349	Western parcel only	Potentially depending on final location and design	Potential new/enhanced hedgerow planting along field boundaries to the north of Navenby Lane approaching RAF Digby.	Mid distance views of solar PV development set back from Navenby Lane, partially filtered by hedgerows. Potentially distant glimpses of the top of the substation in the context of existing overhead electricity pylons. Potential new hedgerow planting could soften the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Small
23	Heath Road (B1191) at Slate House Farm TF 04123 54238	Western parcel only	No	Potential enhanced hedgerow planting along field boundaries to the south of Slate House Cottages. Potential to manage the hedgerows west of Heath Road at a taller height.	Views of the solar PV development west of Heath Road and south of Slate House Cottages over existing low cut hedgerows – more obvious in winter months. Potential new hedgerow planting and management of existing hedgerows to a higher height could soften and largely screen the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Small

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
24	Bloxham Wood Nature Reserve Layby TF 03758 53324	Western parcel only	No	A generous offset from the Nature Reserve and potential new planting between the car park/layby and the site boundary fence line. Management of hedgerows on the western side of Heath Road to a taller height.	Open views of solar PV development (and potentially a collector compound and BESS) at close proximity to one side of the Heath Road but solar PV largely screened by existing hedgerow on the western side. Potential new planting could soften the development in the long term but views would be more restricted than at present.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium
25	Footpath AshL/11/1 in Long Plantation (Bloxham Woods) TF 04464 53376	Western parcel only	No	A generous offset from the Nature Reserve and potential new planting between the Bloxham Woods and the site boundary fence line.	Filtered views of solar PV development (and potentially a collector compound and BESS) at close proximity to one side of the Footpath AshL/11/1 – more prominent in winter than summer months. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term but views would be more enclosed than at present.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Small

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
26	Church Lane, north of All Saints' Church, Brauncewell TF 04546 52463	Western parcel only	No	Potential hedgerow planting south of Warren Pit Plantation	Views of solar PV development largely screened by intervening landform and vegetation but potentially filtered glimpses south west of Warren Pit Plantation. Potential new planting could soften and largely screen the development in the long term.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible
27	A15 at Junction with Minor Road to Ruskington TF 03835 51616	Western parcel only	Potentially depending on final location and design	Some ancillary planting may be visible in the distance but design intent is not to provide mass planting along the A15.	Distant views of solar PV development in the open landscape alongside the A15. Potentially long distance glimpses of the project substation/BESS at the far end of the solar development. The views are likely to remain post mitigation due to the inherent openness of the landscape and the slightly elevated nature of the viewpoint.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 – Small	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Medium

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
28	A15 at Junction with Church Lane TF 03638 52581	Western parcel only	No	Some infill planting of roadside hedgerows and maintenance of hedges to a taller height	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity in multiple directions. Potential new hedgerows and management of existing hedgerows would soften and partially screen the development in the long term but winter views would remain through hedgerows.	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium
29	A15 at Junction with Warren Lane TF 02772 55279	Western parcel only	Yes	Some ancillary planting within the development. Likely to be more substantial planting around the substation/BESS.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity in multiple directions. Views of the project substation/BESS at the northern end of the development beyond the solar array. Views would remain similar in the long term.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Large	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Large

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
30	A15 at Junction with Restricted Byway Temp/1/1 TF 02168 57495	Western parcel only	Yes	Potential for substantial planting around the substation/BESS.	The solar PV development would be largely indiscernible due to distance and intervening vegetation. Views of the project substation/BESS at the northern end of the development would be visible but partially screened by Gorse Hill Plantation. Views would remain similar in the long term although potential new planting may soften approach from the north.	Yr 1 – Medium Yr 10 - Medium	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Medium
31	Junction of Footpath Brau/10/1 and Long Lane TF 01514 51973	Western parcel only	No	Some ancillary planting may be visible in the distance.	Distant views of solar PV development in the open landscape alongside the A15. Much of the site is screened by intervening vegetation. The views are likely to remain post mitigation due to the inherent openness of the landscape and the slightly elevated nature of the viewpoint.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Small

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
32	Temple Road - East of Temple Bruer TF 01437 53626	Western parcel only	No	Some ancillary planting may be visible in the distance. Management of roadside hedgerow on the western boundary to a taller height.	A narrow glimpse of solar PV development at the end of Temple Road beyond hedgerow. Most of the site is screened by intervening landform and vegetation. When roadside hedgerow is managed taller there would be barely any view of the development.	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Negligible
33	The Viking Way / High Dike south of Temple Road SK 99250 52993	Western parcel only	No	None required	Development would be indiscernible due to distance and intervening vegetation.	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible
34	Junction of New England Lane and Warren Lane TF 01021 54671	Western parcel only	Potentially depending on final location and design	Not appropriate	Solar PV development would not be visible due to intervening landform and vegetation. The top of the project substation may just be visible in the distance in the vicinity of existing pylons. Views would remain similar in the long term.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Small

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
35	Warren Lane near Thompson's Bottom TF 02066 55112	Western parcel only	Yes	Some ancillary planting within the development. Likely to be more substantial planting around the substation/BESS.	Open views of solar PV development at close proximity to the east. Views of the project substation/BESS at the northern end of the development beyond the solar array. Views would remain similar in the long term.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Large	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Large
36	New England Lane TF 01271 55547	Western parcel only	Yes	Likely to be substantial planting around the substation/BESS.	Open views of project substation/BESS at close proximity. Potential substantial mitigation planting around the project substation/BESS would soften the development in the long terms but it would remain highly prominent due to proximity.	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Large	Yr 1 – Large Yr 10 - Large
37	Heath Lane at Navenby Heath TF 00424 57511	Western parcel only	Potentially depending on final location and design	Not appropriate	Solar PV development would not be visible due to intervening landform and vegetation. The top of the project substation may just be visible in the distance in the vicinity of existing pylons. Views would remain similar in the long term.	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Small	Yr 1 – Small Yr 10 - Small

VP	Location	Springwell parcels visible	Substation/ BESS visible?	Potential mitigation	Comments	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in landscape character	Preliminary assessment of likely scale of change in view
38	Wellingore Playing Fields SK 98807 57209	Western parcel only	No	None required	No view of any development. Included to demonstrate that there would be no impact on views from Navenby/Wellingore.	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible	Yr 1 – Negligible Yr 10 - Negligible