



# Preliminary Environmental Information Report

## Appendix 11F: LANDMAP Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas: Assessment of Effects

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Future Energy Llanwern Limited

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## 1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 The filtering process described in **Appendix 11B**, identified seven Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas (VSAAs) that should be carried through to the assessment of effects as follows:

- Caldicot Level (NWPRTVS037);
- Western Coastal Grassland (MNMTHVS053);
- Llanwern (NWPRTVS044);
- Estuary Mudflats (NWPRTVS007);
- Severn Estuary (NWPRTVS008);
- Western Saltmarsh & Mudbanks (MNMTHVS057); and
- Bedwin Sands (MNMTHVS095).

1.1.2 The location of the VSAAs in relation to the Proposed Development illustrated in **Figure 11-3**.

1.1.3 The landscape sensitivity of the VSAAs to the Proposed Development is presented in **Appendix 11C** in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 11A**. **Table 11F-1** assesses the magnitude of change likely to arise as a consequence of the Proposed Development before determining the level and type of effect and its significance.

Table 11F-1 Assessment of effect: GLAAs

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
<b>Caldicot Level (NWPRT VS037) – Host</b>	Medium	Medium	Moderate and Significant	<p>This medium to large scale VSAA contains the majority of the Proposed Development, which continues and extends into neighbouring MNMTHVS053 along the coastal edge. The Proposed Development would cover a very large area of this VSAA although intervisibility would be constrained to within the immediate vicinity of the PEIR Assessment Boundary. There is existing solar infrastructure within this VSAA close to Whitson. Additionally, existing overhead lines form part of the visual baseline. Subsequently, the Proposed Development would exert new direct visual and sensory effects at a size and scale that would lead to a medium magnitude of change, and a strong perceptual alteration of landscape character within a distinctive high value VSAA.</p> <p>Based on these considerations the medium of change would be high.</p>
<b>Western Coastal Grasslands (MNMTH VS053) – Host</b>	Medium	Medium	Moderate and Significant	<p>The Proposed Development would occupy a continuous coastal section of this medium scale VSAA. The Proposed Development would cover a large area of this VSAA albeit not as extensive as the in the adjacent VSAA and again intervisibility would be constrained to within the immediate vicinity of the PEIR Assessment Boundary. There are currently no solar farms within the VSAA, but the presence of existing overhead lines detractors which cross the VSAA linking to Sudbrook Solar Farm in a neighbouring aspect area (MNMTHVS063) and extending west to the Caldicot Level aspect area (NWPRTVS037). The Proposed Development would exert new direct effects to the southern and western coastal frontage portion of the VSAA, with effects in both physical scale and geographical extent upon the south and west of an</p>

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
				<p>VSAA of high value due its strong sense of place and historic character.</p> <p>Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be medium.</p>
<b>Llanwern (NWPRT VS044) – Host</b>	Low	Negligible	Negligible and Not Significant	<p>The Proposed Development would be located to the south of this small to medium scale VSAA, and would wholly sit within neighbouring aspect areas with only a cable connection being made to the existing Whitson Substation located within this VSAA. The ZTV and field observations established that any intervisibility would be curtailed by intervening vegetation. Any potential intervisibility diminishes further to the north and west but would not exist. The presence of overhead lines at the VSAA perimeter form part of the visual baseline. The Proposed Development would result in very minimal direct effects within the immediate context of existing energy infrastructure and there would be no indirect effects. The former Llanwern Steel Works site is the focus of re-development and long-term improvements with a subsequent visual and sensory value of low. Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be negligible.</p>
<b>Estuary Mudflats (NWPRT)</b>	High	No change	Neutral	<p>The Proposed Development would be located directly adjacent and north of this large scale linear VSAA, within neighbouring aspect areas. The ZTV suggests there would be no theoretical intervisibility from areas close to Redwick across to, and just south of, Goldcliff. This uninhabited intertidal estuary mudflat VSAA of outstanding evaluation</p>

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
<b>VS007)</b>				criteria, contains no existing detractors. The Proposed Development would not result in indirect effects to the western portion of the VSAA , as would the area west of Goldcliff, thus indirect effects would be would not arise. Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be no change.
<b>Severn Estuary (NWPRT VS008)</b>	High	No change	Neutral	This small VSAA lies to the south of the Proposed Development within an intertidal area southeast of Whitson. The ZTV suggests there is little to no theoretical intervisibility across the whole VSAA. This uninhabited intertidal VSAA of outstanding evaluation criteria, contains no existing detractors, and is noted for recreational activities to occur alongside it. The Proposed Development would result in no perceptible indirect effects across the whole VSAA, resulting in a no change scale of effect and no perceptual qualities impacted. Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be no change.
<b>Western Saltmarsh &amp; Mudbanks</b>	High	No change	Neutral	The small linear Western Saltmarsh & Mudbanks VSAA lies at the coastal edge of MNMTHVS053, south of Summerleaze and Caldicot Moor. The ZTV suggests there would be no intervisibility across the whole VSAA. This uninhabited saltmarsh VSAA of outstanding evaluation criteria, contains no existing detractors albeit the M4 is a noted influence. The VSAA is also served by an existing footpath connecting to the Caldicot Levels. The Proposed Development would

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
<b>(MNMTH VS057)</b>				not bring new indirect effects across to the VSAA. Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be no change.
<b>Bedwin Sands (MNMTH VS095)</b>	High	No change	Neutral	This large VSAA lies to the southwest of the Proposed Development and south of the intervening Western Saltmarsh & Mudbanks VSAA. The ZTV suggests there would be no intervisibility across the whole VSAA. This uninhabited VSAA of outstanding evaluation criteria, contains no existing energy detractors. The Proposed Development would not bring new indirect effects across to the VSAA. Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be no change.