

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Appendix 11G: LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect Areas: Assessment of effects

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Future Energy Llanwern Limited

Contents

1.1	Introduction	1
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1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 The filtering process described in **Appendix 11B**, identified six Historic Landscape Aspect Areas (HLAAs) that should be carried through to the assessment of effects as follows:

- NWPRTHL019 Whitson;
- NWPRTHL018 Redwick;
- MNMTHHL001 Caldicot Level;
- NWPRTHL022 East Usk and Llanwern Industrial;
- NWPRTHL017 Nash/Goldcliff Coastal Zone; and
- NWPRTHL047 Peterstone and the Portland Grounds.

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

Table 11G-1 Assessment of effect: HLAA's

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
Whitson (NWPRTL019) – Host	High	Medium	Moderate Not Significant	The Whitson HLAA forms part of the outstanding Gwent Levels Historic Landscape, characterised by its coherent pattern of reclaimed medieval and post-medieval fieldscapes, reens and green lanes, and later Parliamentary enclosure at Broadmead. The Proposed Development would occupy approximately 50% of the HLAA, introducing large-scale solar infrastructure across an extensive part of the HLAA. Despite the coverage the fundamental layout of the historic drainage and field pattern would remain legible and physical disturbance would be limited. Effects would extend across much of the HLAA, reducing slightly towards the west around Whitson village. Taking account of the extensive spatial coverage, within an outstanding and coherent historic landscape, and the limited scope for physical loss of fabric, and recognised potential for reversibility, the overall magnitude of change is assessed as Medium.
Redwick (NWPRTL018) – Host	High	Medium	Moderate Significant	The Redwick HLAA forms part of the outstanding Gwent Levels Historic Landscape and represents a coherent, irregular pattern of medieval reclaimed fields and a preserved nucleated medieval village. The settlement, reens, and irregular enclosure pattern together contribute to an exceptionally intact and legible historic landscape of national value. The Proposed Development would extend across approximately the coastal edge third of the HLAA, introducing large-scale solar infrastructure into this historic fieldscape context. The introduction of energy infrastructure would contrast with the small-scale, irregular pattern of the historic reclaimed landscape, resulting in a marked change to its character over a wide area, particularly around the open approaches to Redwick village. Albeit physical disturbance to archaeology and historic fabric would be limited. Taking account of the spatial coverage, the outstanding value and integrity of the receptor, including perceived change to Redwick village, and the potential for reversibility the largely non-destructive change constitutes a Medium magnitude of change.
Caldicot Level (MNMTHHL001 – Host)	High	Low	Moderate Not Significant	The Caldicot Level HLAA forms part of the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape and represents one of its principal components, comprising extensive reclaimed wetlands, regular field patterns, drainage reens, and scattered farmsteads. The landscape exhibits a long continuity of reclamation and enclosure from the Roman to post-medieval eras, with extant historic drainage, sea defences and agricultural structures that contribute to its outstanding HLAA value. The Proposed Development would be localised to the HLAA southwestern extents close to Summerleaze where it would introduce direct effects, with remaining areas unaffected. In the directly affected areas, the underlying drainage network and historic field structure would remain legible, new

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
				solar infrastructure would noticeably alter the established agricultural character of the Levels, particularly along the coastal edge in the southwestern extent, however physical disturbance to buried archaeology or the historic fabric would be negligible. Taking account of the localised spatial coverage, the outstanding value and integrity of the receptor, and the largely reversible perceptual change, the overall magnitude of change is assessed as Low.
East Usk and Llanwern Industrial (NWPRTL022) – Host	Medium	Low	Minor and Not Significant	The East Usk and Llanwern HLAA forms a distinct part of the wider Gwent Levels landscape, comprising part reclaimed agricultural land and part 20th-century industrial landscape, centred on the former Llanwern Steelworks and extending east to the Gwent Euro Park. The area represents a complex layering of historic reclamation, industrial development, and more recent redevelopment for commercial and residential uses. Although much of the original reclaimed fieldscape has been lost or obscured, the area retains high archaeological potential, ranging from a recorded Iron Age settlement, Roman maritime remains, and extensive buried deposits. The Proposed Development would not result in direct physical change to the HLAA, except within the far north-western extent where the existing Whitson 275 kV Substation is located. Beyond this localised extent, the remaining HLAA would not be directly affected, and indirect effects would be perceived to a landscape already heavily altered by industry and infrastructure. Taking account of the limited direct extent of works, the high value but reduced integrity of the receptor, and the existing industrialised baseline, the overall magnitude of change is assessed as Low.
Nash/Goldcliff Coastal Zone (NWPRTL017)	High	Negligible	Minor Not Significant	<i>The Nash/Goldcliff HLAA forms part of the Outstanding Gwent Levels Historic Landscape, representing a diverse and irregular reclaimed fieldscape of medieval origin. All of the Proposed Development lies outside of the HLAA, within neighbouring aspect areas, with the nearest being a minor extent close to Whitson and a larger area close to the existing Whitson 275 kV Substation at the far northeastern boundary, an area of existing landscape detraction. No direct physical effects would occur within the Nash/Goldcliff HLAA, and therefore no physical impact to the heritage landscape. Indirect effects would be limited to perceptual change in localised views, where the development may be perceptible in the wider landscape context. Given the separation from the Proposed Development, the outstanding value and intact condition of the HLAA, and the absence of direct effects, the overall magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible.</i>

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
Peterstone and the Portland Grounds (NWPRTL047)	High	Negligible	Minor Not Significant	The Peterstone and Portland Grounds HLAA forms the intertidal foreshore of the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape. This Outstanding receptor represents an internationally important landscape with exceptional preservation of prehistoric, Roman, and medieval remains within intertidal the Levels. All elements of the Proposed Development lie outside of this HLAA, within adjacent reclaimed land between Whitson and Redwick. The HLAA shares a continuous inland boundary with the Proposed Development area, from southeast of Whitson to south of Redwick. No direct physical effects would occur within the HLAA, and any indirect effects would be limited to perceptual change along the shared inland edge where solar infrastructure may be visible within the context of the existing sea defences. The integrity, condition, and legibility of the intertidal historic landscape would remain unaffected. Taking account of the outstanding value and sensitivity of the receptor, the absence of direct physical impact, and the minimal extent of indirect change, the overall magnitude of change is assessed as Negligible.

*As set out in **Appendix 11C**.