

Appendix 7.2 Summary of Landscape Effects

Aspect	Landscape Features Characteristic and Qualities	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance
Landform	<p>Existing: The land on the site is generally level, anticipated to have been prepared for future development as part of overall earthworks/ground preparation for the surrounding industrial area. The height change is minimal and less than 3m across the site the lowest point of the site is around 246m AOD and the highest parts around 248.5m AOD. There is an existing linear earth bund adjacent to the northern site boundary. Beyond this there is localised higher ground with semi mature plantation, likely part of a land restoration following cessation of extraction/mineral workings. Land is higher beyond the north western boundary approximately 10m higher than the site.</p> <p>The topography of the study area includes a combination of high points and ridges between valleys (the river Derwent to the northwest, Knitsley/Beggarside Burn and Blackhill Burn to the southeast). The town of Consett occupies land on a high point plateau approximately 240mAOD and the eastern valley side of the river Derwent. The site is on the southern edge of the town and the higher ground.</p> <p>The study area is in a transitional landscape between the uplands of the north Pennines and the lowlands further north and east toward Tyne and Wear beyond the study area. The mainly upland North Pennines AONB is to the west and southwest of Consett, approximately 2km southwest and the closest part (see Figure 7.3). Land on the edge of the study area becomes increasingly higher at Whitehall Moss (approximately 320mAOD) and is higher further southwest(>400mAOD).</p> <p>Proposed: Changes to landform on the site would be minimal, anticipated to be limited to the construction phase levelling, excavations for foundations and temporary stockpiling of materials. On completion the ground around the proposed buildings would remain similar to existing and modelled to form the required level hardstanding/service areas and car parking. Some localised changes such as low bunds would be incorporated on the site perimeters within soft landscaped areas. Proposed changes to the levels on the site are would be negligible in the context of the surrounding landscape and would not be perceived beyond the immediate locality.</p>	Low	Negligible	Neutral
Land use, land cover	<p>Existing: The landcover on the site currently comprises grassland. Existing naturally self-sown scattered shrubs and saplings are present adjacent to the existing access road and the southeast site boundary. There are no existing hard surfaced areas or structures. See Figure 7.26 Contextual Images.</p> <p>Land use in the surroundings includes a variety of types including industrial development, housing, commercial/retail, woodland, agricultural land, watercourses, public open space/footpaths, general urban</p>	Low	Low	Minor

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	<p>areas, roads, telecommunications masts, overhead lines and wind turbines. There are sites of heritage interest in the locality including listed buildings e.g. Hownskill viaduct.</p> <p>Proposed: The site is generally 'featureless comprising 'prepared' level grassland. On the site changes would involve removal of the grassland and replacement with built development in the form of a new energy facility and associated ancillary development. This would be a substantial change to the site but within the context of the immediately surrounding industrial area and on the edge of a town effects will be limited. The development would increase the amount of built form and the developed character of the locality. Soft landscaping can be provided to the site perimeters and would increase greenery/tree cover on the site consistent with adjoining woodland. The proposed change in land use and over within the framework of the sider setting would be negligible as the proposed and existing land uses are aligned and the site is closely associated with/affected by adjacent land uses.</p>			
<p>Trees and hedges</p>	<p>Existing: There are scattered shrubs and saplings along the south eastern boundary running in a parallel with existing road. Mixed coniferous and broad-leaved plantation is a prominent feature immediately to the north west, on the top of existing earth bank. There are no trees/woodlands or hedges on the site although these are characteristic locally.</p> <p>Proposed: No trees or hedges are present on the site and therefore none would be affected by the development. Proposed soft landscaping on the site would be have a positive effect through provision of new additional tree cover which is typical in the locality.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
<p>Landscape Character Area</p>	<p>Published landscape assessments include national, county and local level assessments which place the site in a hierarchy of character areas and types as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">) National Landscape Character Area (NCA) 'Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe' Natural England character profiles;) County Character Area - 'West Durham Coalfield', Broad Landscape Type - 'Coalfield Upland Fringe,' Broad Character Area - 'Northern Coalfield Uplands', and West Durham Coalfield Local Landscape Type 'Disturbed Land', published by Durham County Council 2008. <p>The NCA is described as a transitional landscape which connects the uplands of the northern Pennines to the Tyne and Wear lowlands. Settlements are noted to be denser in the northern part of the NCA, where the site is located giving rise to a 'more urban feel'.</p> <p>The area's industrial history such as mining is noted to be a '<i>a strong influence on settlement patterns, culture and infrastructure such as wagonways and railways</i>'. The assessment notes the presence of a high proportion</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Minor</p>

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	<p>of 'reclaimed sites' typically post mining and that this sometimes gives the landscape a featureless, 'manmade' feel. It is further noted that where land has been restoration then there is an emphasis on creating spaces for improving wildlife and recreation.</p> <p>The wider NCA contains areas of upland character, where open fields are divided by drystone walls and fences or hedges, generally used for sheep and cattle grazing. Key characteristics of the NCA include rolling upland landscapes of broad, open ridges and valleys with a strong west–east grain.</p> <p>The county character area West Durham Coalfield is described as 'a rolling low upland landscape of ridges and valleys with a strong east-west grain.' The wooded valleys and floodplains together with uplands and high ridges are noted as some of its key characteristics, 'The landscape is broad in scale, defined within the valleys by the enclosing ridgelines, with panoramic views from higher ridges across adjacent valleys.' Key characteristics of note include the relics of an industrial past with landscape features remaining such as railways, viaducts and spoil heaps. The landscape is 'heavily influenced by development with a semi-rural or urban fringe character in places.'</p> <p>Coalfield Upland Fringe is described as a 'visually open landscape with commanding views across adjacent valleys to distant ridges. The key characteristics include 'broad ridges and shallow valley heads', few trees/sparsely wooded but with some scattered conifer plantations and shelterbelts, occasional relics of the mining industry, telecommunications masts and wind turbines prominent on some ridges, extensive areas of restored opencast land.</p> <p>The Northern Coalfield Uplands landscape includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">) Densely settled ridges between valleys.) Large mining industrial towns and villages along the ridgelines connected by busy roads.) Land use outside urban areas is largely pastoral.) Field systems are regular and uniform, many dating from parliamentary enclosures of the C18th, others from C20th opencast coal mining and land reclamation.) Field boundaries are a mixture of dry stone walls hedges and fences.) Ridges are generally open in character with few trees or woodlands.) Telecommunications masts are notable features of the skyline. 			

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	<p>These published descriptions are typical of the site and immediate surroundings. The site and land immediately adjacent is restored, developed and includes land for wildlife/recreation utilising remnants of former industry e.g. former railway, Consett and Sunderland railway path and coast to coast cycleway.</p> <p>There are a no landscape features of note on the site itself (disturbed land) that contribute to the wider character of the area. The site is level grassland forming a future development plot between existing development. The semi mature woodland on mounded, reclaimed land to the rear/northwest of the site is prominent in the local landscape and affords enclosure to this side of the site. The site forms part of the edge of Consett on sloping ground, it is positioned approximately midway on the slope between woodland and developed areas, Knitsley Burn is on the lower ground and the urban area of Consett on a plateau and eastern side of the River Derwent valley.</p> <p>Predicted Landscape Change: The new development will introduce new buildings and structures within a defined urban fringe and disturbed land location. The landscape areas/types are affected by development and an industrial past, evidence is seen of previous development and industries such as mining throughout. The land on which the site is located is within an area which is mixed in character, partly developed, partly restored and enhanced for recreation and wildlife. Also comprising land allocated to future development and consented for development e.g. solar farm on land adjacent to Hownskill Industrial Area to the southeast. Together this gives rise to a landscape that is not sensitive to the proposed change and the installation of a new energy facility in this location. Effects of this are minimised further by the rolling landform which provides enclosure especially to the north, the extent and types of varied development in the locality.</p>			

Appendix 7.2 Summary of Visual Effects

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
Representative Viewpoints					
Distances and measurements are approximate.					
1	<p>Consett and Sunderland Railway Path, part of Sustrans Coast to Coast long distance cycle route. Grid ref NZ 10576, 50107</p> <p>AOD 259m</p> <p>Distance to Site: 476m</p> <p>Receptors: Path users, walkers and cyclists</p>	<p>Existing: Views are typically enclosed and channelled long the cycleway/footpath path (former railway line). There are trees on either side of the path which provide dense screening. The location is from a recreational route, at a high point and more open part of the path and the site of a piece of public art - Terris Novalis. The path is a long distance path and part of the Sustrans coast to coast cycleway. Receptors are users of this recreational route and are anticipated to experience momentary or occasional glimpsed views of the surrounding land/landscape in this area typically at lower levels, as part of a journey (sequential views). Glimpses of the upper part of the nearest buildings at Howns Gill Industrial Area in the middle distance are possible through breaks in tree cover, otherwise views out from the path are mostly screened by dense vegetation. Distant high ground forms the horizon beyond to the south west.</p>	Medium	Low	Minor Adverse
		<p>Construction: Part of the construction work may be visible from this location, anticipated to be glimpsed briefly through trees and limited to taller equipment and the upper part of the proposed buildings and stack under construction. Visibility will be greater during the winter months as trees are mostly deciduous and the development is likely to be glimpsed occasionally in sequential views, more so closer to the site.</p>			
		<p>Year 1: New development will be mostly screened; the upper part of the stack and roofline of the buildings will be seen extending above existing trees. As noted for the construction period, visibility will be slightly greater in wintertime although no more than occasional glimpses. Sequential views will contain other buildings and development of similar nature in the locality.</p>			
		<p>Year 15: Year 15: There would be no significant change in views of the development between years 1 and 15. Woodland on land between the PRoW and the site would continue to grow and mature providing increased screening.</p>			
2	<p>Ovington Court Grid ref NZ 10852, 49961</p>	<p>Existing: The viewpoint illustrated by this image is adjacent to residential properties at The Chequers. Foreground views typically comprise the road, houses and associated features including signage, streetlighting, ornamental planting, gardens, railings and fences with trees and glimpses of buildings at Howns Gill Park in the middle distance and background.</p>	<p>Low (Road Users) Medium (Residents)</p>		

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
	AOD 251m	High ground near Whitehall Moss is visible glimpsed distantly on the horizon through gaps in tree cover. Receptors are varied and would include residents of nearby properties as those more sensitive to visual change than other receptors such as road users. Judgements are provided for residents, effects for other receptors would be lower than those stated.			
	Distance to Site: 240m				
	Receptors: Road Users, Pedestrians, Residents	Construction: Activities would be mostly screened by features on intervening land such as existing development and trees on the northern edge of Hownsgill Park. Upper parts of the stack and buildings under construction together with plant such as cranes would be increasingly visible on the skyline as construction progresses.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 1: Taller parts of proposed development such as the stack and upper parts of the buildings would be visible extending above/between existing trees and nearby buildings. Approximately 40m of the stack would be visible above the proposed buildings, see Photomontage at Figure 7.7 which illustrates the proposed development on completion at year 1.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 15: There would be a slight change in views between year 1 and year 15 through the further growth of trees and shrubs on land between receptors and will mature to provide screening or filtering of the proposed development in some views (except the stack which would remain visible above the tree canopies).	Low	Minor Adverse	
3	Consett and Sunderland Railway Path, part of Sustrans Coast to Coast long distance cycle route. Grid ref NZ 09793, 49242	Existing: Views are semi-open in nature toward Hown's Farm, fields and field boundary hedges/fencing in the foreground adjacent to the path. Hedges and trees enclose views in a north easterly direction toward the site. The existing wind turbine near to the site to the southeast (approximately 300m). Pontop Pike transmitting station (approximately #m). and existing wind turbines appear on the skyline on high ground. The site is not visible from this location/section of the path and is not generally visible from the immediate locality due to the presence of dense woodland cover adjacent to the Consett and Sunderland Railway path.	Medium		
	AOD 700m	Construction: The proposed development would mainly be screened by undulating topography and woodland. During construction the upper part of the stack and cranes will be glimpsed in some views.		Low	Minor Adverse
	Distance to Site: 550m	Year 1: The majority of the development and structures will be screened. The stack would be visible on the skyline.		Low	Minor Adverse

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
	Receptors: Path users, walkers and cyclists residents (Hown's Farm)	Year 15: There would be no change in views from this location between years 1 and 15.		Low	Minor Adverse
4	Knitsley Lane Grid ref NZ 09764, 47924 AOD 246m Distance to Site: 1.8km Receptors: Road Users	Existing: Views are mainly rural in character and partly screened or filtered by trees in the direction of the site. The foreground comprises Knitsley Lane, grazing fields, enclosed by hedges and trees. Hedges and trees typically restrict views out from the path. Trees occupy much of the middle distance in the lower parts of the valley. At this lower part of the watercourse valley views are restricted toward the urban area of Consett and tend to be glimpses or pockets of development on the facing slopes e.g. at Howns Gill Park. The site is not openly visible but can be pinpointed in the view by the location of adjacent buildings and plateau landform.	Low		
		Construction: The majority of construction activities will be either glimpsed or not visible at ground level. The upper part of the stack under construction and building roofline would be seen increasingly as construction progresses and will extend above adjacent trees/buildings.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 1: The upper part of the stack under building roofline would be visible in the context of adjacent similar buildings. The buildings would be seen against a background of trees and the stack would be taller, extending above these on the skyline.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 15: The view from this location is expected to be similar between year 1 and year 15 with additional tree cover and filtering of views provided by the proposed mitigation planting to the south west, south and south east sides of the development site.		Low	Minor Adverse
5	Footpath [056 22] Grid ref NZ 10378, 47878 AOD 233m Distance to Site: 1.7km	Existing: Foreground views are mainly rural in character and open in the direction of the site, comprising grazing fields, enclosed by hedges and trees. Trees occupy much of the middle distance in the lower parts of the valley. Consett and built development are notable and occupy much of the background interspersed with woodland and occasional individual wind turbines. The plateau landform to the southeast of the site is a notable feature appearing in the middle distance alongside existing buildings at Howns Gill Park. Houses at off Delves Lane are notable on the horizon on higher ground. The site is partly screened by trees and adjacent buildings	High		

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
	Receptors: PRoW Users, walkers	Construction: The majority of construction activities will be either glimpsed or not visible at ground level. The upper part of the stack under construction and building roofline would be seen increasingly as construction progresses and will extend above adjacent trees/buildings.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 1: The upper part of the stack under building roofline would be visible in the context of adjacent similar buildings. The buildings would be seen against a background of trees and the stack would be taller, extending above these on the skyline.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 15: The view from this location is expected to be similar between year 1 and year 15 with additional tree cover and filtering of views provided by the proposed mitigation planting to the south west, south and south east sides of the development site.		Low	Minor Adverse
6	Footpath [056 24] Grid ref NZ 11404, 47896 AOD 188m Distance to Site: 1.3km Receptors: Users of PRoW - walkers	Existing: These views are experienced by users of PRoW – footpath [056 24] and residents of Dyke Nook Farm. The foreground comprises grazing fields, enclosed by posts wire fence with occasional shrubs and trees. Trees occupy much of the middle distance in the lower parts of the valley. The plateau landform to the southeast of the site is a notable feature appearing in the middle distance and it prevents views further to the site and Hownskill Park. Houses at Templetown and off Delves Lane are notable on the horizon on higher ground.	High		
		Construction: The majority of construction activities will not be visible. The upper part of the stack under construction and building roofline would be glimpsed above the plateau outline.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 1: As for construction, the upper part of the stack and building would be above the plateau outline.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 15: The proposed mitigation planting will have established and if conditions are favourable could achieve a height which also breaks the outline of plateau. Solar development is proposed on the plateau land and within the 15 year time period it is anticipated that some or all of this land would be developed for solar energy generation. In those circumstances the solar development would be prominent in views from this location and would likely screen the proposed energy development.		Low	Minor Adverse
7		Existing: The viewpoint is located in a mainly rural area in the lower part of a watercourse valley and on the Lanchester Valley Railway Path. The path is typically enclosed in places by	High		

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
	<p>Lanchester Valley Railway Path and Footpath [023 78] Grid ref NZ 11557, 49090 AOD 198m Distance to Site: 1.3km Receptors: Long Distance Path Users, Walkers, Cyclists</p>	<p>hedgerows and trees. Beyond the path, the foreground of views tends to include mainly rural features, grassland, fields bounded by trees and hedges. Fields are generally sloping from north to south toward Knitsley Burn and Backgill Burn. Shrub and tree cover is frequent on the lower ground. The plateau landform to the southeast of the site is a notable feature appearing in the middle distance and it prevents views further to the site and Howns Gill Park.</p>			
		<p>Construction: The majority of construction activities will not be visible. The upper part of the stack under construction and building roofline would be glimpsed above the plateau outline.</p>		Low	Minor Adverse
		<p>Year 1: As for construction, the upper part of the stack and building would be above the plateau outline.</p>		Low	Minor Adverse
		<p>Year 15: The proposed mitigation planting will have established and may achieve a height which also breaks the outline of plateau. Solar development is proposed on the plateau land and within the 15 year time period it is anticipated that some or all of this land would be developed for solar energy generation. In those circumstances the solar development would be prominent in views from this location and would likely screen the proposed energy development.</p>		Low/ Negligible	Minor Adverse/ Neutral
8	<p>Footpath [069 41] Grid ref NZ 14169, 46560 AOD 269m Distance to Site: 5km Receptors: PRow users, walkers</p>	<p>Existing: Views are wide and open extending over long distances River Derwent valley and rolling landscape. Views are primarily of countryside. The central part of Consett is distant and although it is visible it is not prominent or especially detracting. The south eastern edge of Consett at Delves Lane is closer in the view and is more notable. Features in the views mainly comprise grassland, fields and hedges with hedgerow trees and frequent woodlands. Howns Gill Viaduct, the plateau landform southeast of the site and existing buildings at Howns Gill Park are visible in the background with Consett beyond. Individual and a group of wind turbines are present.</p>	High		
		<p>Construction: The site is visible, but distantly. Views of construction works will be limited to glimpses of taller machinery and increasing visibility of the building and upper parts of the stacks.</p>		Negligible	Neutral
		<p>Year 1: The development will be visible but would not form a significant or prominent part of views. It would appear in views adjacent to existing structures and buildings of similar</p>		Negligible	Neutral

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
		type on the edge of the town and against a background of higher ground and woodland which limit visual effects. The amount of built development will increase as a consequence which will be small in these distant views. The proposed stack is not anticipated to break the skyline in these views and will be seen in views similarly to existing individual vertical elements such as wind turbines.			
		Year 15: The proposed mitigation planting will have established to provide effective screening of the lower parts of the development and restrict views into the site on the south eastern aspect. Planting will soften the overall appearance of the proposed development and increase tree cover in the locality.		Negligible	Neutral
9	<p>Millershill Lane</p> <p>Grid ref NZ 10081, 46857</p> <p>AOD 280m</p> <p>Distance to Site: 2.8km</p> <p>Residential, Road Users</p>	Existing: Views are open and typically panoramic extending across undulating and rolling landform toward Consett and the eastern side of the watercourse valley (Knitsley and Backgill Burn). The site is partly visible between existing buildings and forming a small part of wide views. The existing buildings at Howns Gill Park are notable in views, albeit distantly, the pale cladding of warehouse type buildings is seen against and contrasts with the darker background of neighbouring woodland. The field and plateau landform to the southeast of the site is openly visible. The foreground mainly comprises rural and countryside features in the foreground such as fields bounded by and drystone walls and hedges. Settlement and varied urban features are distant, rural landscape features tend to form the main components of views. Notable individual features are present including the wind turbines to the south of the site and another further southeast. An industrial Estate adjacent to the Lanchester Valley Railway Path is visible (approximately 1.3km south east of the site). The horizon is formed by high ground and the build up areas of Consett. Pontop Pike is a prominent feature on higher ground more distantly to the northeast.	Low		
		Construction: The majority of construction works will be visible. Movement of construction plant and machinery, glint on reflective surfaces and bright colours are anticipated to be glimpsed detractors although this will be seen within the context of the urban fringe location where there are similar existing detractors. The buildings and stack will be visible under construction as a small part of distant views next to existing similar buildings.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 1: The development will be seen distantly and forming a small part of wide views. The stack and building will appear against the background of woodland adjacent to existing development. The top of the stack is anticipated to break slightly on the skyline or be of similar height/elevation to rooftops of buildings in Consett to the north.		Low	Minor Adverse

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
		Year 15: There proposed mitigation planting will have established to provide effective screening of the lower parts of the development and restrict views into the site. Planting will soften the overall appearance of the proposed development and increase tree cover in the locality.		Low	Minor Adverse
10	Whitehall Moss (adjacent to public footpath) Grid ref NZ 07296, 47525 AOD 304m Distance to Site: 3.7km Receptors: Walkers	Existing: This location is in an upland area near Whitehall Moss on the edge of the North Pennines AONB. The site is distant forming a small part of wide panoramic views. In the main views comprise rural and countryside features in the foreground and middle distance such as grazing land bounded by hedgerows and drystone walls. Beyond this, varied urban features and built up areas including Consett appearing in the background on the rolling landform. Notable individual features are present punctuating the landscape and the skyline such as Pontop Pike transmitter and several wind turbines.	High		
		Construction: The site is partly screened, activities on site at ground level will not be notable during construction would not be notable although the construction of the stack and the building as construction progresses will be seen. Distant glimpses of the stack would be possible together with taller construction machinery such as cranes and the upper part of buildings. These will be seen against a backdrop of higher landform, trees and adjacent to other development and will not be prominent.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 1: As for construction the upper parts of the development are anticipated to be seen distantly and forming a small part of wide views. The stack and building roofline/upper part will be filtered by trees and where seen will appear against the background of higher ground and existing development.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 15: The proposed mitigation planting will have established to provide additional screening in views and will soften the overall appearance of the proposed development and increase tree cover in the locality.		Negligible	Neutral

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
11	Footpath [056 11], Castelside. Grid ref NZ 08027, 49202 AOD 207m Distance to Site: 2.3km Receptors: PROW Users	Existing: Views are wide and panoramic comprising agricultural land in the foreground with parts of the built up area of Consett and other settlements such as Castleside (approximately 2km from the site) appearing in the middle distance and background. Woodland on undulating topography is a notable feature in views and mainly forms the horizon to the east/northeast. There are substantial areas of woodland on higher ground to the northwest of the site which screen it, no part of the site is visible. Pike transmitter and Parish Church of Consett can be seen distantly appearing on the skyline, the tips of the wind turbine to the south of the site are glimpsed, partly visible above tree canopies.	High		
		Construction: The site is not visible beyond trees and higher ground therefore construction activities will not be visible apart from the upper part of the stack which will be seen progressively under construction extending above existing trees.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 1: Visibility of the development will be limited to distant glimpses of the upper part of the stack appearing on the skyline within the context of other development in the surroundings.		Low	Minor Adverse I
		Year 15: There are no changes in views from this location between years 1 and 15.		Low	Minor Adverse
12	Roundabout at Rotary Way/ A692 Grid ref NZ 10679, 50272 AOD 258m Distance to Site: 642m Receptors: Road Users	Existing: From this location, the site is at a lower ground level, located beyond/behind existing vegetation and is not visible. The site is screened by existing trees/semi mature woodland comprising mixed coniferous and broad-leaved plantation to the northeast of Howns Gill Park, adjacent to the A692 and Consett and Sunderland railway path. Views are typically enclosed by the existing tree cover and are limited to short distances along the road and to neighbouring houses. Views are similar in character to this experienced by receptors at viewpoint 2. Views typically comprise a foreground of road, houses and associated features with some glimpses of buildings at Howns Gill Park and distant high ground to the southwest.	Low		
		Construction: Views of the construction activities on the site would be mostly screened. The site would be filtered by existing vegetation. Taller machinery such as cranes would be partly visible and tend to be glimpsed where they are seen extending higher than surrounding trees. The upper part of the stack and building roofline would be glimpsed under construction as work progresses also extending above existing trees.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 1: As for construction views of the development would be mostly screened, the		Low	Minor

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
		upper parts of the buildings the stack will be visible, typically glimpsed and filtered in views existing trees.			Adverse
		Year 15: There are no anticipated changes in views between years 1 and 15.		Low	Minor Adverse
13	<p>A68, Mosswood (edge of N Pennines AONB)</p> <p>Grid ref NZ 06927, 50647</p> <p>Height at Ground Level (AOD): 191m Approx.</p> <p>Distance to Site: 3.5km</p> <p>Direction from Site: South East</p> <p>Receptors: Road Users, PRoW users</p>	Existing: Views are wide and panoramic comprising agricultural land in the foreground with parts of the built-up area of Consett in the distance and background in between woodlands on undulating topography. There are substantial areas of woodland on higher ground to the northwest of the site which screen it, no part of the site is visible. Parish Church of Consett can be seen distantly appearing on the skyline. Receptors would typically be road users from this location. There are public footpaths in the vicinity and users of paths would be receptors of high sensitivity/sensitive to visual change in a protected landscape.	Low (road users)		
		Construction: Views of the construction activities on the site would be screened. Taller machinery such as cranes would be glimpsed distantly where they extend higher than surrounding trees although this would be hardly perceptible in distant views.	High (PRoW users)	Negligible	Neutral
		Year 1: As for construction views of the development would be mostly screened except for the upper parts of the stack, typically glimpsed distantly.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 15: There are no anticipated changes in views between years 1 and 15.		Negligible	Neutral
14	<p>South Snods</p> <p>Grid ref NZ 06658, 51304</p> <p>Height at Ground Level (AOD): 213m Approx.</p> <p>Distance to Site: 3.98km</p> <p>Direction from Site: South East</p>	Existing: Views are in part restricted by topography toward the site limiting views to short distances. Otherwise views are wide and panoramic beyond the foreground comprising rural/agricultural features. Consett is visible in the distance between woodlands on undulating topography. The site is not visible. Receptors would typically be road users from this location. There are public footpaths in the vicinity and users of paths would be receptors of high sensitivity/sensitive to visual change in a protected landscape.	Low (road users)		
		Construction: Construction activity would not be visible.	High (PRoW users)	Negligible	Neutral
		Year 1: As for construction the development would be screened.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 15: There are no anticipated changes in views between years 1 and 15.		Negligible	Neutral

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
	Receptors: Road Users, PRoW users				
15	Minor Road near Shotleyfield Grid ref NZ 05751, 53917 Height at Ground Level (AOD): 222m Approx. Distance to Site: 6.2km Direction from Site: South East Receptors: Road Users, PRoW users	Existing: Views are open and extend toward Consett on the horizon. Views are mainly rural in character and much of the views comprise features including fields, hedges, trees and woodland occasionally punctuated with individual properties and farms. Consett is distant and although visible it is not prominent. Landform is undulating and the location is on a high point/plateau which partly restricts views of lower lying ground. The site is not visible. Receptors would typically be road users from this location. There are public footpaths in the vicinity and users of paths would be receptors of high sensitivity/sensitive to visual change in a protected landscape.	Low (road users) High (PRoW users)		
		Construction: Construction activity would not be visible.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 1: As for construction the development would be screened.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 15: There are no anticipated changes in views between years 1 and 15.		Negligible	Neutral
16	Healeyfield Road Grid ref NZ 07111, 48198 Height at Ground Level (AOD): 261m Approx. Distance to Site: 3.51km Direction from Site: North East Receptors: Road Users, PRoW users	Existing: Views are open and extend toward Consett on the horizon. Views are possible extending over long distances to the north and beyond Consett. Wind farms/turbines are notable in the distance to the north/northwest. Foreground and middle distance views are mainly rural in character and comprise features including fields, stone walls, hedges, trees and woodland. Built development at Castleside and Consett are prominent (Castleside more so in the middle distance). Rolling landform around Consett and the location on a high point/plateau partly restricts views of lower lying ground. Buildings at Hownskill Park and in the vicinity are glimpsed distantly. Receptors would typically be road users from this location. There are public footpaths in the vicinity and users of paths would be receptors of high sensitivity/sensitive to visual change in a protected landscape.	Low (road users) High (PRoW users)		
		Construction: Construction activity would not typically be perceived in views. The upper part of the stack and building roofline under construction would be glimpsed distantly in the latter stages of construction.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 1: As for construction the development would be distant and not prominent in views. The upper part of the stack and building would be glimpsed adjacent to existing similar		Negligible	Neutral

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
		structures..			
		Year 15: There would be limited change in views between years 1 and 15, there would be additional tree cover established to the SW boundary which would provide additional filtering of views toward the development.		Negligible	Neutral
17	Smiddy Shaw Grid ref NZ 05305, 47812 Height at Ground Level (AOD): 305m Approx. Distance to Site: 5.34km Direction from Site: North East Receptors: Road Users, PRoW users	Existing: Views are wide and open and extend over long distances to the north and beyond Consett. Whitehall Moss is a prominent high point/upland with few trees to the east and restricts views beyond in this direction. Wind farms/turbines are notable in the distance to the north/northwest. Foreground and middle distance views are mainly rural in character and comprise features including fields, stone walls, hedges, trees and woodland. Consett is visible distantly in the background of views. High ground near Whitehall Moss screens views toward the site and southern part of Consett. Receptors would typically be road users from this location. There are public footpaths in the vicinity and users of paths would be receptors of high sensitivity/sensitive to visual change in a protected landscape.	Low (road users) High (PRoW users)		
		Construction: Construction activity would not be visible.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 1: As for construction the development would be screened.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 15: There are no anticipated changes in views between years 1 and 15.		Negligible	Neutral
18	A68 nr Whitehall Moss Grid ref NZ 08872, 47326 Height at Ground Level (AOD): 289m Approx. Distance to Site: 2.74km Direction from Site: North East Receptors: Road Users	Existing: This location is to the east of Whitehall Moss. In the main views are open and panoramic comprising rural and countryside features in the foreground and middle distance such as grazing land bounded by hedgerows. Consett is visible distantly, appearing in the background on the rolling landform and on the horizon. Pale coloured building masses at Howns Gill Park are seen against darker woodland background distantly although forming a small part of wide views. Notable individual features are present punctuating the landscape and the skyline such as Pontop Pike transmitter and wind turbines.	Low (road users)		
		Construction: Construction activity would be seen distantly in views but would not be prominent. The upper part of the stack and building roofline under construction would be glimpsed distantly in the latter stages of construction.		Low	Minor Adverse
		Year 1: As for construction the development would be distant and not prominent in views. The upper part of the stack and building would be glimpsed adjacent to existing similar structures.		Low	Minor Adverse

Ref	Visual Receptor Locations	Existing Description of View and Effect	Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of change	Significance of Effect
		Year 15: There would be a minor change in views between years 1 and 15, there would be additional tree cover established to the SW and southern site boundaries which would provide additional filtering of views toward the development and integration with the wooded surroundings.		Negligible	Neutral
19	A691 Woodside Bank Grid ref NZ 13754, 54961 Height at Ground Level (AOD): 212m Approx. Distance to Site: 3.25km Direction from Site: West Receptors: Road Users, PRoW users	Existing: Views are open and extend toward the southern edge of Consett and Whitehall Moss on the horizon. Wind turbines are notable in the distance to the south. Foreground and middle distance views are mainly rural in character and comprise features including fields, stone walls, hedges, trees and woodland. Built development at Delves is notable in the middle distance. Rolling landform around Consett partly restricts views of lower lying ground and the area around Hownsgill Park. The site is not visible although the tip of the blades on the turbine to the south of the site are glimpsed. Receptors would typically be road users from this location. There are public footpaths in the vicinity and users of paths would be receptors of high sensitivity/sensitive to visual change in a protected landscape.	Low (road users) High (PRoW users)		
		Construction: Construction activity would not be visible.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 1: As for construction the development would be screened, the tip of the stack would be glimpsed but hardly perceptible on the skyline to a similar extent as turbine blades in baseline views.		Negligible	Neutral
		Year 15: There are no anticipated changes in views between years 1 and 15.		Negligible	Neutral