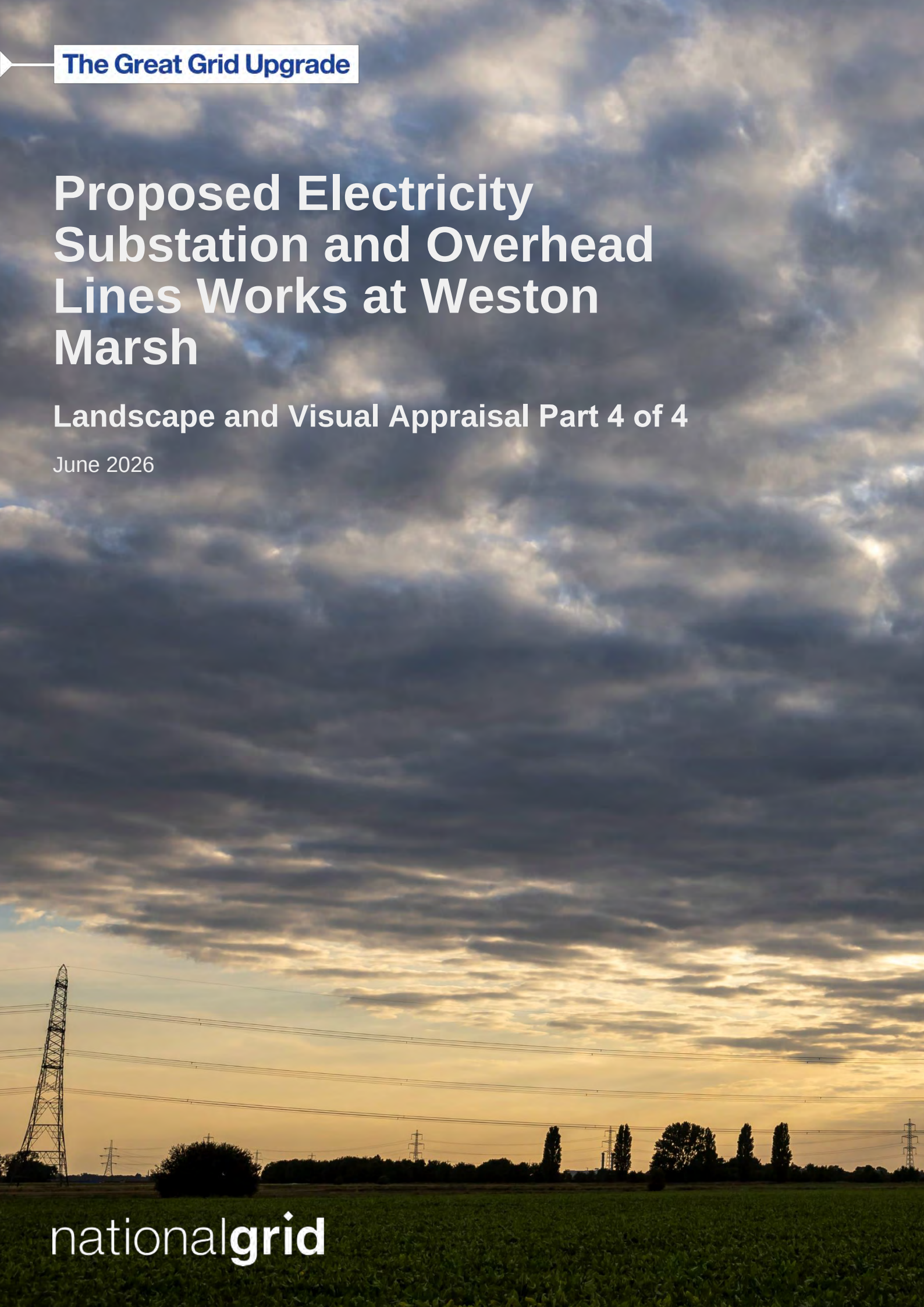
The Great Grid Upgrade

Proposed Electricity Substation and Overhead Lines Works at Weston Marsh

Landscape and Visual Appraisal Part 4 of 4

June 2026



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Contents

Appendix A Landscape and Visual Appraisal Methodology

A.1. Introduction

A.1.1. This appendix describes the methodology used in the production of this landscape and visual appraisal. It describes the methods used to determine the baseline conditions, sensitivity of the receptors and magnitude of change, and sets out the approach to judging the level or importance of likely effects.

A.1.2. Landscape assessment deals with the effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right (landscape receptors), whilst the assessment of visual effects considers the changes to specific views and general visual amenity experienced by people (visual receptors).

A.1.3. Landscape and visual assessments are inter-related. Visual effects can be considered independently of the effect on the landscape in which it is seen, but landscape effects require consideration of the visual effects of the Scheme.

A.2. Guidance Specific to Landscape and Visual Appraisal

A.2.1. The landscape and visual appraisal has been undertaken in line with relevant guidance including:

1) Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)) (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment – 3rd Edition (GLVIA3) (Ref 1);
2) Technical Guidance Note 01/24 Notes and Clarifications on aspects of the 3rd Edition Guidelines on Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA3) (Landscape Institute, 2024) (Ref 2);
3) Technical Information Note (TIN) Landscape Character Assessment (Technical Information Note 08/15), 2016 (Ref 3);
4) Technical Guidance Note (TGN) 02/21 Assessing landscape value outside national designations, 2021 (Ref 4);
5) Technical Guidance Note (TGN) 06/19 Visual Representation of Development Proposals, 2019 (Ref 5);
6) An Approach to Landscape Sensitivity Assessment – to inform spatial planning and land management Natural England, 2019 (Ref 6); and
7) An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment, 2014 (Ref 7).

A.3. Approach to Landscape and Visual Appraisal

General Approach

A.3.1. The GLVIA3 (Ref 1) approach to assessing landscape and visual effects is summarised as follows:

1) Identify a study area - this is the geographical area where potential landscape effects from the Scheme could be experienced;
2) Establish baseline conditions - this involves desk studies and field surveys to evaluate the current landscape across the Study Area;
3) Determine landscape receptor sensitivity - this involves making separate judgements on the value of the landscape and its susceptibility to change as a result of the Scheme;
4) Assess effects on landscape receptors - effects are evaluated based on the size/scale, duration and reversibility, and geographical extent. This analysis helps determine the magnitude of change likely to occur; and
5) Apply professional judgement - an overall judgment on the level of effects is made by weighing the value of the landscape and its susceptibility to change against the magnitude of the anticipated change introduced by the Scheme.

A.3.2. This structured process allows for a comprehensive evaluation of how the landscape will be impacted.

Study Area

A.3.3. The Study Area for the Landscape and Visual Appraisal is shown on **Figure 2** and extends 3 km from the substation component of the Scheme. This distance was informed by the scale and appearance of the components of the Scheme, field survey and professional judgment, and is considered sufficient to capture the landscape and visual effects. Although the ZTV shown on **Figure 7** indicates potential visibility beyond 3 km, based on previous experience of similar schemes, effects on landscape character and visual receptors are unlikely to arise beyond this distance.

Establishing Baseline Conditions

Definition of Receptors

Landscape

A.3.4. The assessment of landscape effects, as defined in paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1), means *"the effects of change and development on landscape as a resource. The concern ... is with how the proposal will affect the elements that make up the landscape, the aesthetic and perceptual aspects of the landscape and its distinctive character.... The area of landscape that should be covered in assessing landscape effects should include the site itself and the full extent of the wider landscape around it which the proposed development may influence in a significant manner"*.

A.3.5. Two categories of landscape receptor are considered in the assessment:

1) Designated landscapes; and
2) Landscape character (combinations of landscape elements and aesthetic and perceptual aspects that make an area distinctive).

A.3.6. Reference is made in the assessment to 'direct' and 'indirect effects'. Direct effects involve physical changes to components of the landscape, such as vegetation removal or the presence of new structures, while indirect effects arise from the interaction between the Scheme and its surrounding context for example, effects on the character and perception of the landscape.

Visual

A.3.7. Visual receptors are individuals or groups of people who may be affected by changes in their views and visual amenity. As noted in paragraph 6.31 - 6.32 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1), they are usually grouped by their occupation or activity (e.g. residents, motorists, recreational users, tourists visiting a specific location or area) and the extent to which their attention is focused on the view.

A.3.8. In accordance with GLVIA3 (Ref 1), the assessment focuses on the public views of those groups of people who are most likely to be susceptible to change and, therefore, are most likely to experience effects from the Scheme.

A.3.9. The assessment includes the following receptor groups, which have the potential to experience effects due to visual change arising from the Scheme:

3) Communities - People living in and moving around communities, working within communities where the setting is important to their quality of work and engaging in recreational activities, including people using Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and recreational users of waterways; and
4) Recreational Routes and Receptors - People using National Trails and regionally promoted routes, long distance cycle route, people at protected viewpoints, panoramas and viewing corridors and people visiting tourist attractions where views are important to the experience.

Establishing Sensitivity

Landscape

Value of the Landscape

A.3.10. The baseline includes a description of the relative value of the landscape, which is unrelated to the nature of the Scheme. Page 3 of TGN 02-21 (Ref 4) published by the Landscape Institute defines 'landscape value' as '*the relative value or importance attached to different landscapes by society on account of their landscape qualities'.*

A.3.11. An area of landscape may be valued for many reasons for example its condition, scenic beauty, tranquillity or remoteness, its recreation opportunities, nature conservation or its historic and cultural associations. Development will not necessarily be incompatible with the valued qualities of a landscape as this will depend on the nature of the proposal and the characteristics of the landscape.

A.3.12. Nationally and internationally designated landscapes are generally accorded the highest value. The absence of a formal landscape designation, however, does not necessarily imply a landscape is of lower value. Paragraph 5.19 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1) describes value as '*…. the relative value that is attached to different landscapes by society, bearing in mind that a landscape may be valued by different stakeholders for a whole variety of reasons. Considering value at the baseline stage will inform later judgements about the significance of effects. …A review of existing landscape designations is usually the starting point in understanding landscape value, but the value attached to undesignated landscapes also needs to be carefully considered and individual elements of the landscape – such as trees, buildings or hedgerows – may also have value'.*

A.3.13. The quality of a valued landscape is often explained in a citation for a designation, but where this isn't available, value can be determined through the application of a criteria-based comparative landscape approach supported by published documentation such as tourist leaflets, art and literature. The value of a landscape or view can also be informed by consultation feedback from people with local knowledge. This is in line with the latest guidance from Natural England (Ref 4) and the European Landscape Convention (Ref 8), which promote an 'all-landscapes approach', founded on the recognition of value in all landscapes.

A.3.14. The appraisal of landscape value includes consideration of the following factors:

1) Landscape character and quality;
2) Importance in terms of designations;
3) Scenic quality;
4) Conservation interests;
5) Recreational value;
6) Perceptual aspects and tranquillity; and
7) Cultural associations.

A.3.15. The relative value of the landscape is described as very high, high, medium or low by applying the indicators listed in **Table A.1.** Judgements are supported by narrative description linked back to evidence from the baseline study to explain the conclusions reached.

Table A.1 Indicators of landscape value

Category	Indicators
Very High	Landscape of very high scenic quality, with all or most of the scenic/special qualities evident, including its flora, fauna, geological and geographical elements and features. Typically, internationally, or nationally designated e.g., National Park or National Landscape (AONB) (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty). Very good condition/very well-managed and intact. Historic interest of designated national or international importance, which contributes substantially to landscape character. Mainly characterised by natural components that are rare and distinctive. Very high recreational value which contributes substantially to recreational/visitor experience. Rich and valued cultural associations. Unique sense of place. No discordant features.

Category	Indicators
High	Landscape of high scenic quality, with considerable evidence of the scenic/special qualities, including its flora, fauna, geological and geographical elements, and features. Typically designated at a regional or local level such as Special Landscape Area (SLA) or Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV). Good condition/well-managed and largely intact. Many natural components. Historic interest which contributes to landscape character. Recreational value which contributes to recreational/visitor experience. Valued cultural associations. Strong sense of place. Occasional discordant features.
Medium	A landscape with some evidence of scenic/special qualities, albeit with a degree of erosion due to the presence of infrastructure and/or inappropriate built development. A commonplace landscape which may be valued by the local community but has little or no wider recognition of its value. Average condition with some intactness but scope to improve management for land use. Limited historic interest. Some natural components. Limited recreational value and few visitors. No or very few recorded cultural associations. Some features worthy of conservation. Some noticeable discordant features.
Low	A landscape with greater presence of infrastructure and/or inappropriate built development which impacts on the scenic/special qualities of the landscape or one of low scenic quality or with many of the scenic/special qualities eroded. Little or no evidence of being valued by a community. Lack of management has resulted in degradation and poor condition. Limited to no historic interest. Limited to no recreational value. No recorded cultural associations. Frequent or dominant discordant features. Disturbed or derelict land requiring treatment.

Susceptibility of the Landscape

A.3.16. Susceptibility varies depending on the character of the landscape and the nature of the development. Therefore, it is tailored to the specific project. Determining the susceptibility of the landscape receptor involves:

1) Evaluating how the receptor's characteristics and qualities either align with or conflict with the changes introduced by the Scheme; and

2) Assessing the ability of the landscape to absorb or adapt to these changes while maintaining its baseline conditions.

A.3.17. Components of the landscape that typically inform the susceptibility of the landscape to the Scheme include:

1) Landform

   a) Steep, dramatic, or elevated landforms are generally more susceptible to the visual impact of high voltage electricity infrastructure. These landforms are often prominent and distinctive, which can result in skylining of pylons and gantries. Single and narrow ridges are especially vulnerable, particularly when the ridgeline is well-defined or steep, or when there are rock outcrops. More complex landforms might offer some screening or backdropping opportunities, but caution is needed to avoid overwhelming intricate landforms.

b) Broad valleys with smooth and regular lines tend to be less susceptible to high voltage electricity infrastructure. These valleys often provide a backdrop that visually encloses and integrates the infrastructure into the landscape.

2) Landcover pattern

a) This factor focuses on the character of the landscape as shaped by its landscape pattern, including the distribution of vegetation, rather than the material susceptibility of specific landcover types.

b) Landscapes with a variety or mosaic of characteristic or susceptible features such as trees and woodlands, hedgerows, or traditional/historic field patterns are generally more vulnerable to high voltage electricity infrastructure. In contrast, simpler, less cluttered landscapes with few distinctive features or where such patterns have been obscured are less susceptible.

c) Landscapes with past or ongoing commercial or industrial activities indicate lower susceptibility. Existing modern structures such as pylons, wind turbines, transport or utility infrastructure, and industrial development can reduce the landscape's susceptibility to high voltage electricity infrastructure. Similarly, visible impacts from activities such as quarrying, commercial forestry, or landfill can also lower susceptibility.

d) Depending on their scale and distribution, trees and woodland can reduce a landscape's susceptibility high voltage electricity infrastructure, especially when combined with landform.

3) Landscape Scale

a) Scale is typically related to landform or landcover.

b) Landscapes with a larger scale are typically better able to absorb high voltage electricity infrastructure, as pylons and substation infrastructure tend to appear more in proportion to expansive surroundings. In contrast, small scale or intimate landscapes can be more vulnerable, as pylons tend to be more prominent in these settings.

c) Depending on the height differential between valley floors and hilltops, the susceptibility of a landscape to pylons can either increase or decrease. This is because the perceived size of the pylons may be altered.

d) The size and scale of high voltage electricity infrastructure particularly pylons may be further emphasised when compared with landscape features such as field patterns, landform, individual trees, and buildings. This comparison can highlight the scale and prominence of the pylons within the landscape, potentially making them appear more intrusive in relation to these features

4) Prominent Landscape Features and Skylines

a) Landscapes with prominent ridges or skylines are likely to be more susceptible to high voltage electricity infrastructure compared to skylines that are less prominent or have already been affected by visually intrusive structures.

b) The presence of distinctive or historic landscape features such as hilltop monuments, church towers, vernacular villages, country houses, mansions, or other historic features increases susceptibility. High voltage electricity infrastructure can detract from or conflict with the landscape setting of these features.

c) Skylines that provide a prominent setting for settlements are also more susceptible. High voltage electricity infrastructure can disrupt the relationship between these settlements and their landscape settings, affecting the visual coherence and setting of the area.

5) Settlement Pattern

a) This relates to settlement pattern in relation to landscape character, rather than to visibility and views, which is discussed separately.

b) A settlement pattern that is closely integrated with the pattern and form of the landscape, especially where traditional patterns remain intact, is likely to be more susceptible to high voltage electricity infrastructure. This is because its presence can disrupt the visual harmony between the settlements and their surrounding landscape.

c) Conversely, a settlement pattern that is less closely related to the landscape, such as larger settlements that extend over ridgelines or obscure field patterns, is generally less susceptible. This is because existing development may already have altered the natural landscape, reducing the potential impact of infrastructure.

A.3.18. The susceptibility of the landscape to change is categorised as very high, high, medium, or low by applying the indicators listed in **Table A.2**. Judgements are supported by narrative description linked back to evidence from the baseline study to explain the conclusions reached.

Table A.2 Indicators of landscape receptor susceptibility

Category	Indicators
Very High	The landscape receptor is very highly susceptible in that it is unable to accommodate the Proposed Development without substantial adverse effects. Attributes that make up the character of the landscape offer almost no opportunities for accommodating the change without its key characteristics and landscape elements being fundamentally altered or permanently lost, leading to a different landscape character.
High	The landscape receptor is highly susceptible in that it is more or less unable to accommodate the Proposed Development without adverse effects. Attributes that make up the character of the landscape offer very limited opportunities for accommodating the change without its key characteristics being fundamentally altered, leading to a different landscape character.
Medium	The landscape receptor has some ability to accommodate the Proposed Development without adverse effects. Attributes that make up the character of the landscape offer some opportunities for accommodating the change without key characteristics being fundamentally altered
Low	The landscape receptor is more able to accommodate the Proposed Development without adverse effects. Attributes that make up the character of the landscape are more resilient to being changed by the type of development proposed. Only individual elements and/or features, or a particular aesthetic and perceptual aspect may be affected.

A.3.19. In accordance with paragraph 5.5 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1) and note 5(9) of the Notes and Clarifications (Ref 2), judgements on landscape value and susceptibility are not combined to arrive at a judgement on sensitivity but will separately influence the assessment as part of the overall profile approach which is explained later in this appendix.

Visual

Value of the View

A.3.20. The baseline includes a description of the relative value of the view experienced at each viewpoint location and is unrelated to the nature of the Scheme.

A.3.21. GLVIA3 (Ref 1) at page 114, paragraph 6.37, explains that the value of a view depends on:

1) *'recognition of the value attached to particular views, for example in relation to heritage assets, or through planning designations; and*

2) *indicators of the value attached by visitors, for example through appearances in guidebooks or on tourist maps, provision of facilities for their enjoyment… and references to them in literature or art…'.*

A.3.22. The value of a view also depends on the character and quality of the view experienced, which has been identified for each viewpoint through desktop and field survey and described in the baseline description for each viewpoint.

Table A.3 Indicators of view value

Category	Indicators
Very High	Iconic view of national or international importance, or a view which is associated with a nationally or internationally designated landscape or heritage asset, the cultural associations of which are widely recognised in art, literature, or other media.
High	Highly scenic view associated with a landscape or heritage asset of national or regional importance, the cultural associations of which are regularly recognised in art, literature, or other media.
Medium	The value of such views may have been identified as part of the consultation process and through site visits. Elements or features within the view are likely to be in good condition, with few discordant elements or features.
Low	Although the view may be valuable to the local community, the location has no formal planning status, is in an area of ordinary landscape value with some discordant elements or features. The value of such views to the local community may have been identified as part of the consultation process and through site visits.

A.3.23. Care has been taken to ensure that views across flat fenland and similar open landscapes are appropriately considered when assessing the value of the view. Although these landscapes are flat and relatively featureless, their openness and simplicity are often attractive and valued characteristics.

Susceptibility of Visual Receptors

A.3.24. As explained in paragraph 6.32 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1), the susceptibility of visual receptors to changes in views is a function of the occupation or activity of people experiencing the view and the degree to which their attention or interest may, therefore be focused on the view. It is determined through informed professional judgement, guided by the indicators set out in **Table A**.4. Susceptibility is categorised as very high, high, medium, or low and supported by narrative description linked back to evidence from the baseline study to explain the conclusions reached.

Table A.4 Indicators of visual receptor susceptibility

Category	Indicators
Very High	People visiting locations purely to experience the view and where there is typically a prolonged viewing opportunity. Examples include: • People living and moving around communities where the views are widely recognised as being of the outstanding scenic quality (typically within or to a nationally designated landscape); • People engaged in outdoor recreation where the views are of the highest scenic quality (including views from nationally designated or regionally promoted trails and panoramic viewpoints – often marked on OS plans and providing interpretation facilities); and • Visitors to heritage assets or other tourist and visitor attractions where the views are of the highest scenic quality and make an important contribution to the experience.
High	People whose attention or interest is likely to be focused on the view and where there is typically a prolonged viewing opportunity. Examples include: • People living and moving around communities where views contribute to the landscape setting enjoyed by residents; • People engaged in outdoor recreation (including public rights of way) whose interest is likely to be focused on the landscape; • Visitors to heritage assets where views of the surrounding landscape make an important contribution to the experience; and • People travelling on scenic and tourist routes, where attention is focused on the surrounding landscape.
Medium	People whose attention or interest may partially be on the appreciation of their surroundings. Examples include: • People living and moving around communities where views are incidental and generally not the focus of attention; • People travelling on local roads who may have some interest in their surroundings, but the view is transitory; • People at their place of work whose attention is on their surroundings and where the setting is important to their quality of working life; and • People taking part in outdoor sport or recreation which does not involve appreciation of the view.

Category	Indicators
Low	People whose attention or focus is on other activities, not on their surroundings. Examples include: • Travellers on major road or rail routes, which are not scenic or tourist routes and where the view is typically experienced at speed; • People at their place of work whose attention is not on their surroundings and where setting is not important to their quality of working life; and • People taking part in outdoor sport or recreation which does not involve appreciation of the view.

A.3.25. Paragraph 6.35 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1) notes that *'these divisions are not black and white and in reality, there will be gradation in susceptibility to change. Each project needs to consider the nature of the groups of people who will be affected and the extent to which their attention is likely to be focused on views and visual amenity'.*

A.3.26. Views at certain locations may be experienced by multiple receptor types, such as a viewpoint along a footpath near residential properties. Each receptor type will perceive the view differently and have varying susceptibility to change. In these cases, the overall susceptibility of the receptor group is determined by those with the highest susceptibility to change.

A.3.27. In accordance with paragraph 5.5 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1) and note 5(9) of the Notes and Clarifications (Ref 2), judgements on view value and visual receptors' susceptibility are not combined to arrive at a judgement on sensitivity but will separately influence the assessment as part of the overall profile approach which is explained later in this appendix.

Predicting Magnitude of Change

A.3.28. Paragraphs 5.48 and 6.38 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1) set out the criteria which should be considered in reaching a professional judgement on the magnitude of landscape and visual change. These include *'its size or scale, the geographical extent of the area influenced, and its duration and reversibility'.*

A.3.29. The overall judgement on magnitude of change is determined by carefully evaluating professional judgements against these criteria.

Size and Scale of Effect

A.3.30. Paragraph 5.49 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1) notes that judgements about the size or scale of effect on the landscape *'should be described and categorised on a verbal scale that distinguishes the amount of change but is not overly prescriptive. The judgements should for example take account of:*

1) *The extent of the existing landscape elements that will be lost, the proportion of the total extent that this represents and the contribution of that element to the character of the landscape – in some cases this may be quantified;*

2) *The degree to which the aesthetic or perceptual aspects of landscape are altered either by removal of existing components of the landscape or by addition of new ones – for example, removal of hedges may change a small-scale intimate*

landscape into a large-scale, open one, or introduction of buildings or tall structures may alter open skylines; and

3) *Whether the effect changes the key characteristics of the landscape, which are critical to its distinctive character'.*

A.3.31. For visual, the size and cale of a visual change depends on the following:

1) The composition of the view with respect to the loss or addition of features in the view, including the nature of the view (full, partial, glimpsed) and the proportion of the view occupied by the Scheme.

2) The distance of the viewpoint from the Scheme and how this affects its prominence.

3) The degree of contrast or integration of any new features or changes in the landscape with the existing or remaining landscape elements and characteristics in terms of form, scale and mass, line, height, colour, and texture.

4) The presence of landform, buildings or vegetation (including seasonal effects due to variations in deciduous leaf cover) which may wholly or partly obstruct views of the Scheme, allowing only partial or glimpsed views.

5) The duration and nature of the visual effect. This can depend on the speed of travel which affects how long a view will be experienced (continuously, intermittently, glimpsed either once or repeatedly and sequentially along a route) and the possibility that a development will be noticed.

6) The background against which the Scheme is viewed (often referred to as 'backclothing') as this can affect the degree of contrast and scale. For example, pylons, conductors, and other electricity infrastructure are more difficult to discern when viewed against a textured background such as landform or vegetation than against an open sky background.

A.3.32. The size/scale of effect is described as large, medium, small or very small. Judgements are supported by narrative description linked back to the considerations above.

Geographical Extent

A.3.33. The geographical extent over which the landscape or visual effect would arise is described as large, medium or small.

A.3.34. For landscape this is based on the definitions set out on page 91 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1) and the published landscape character areas/types:

1) Small - the site level or its immediate setting;

2) Medium - the scale of the landscape; type/character area within which the Scheme lies; and

3) Large - influencing several landscape character types/areas

A.3.35. Geographical extent in the context of visual assessment refers to the area over which changes would be noticeable, for example whether the Scheme is visible from a single location or represents a larger area with similar views. It also considers whether the changes to the view would be experienced continuously or intermittently.

Duration and Reversibility

A.3.36. Paragraph 5.51 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1) states that duration *"can usually be simply judged on a scale such as short term, medium term or long term"*. For the purposes of the assessment, duration is determined in relation to the phases of the Scheme, as follows:

1) Short term – assumed to cover construction plus one-year reinstatement.
2) Medium term – assumed to be 2 to 15 years post construction and include the effects of permanent vegetation loss on the baseline environment.
3) Long term – assumed to be of a duration that extends longer than 15 years post construction when any committed mitigation planting will be established and has achieved its design intention.

A.3.37. The duration of the effect can also be described as transient (whether continuous or intermittent) or seasonal (views which would be subject to seasonal leaf cover).

A.3.38. In accordance with the principles in GLVIA3 (Ref 1), reversibility is reported as reversible or irreversible (i.e. permanent) and is related to whether the change can be reversed at the end of the phase of development under consideration (i.e. at the end of construction or at the end of the operational lifespan of the development).

A.3.39. Although unlikely for practical system operational reasons, the decommissioning and removal of the proposed 400 kV overhead line and the substations is possible. However, for the purposes of the appraisal all landscape and visual effects associated with the Scheme's operation are deemed to be irreversible (permanent) due to the operational lifetime of the infrastructure and long-term network requirements.

Making Judgements on Magnitude of Change

A.3.40. The magnitude of visual change is categorised as large, medium, small or very small by applying the indicators listed in **Table A.5**. Judgements are supported by narrative description linked back to evidence from the baseline study to explain the conclusions reached.

Table A.5 Indicators of magnitude of landscape and visual change

Category	Landscape Indicators	Visual Indicators
Large	The Proposed Development (or works to facilitate it) would result in a considerable change to the landscape, with undesirable consequences for the elements, character and quality of the baseline landscape. The Proposed Development would form a prominent landscape element and post development the baseline situation would be substantially changed. Physical loss of landscape features that are not replaceable or are replaceable only in the long term. The	The Proposed Development (or works to facilitate it) would be a prominent in the view and result in a substantial change to the composition and character of the existing view and how it is perceived. Typically, this would be where the Scheme would be seen in close proximity. Much of the view would be affected and there would be little backgrounding to reduce the degree of visual contrast. The duration/reversibility of effect is likely to be long-term and irreversible

Category	Landscape Indicators	Visual Indicators
	duration/reversibility of effect is likely to be long-term and irreversible.	
Medium	The Proposed Development (or works to facilitate it) would result in a noticeable change to the landscape over a wide area or conspicuous change over a limited area, with some undesirable consequences for the elements, character and quality of the baseline landscape. The Scheme would form a conspicuous landscape element and post development the baseline situation may be noticeably changed. Physical loss of landscape features that are replaceable in the medium term. The duration/reversibility of effect is likely to be long-term but may be reversible.	The Proposed Development (or works to facilitate it) would be very noticeable and result in a noticeable change to the composition and character of the existing view and how it is perceived. Typically, this would be where the Scheme (or works to facilitate it) would be seen in mid-range views but would still be conspicuous and well-defined. Only part of the view may be affected and there may be some backgrounding to reduce the degree of visual contrast. The duration/reversibility of effect is likely to be long-term and irreversible.
Small	The Proposed Development (or works to facilitate it) would result in a slight change to the landscape with few undesirable consequences for the elements, character and quality of the baseline landscape. The Scheme would be perceptible but, post development, the baseline landscape may exhibit some differences but would be largely unchanged. Physical loss of landscape features that are replaceable in the medium term. The duration/reversibility of effect is likely to be medium-term and reversible.	The Proposed Development (or works to facilitate it) would form a small part of the view and result in a slight change to the composition and character of the existing view and how it is perceived. Typically, this would be where the Scheme would be seen in mid-range or distant views but would be indistinct and/or partially obscured. Only a small part of the view would be affected and there may be a high level of backgrounding to reduce the degree of visual contrast. The duration/reversibility of effect is likely to be medium-term and potentially reversible
Very Small	The Proposed Development (or works to facilitate it) would result in an inconspicuous change to the landscape over a wide area or slight change over a limited area, with no undesirable consequences for elements, character and quality of the baseline landscape. The Scheme would be just perceptible and post development, the baseline landscape would appear unchanged. Physical loss of landscape features that are replaceable in the short term. The duration/reversibility of effect is likely to be short-term and reversible	The Proposed Development (or works to facilitate it) would be very indistinct and result in a barely perceptible change to the character and quality of the existing view and how it is perceived. Typically, this would be where a development would form part of a long distance panoramic view and/or where a very small proportion of the view is affected. There may be a high level of backgrounding to reduce the degree of visual contrast. The duration/reversibility of effect is likely to be short-term and reversible

A.3.41. The assessment also identifies views where no change is anticipated. In these instances, 'no change' is inserted into the appropriate magnitude of effect column and the resulting effect is identified as 'no effect'.

Judging Levels of Effect

A.3.42. The final step in the assessment involves combining judgements on sensitivity and magnitude of effect to arrive at an informed, professional evaluation of the significance of each landscape or visual effect.

A.3.43. In accordance with paragraph 5.55 of GLVIA3 (Ref 1), the evaluations of the individual aspects set out above (susceptibility, value, size and scale, geographical extent, duration and reversibility) are considered together to provide an overall profile of each identified landscape effect. An overview is then taken of the distribution of judgements for each criterion to make an informed professional assessment of the overall level of effect, drawing on good practice guidance provided in GLVIA3 (Ref 1) and guided by the indicative criteria set out in in **Table A.6**. This determination relies on the application of professional judgment and expertise to account for the many variables involved, each of which is weighted differently based on the specific characteristics of the site and location in each case.

A.3.44. A rigid matrix-type approach, where the level of landscape effect is defined simply based on the level of sensitivity combined with the magnitude of effect is not used. As such, the conclusion on the level of effect is not always the same for similar receptors. Rather, consideration of the relative importance of each aspect informs the overall decision.

Table A.6 Categories and indicators of level of effect

Category	Landscape Indicators	Visual Indicators
Major	The Proposed Development will lead to an obvious alteration in landscape characteristics and character, likely affecting a landscape with high or medium susceptibility to that type of change. This level of significance may also occur when a medium scale of effect acts on an internationally or nationally valued landscape. The effect is likely to be long-term and affect a relatively large area. If designated, it is likely to affect the reasons for the designation.	The Proposed Development will result in an obvious change in the view, likely affecting a visual receptor with a moderate or high susceptibility to that type of change. This level of effect may also occur when a medium scale of effect acts on a nationally valued view and/or a high susceptibility receptor. The effect is likely to be long-term and affect a relatively large area or relatively large number of people.
Moderate	The Proposed Development will lead to a noticeable alteration in landscape characteristics and character, likely affecting a landscape with a medium susceptibility to that type of change. This level of effect may also occur when a smaller scale of effect acts on a more widely valued landscape, or a larger	The Proposed Development will result in a noticeable change in the view, likely affecting a viewer with a moderate susceptibility to that type of change and or locally valued view. This level of effect may also occur when a smaller scale of change acts on a higher susceptibility receptor or affects a large

Category	Landscape Indicators	Visual Indicators
	scale of effect acting on a landscape valued at a more local level. This level of effect may also occur when a large scale of effect occurs over a relatively short period or over a small area. If designated, it may affect the reasons for the designation.	number of people, or a larger scale of effect acting on a lower susceptibility receptor or affecting fewer people. This level of effect may also occur when a large scale of effect occurs over a relatively short period or over a small area/affects few people.
Minor	The Proposed Development will result in a small alteration in landscape characteristics and character over a long-term duration. This level of effect may also occur when a larger scale of effect is of short-term duration or confined to the site. If designated, it would not affect the reasons for the designation.	The Proposed Development will result in a small change in the view over a long-term duration, likely affecting a smaller geographic extent and/or fewer people. This level of effect may also occur when a larger scale of effect is of short-term duration or is confined in its geographical extent.
Negligible	The Proposed Development will result in a barely perceptible alteration in landscape characteristics and character. If designated, it would not affect the reasons for the designation.	The Proposed Development will result in a barely perceptible alteration in the view.

A.3.45. The appraisal considers the effects at construction, year 1 operation, and year 15 operation (by which time any new planting will be established and fulfilling its intended function).

A.4. Technical Information

General Site Photography

6.1.3 Baseline photographs are taken using a Canon EOS digital SLR with a full frame sensor (36 x 24 mm) using a 50 mm equivalent fixed focal length lens. Photographs are taken in accordance with best practice guidance, including the Landscape Institute's TGN 06/19 (Ref 5), and their location recorded using an on-site handheld GPS (Type 3 LI TGN 06/19) (Ref 5). Where required, the resulting images will be stitched together using specialist PTGui software to create 90° panoramic baseline views. The time at which the photographs are taken, and the prevailing weather conditions, will be recorded for each viewpoint. For general site photography, 360° panoramas will be taken, unless there are privacy concerns related to nearby properties.

Wireframes

A.4.1. Wireframe diagrams (Type 2 LI TGN 06/19) (Ref 5) will be prepared, showing the outline of the Scheme. These are computer-generated line drawings based on the digital terrain model, combined with information about the location and scale of the Scheme's components, to provide a relatively simple indication of how the Scheme

would appear from different viewpoints. Wireframe diagrams will be created for all viewpoints to support the assessment process.

A.4.2. For each viewpoint, wireframe renders will be generated using the software called TrueView Visuals. These are based on a digital terrain dataset (Ordnance Survey (OS) Terrain 50), which uses a model of the Scheme to provide an accurate depiction of its appearance.

A.4.3. The wireframes will represent the maximum theoretical visibility of the development on bare ground (i.e. assuming no vegetation, buildings, or other vertical structures are present to provide any screening). In reality, visibility also depends on both weather conditions and lighting. The existing 400 kV overhead lines to be retained will also be included on the baseline wireframes for comparison against the wireframes of the Scheme.

Zone of Theoretical Visibility

A.4.4. To help identify the areas from which the new Weston Marsh Substation A and proposed changes to the 400 kV overhead lines would be visible, a ZTV map has been prepared for the Scheme. ZTV maps are essential for refining the study area and assessing the potential landscape effects of the Scheme. While the ZTV maps show theoretical visibility, actual visibility might be reduced in areas with extensive vegetation. Therefore, professional judgment is used to focus on areas with the most potential landscape and visual effects.

A.4.5. ZTV maps are created using recent topographic data and assume an eye level of 1.6m (representing an average-height person). The accuracy of the maps is verified on-site following guidance from TGN 06/19 (Ref 5). This approach ensures that the potential visual impact of the Scheme is assessed comprehensively and in line with professional standards.

A.4.6. ZTV maps take account of the following factors:

1) the existing topography using OS terrain 50 data;
2) existing buildings by applying a 8 m average height to the OS Mastermap layer;
3) existing woodland cover by applying a 15 m average height to the National Forest Inventory which is produced by the Forestry Commission and records all forests and woodlands with an area of 0.5 ha and over.

A.4.7. Individual and small groups of trees are excluded as, during winter, these will provide only minimal screening of the Scheme.

Appendix References

Ref 1 Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (2013). Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment – 3rd Edition. Abingdon: Routledge.

Ref 2 Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (2024). Technical Guidance Note 01/24 Notes and Clarifications on aspects of the 3rd Edition Guidelines on Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [Online]. Available at: https://www.landscapeinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/LITGN-2024-01-GLVIA3-NC_Aug-2024.pdf Accessed 18 February 2026.

Ref 3 Landscape Institute (2016) Technical Information Note (TIN): Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) (Technical Information Note 08/15) [online] Available at: https://www.landscapeinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Landscape-Character-Assessment-TIN-08_15-20160216.pdf Accessed 18 February 2026.

Ref 4 Landscape Institute (2021) Technical Guidance Note 02/21 Assessing Landscape Value Outside National Designations [online]. Available at: https://landscapewpstorage01.blob.core.windows.net/www-landscapeinstitute-org/2021/05/tgn-02-21-assessing-landscape-value-outside-national-designations.pdf Accessed 18 February 2026.

Ref 5 Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (2019). Technical Guidance Note 06/19 Visual Representation of Development Proposal [Online]. Available at: https://landscapewpstorage01.blob.core.windows.net/www-landscapeinstitute-org/2019/09/LI_TGN-06-19_Visual_Representation.pdf Accessed 18 February 2026.

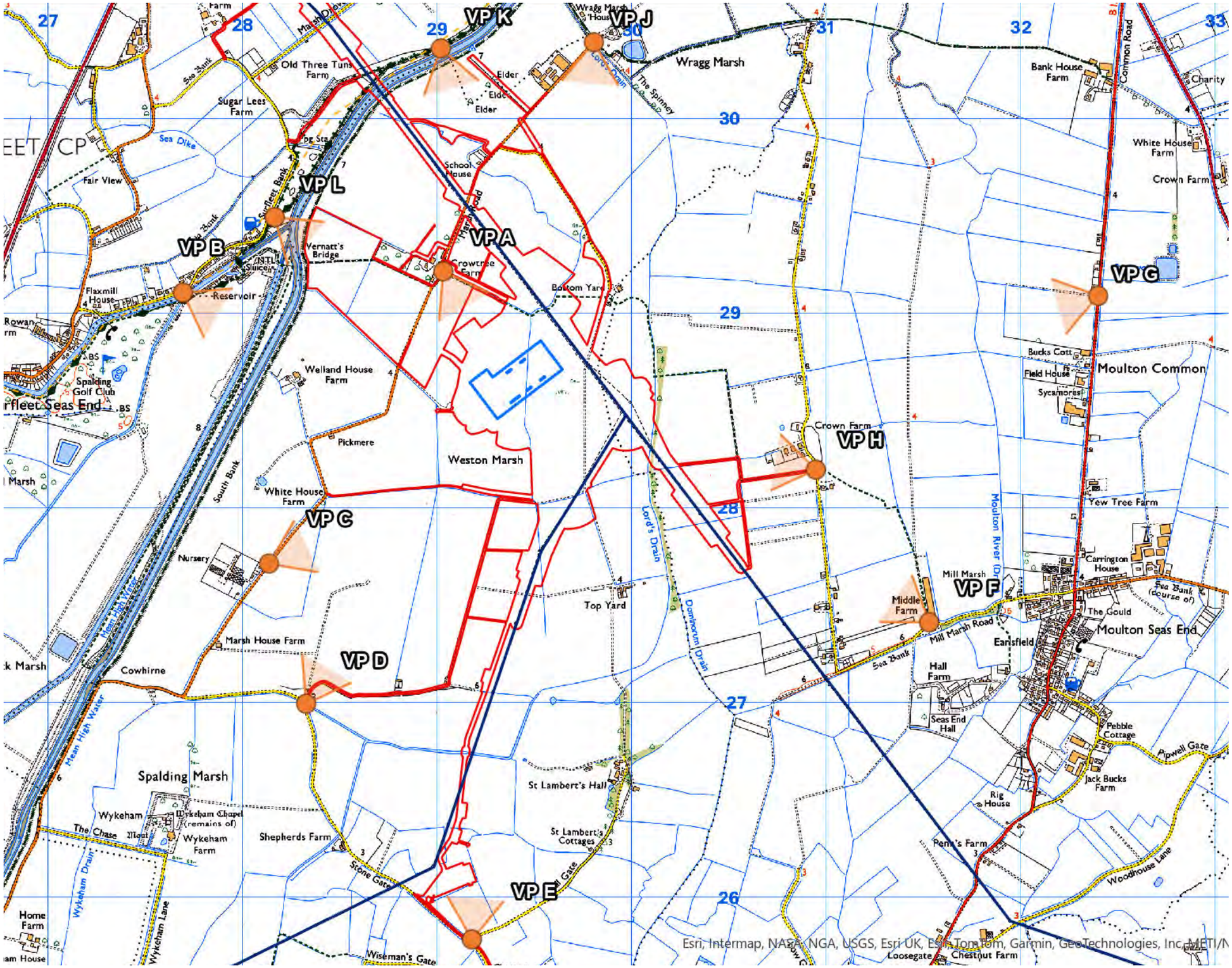
Ref 6 Natural England (2019) An Approach to Landscape Sensitivity Assessment – to inform spatial planning and land management [online]. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5d2f005aed915d2fe684675b/landscape-sensitivity-assessment-2019.pdf Accessed 18 February 2026.

Ref 7 Natural England (2014) An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment [online]. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5aabd31340f0b64ab4b7576e/landscape-character-assessment.pdf Accessed 18 February 2026.

Ref 8 European Landscape Convention ETS No.176 ratified on the 21 November 2006.

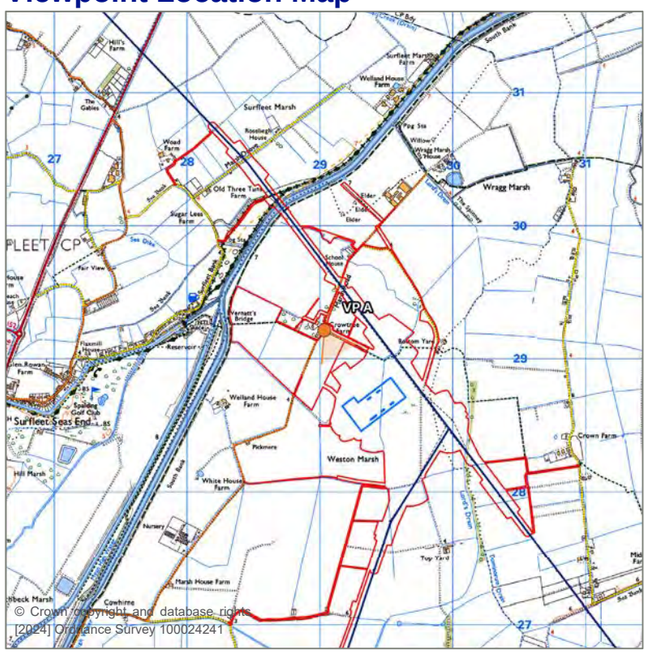
Appendix B Viewpoint Assessment

Viewpoint Location Overview Map



VP A: View from Marsh Lane near Crowtree

Viewpoint Location Map



Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	529032 , 329216
Approx. Elevation	5 m AOD
General Direction of View	150° SE
Approx. Distance to the Project	250 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 415 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	15:57 / 3rd March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located on Marsh Lane and represents the views experienced by people in the community of Weston. It is located on a public right of way and close to the entrance to a holiday park.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community and those engaged in recreational activities in the countryside are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From Marsh Lane, there are open views across the flat, open, arable farmland of Weston Marsh. The landscape is defined by large fields that merge together, their boundaries subtly marked by a network of dykes and drains. While much of the scene consists of the typical uninterrupted fen farmland, small blocks of woodland give the horizon a wooded character. Tall poplar trees and vegetation around Top Yard is noticeable. Two 400 kV overhead lines cross the farmland, and the pylons on the nearest line are prominent on the skyline, adding to the overall cluttered appearance of the view.

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context, and the pylons are a prominent and discordant element.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have direct, close-range views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with the majority of the works and the temporary construction compound expected to be visible due to the open landscape and lack of intervening vegetation. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a large magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be visible in the mid distance and would form a prominent part of the view. Some of the taller elements such as the 15 m high gantries would break the skyline when viewed from this location despite the backdrop of the partially wooded horizon created by the woodland adjacent to the Lord's Drain. Mitigation planting in the foreground would be evident but would still be immature. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be large.

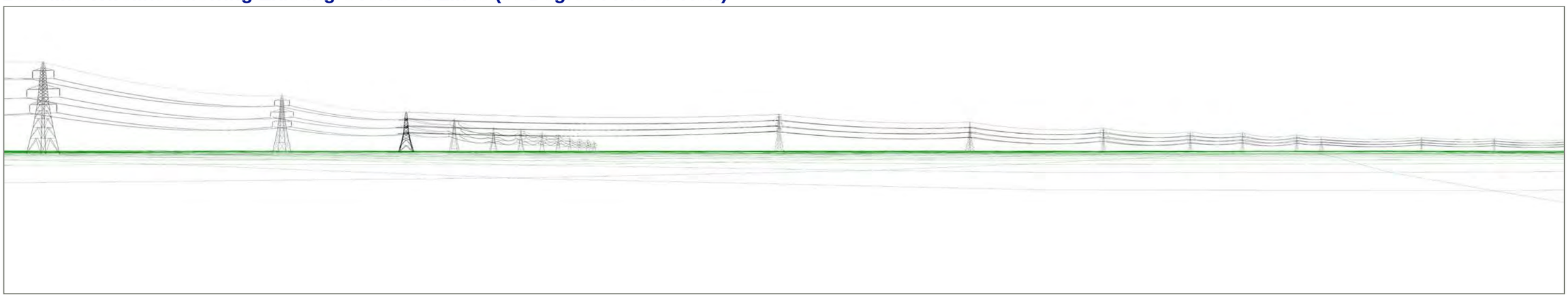
Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures including the planting in the foreground mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be screened, with visibility of the taller elements filtered by vegetation. Although the substation would be screened, the mitigation would change the openness of the view. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be medium.

S37 Overhead Line Works

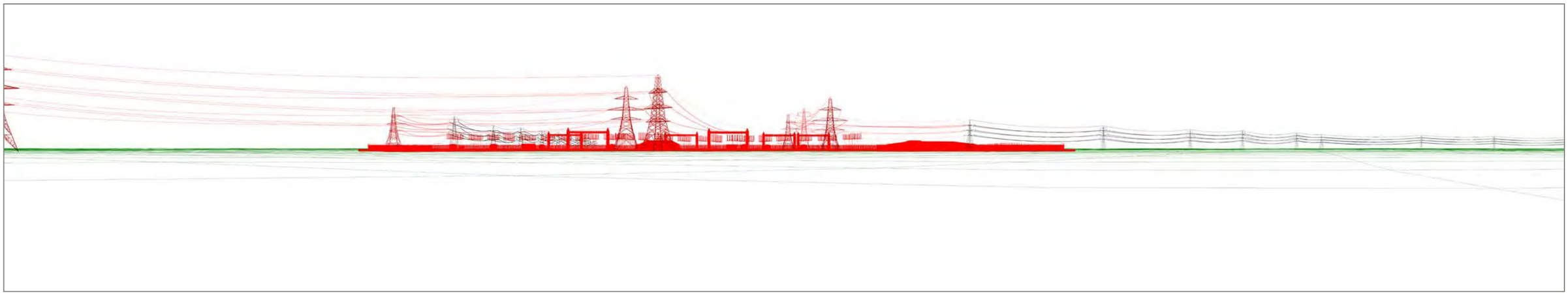
Construction - Two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400 kV overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line. Overall, construction activities associated with the S37 Overhead Line Works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a medium magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be noticeable, the new pylons would appear closer than the existing pylons and feature prominently in the centre of the view. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element. This would result in an adverse change that would be a noticeable feature of the view. The magnitude of change as a result of the S37 Overhead Line Works would be medium.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

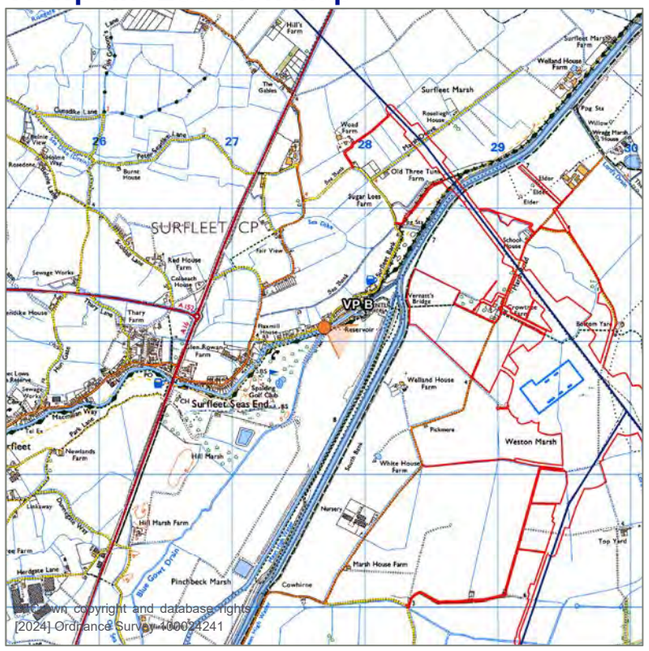


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



VP B: View from Resevoir Road near Surfleet Seas End

Viewpoint Location Map



Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	527695 , 329108
Approx. Elevation	6 m AOD
General Direction of View	120° E
Approx. Distance to the Project	1400 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 1495 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	14:04 / 3rd March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located on Marsh Lane and represents the views experienced by people in the community of Surfleet Seas End.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From Reservoir Road, at Surfleet Seas End there are slightly elevated views across the River Glen towards flat, arable farmland and Weston Marsh in the southeast. The artificial landforms created by the flood embankments around the confluence of the River Glen with Vernatt's Drain and the River Welland reduce long range visibility and add visual interest to the otherwise flat, low-lying grassland of the floodplain. Trees, shrubs, and occasional woodland define the middle-distance horizon. In addition to the flood embankments, the most noticeable feature is the 400 kV pylon line that crosses the floodplain. Pylons along two 400 kV overhead lines are a noticeable feature of the view. On the horizon to the east both overhead lines are seen together creating additional clutter on the skyline. Residential properties on the south bank of the River Glen are evident in the far left of the view

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context, and the pylons are a prominent and discordant element.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have glimpsed, long-ranging views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with ground level activity screened by the raised profile of the earth bank flood defences parallel to Vernatt's Drain and the intervening vegetation. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The taller elements of the proposed substation would be visible in a very small part of the view, with views of the lower portion screened by the elevated profile of the flood defences alongside Vernatt's Drain. Some of the taller elements such as the 15 m high gantries may be visible, with views filtered by intervening vegetation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be small.

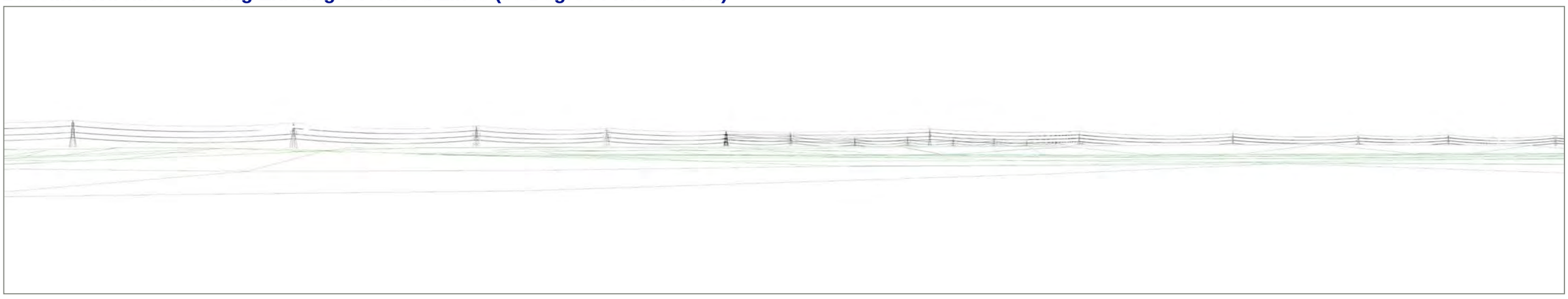
Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be screened, with taller elements filtered by vegetation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

S37 Overhead Line Works

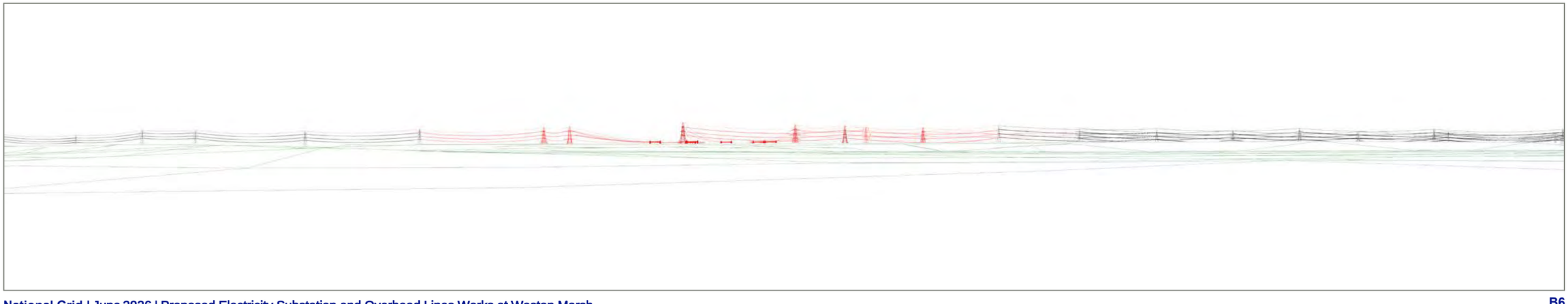
Construction - During construction, two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400 kV overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line and partly screened by vegetation. Overall, construction activities associated with the accompanying works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be noticeable, the new pylons would appear in the centre of the view and would be of a similar scale to the existing. The landform of the flood defences along Vernatt's Drain and the intervening vegetation would provide some screening of the lower portions of the new pylons. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the distant skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element and would be partially obscured by vegetation. This would result in an adverse change but would only affect a small part of the view and would not fundamentally alter its character or quality. The magnitude of change would be small.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

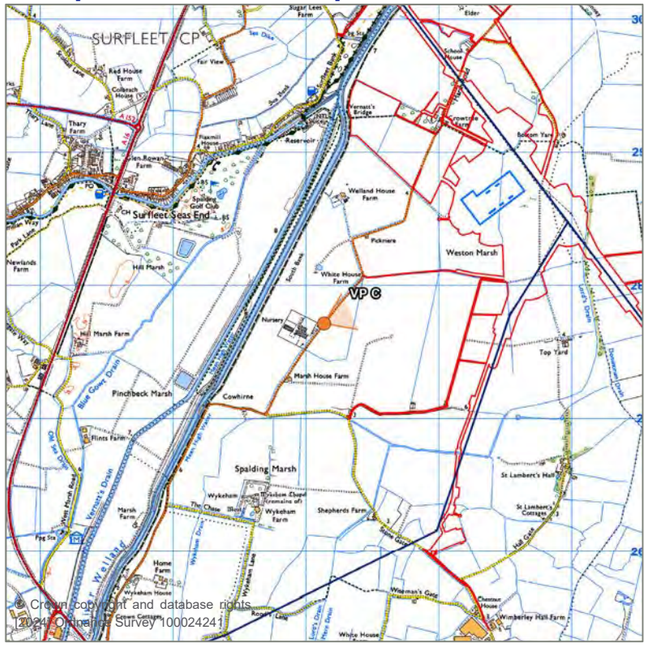


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



VP C: View from Marsh Lane near Sunnyfield

Viewpoint Location Map



Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	528138 , 327717
Approx. Elevation	4 m AOD
General Direction of View	65° NE
Approx. Distance to the Project	1275 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 1380 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	15:44 / 3rd March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located on Marsh Lane and represents the views experienced by people in the community of Weston.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

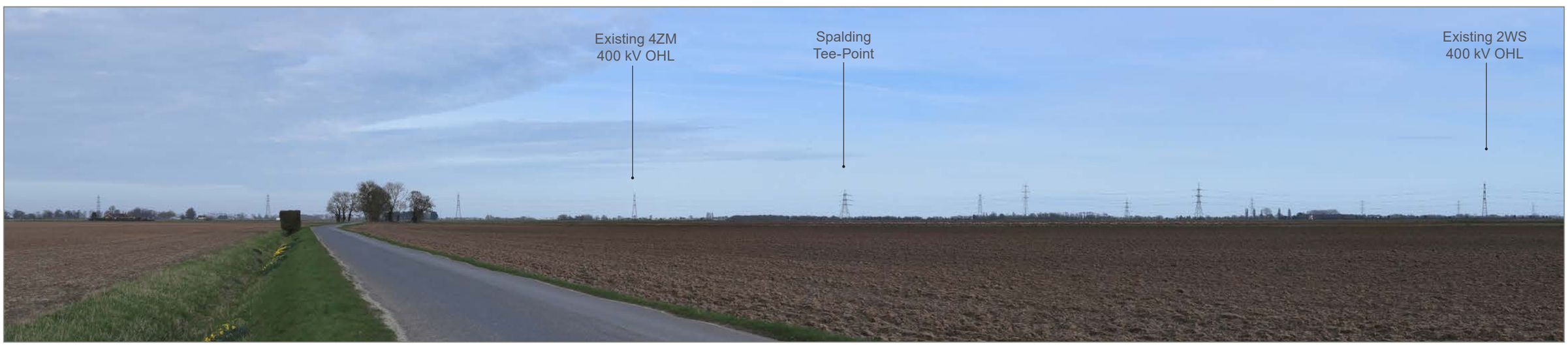
Description of Visual Baseline

From Marsh Lane, there are open views across the flat, open, arable farmland of Weston Marsh. The landscape is defined by large fields that merge together, their boundaries subtly marked by a network of dykes and drains. While much of the scene consists of the typical uninterrupted fen farmland, small blocks of woodland give the horizon a wooded character. Pylons along two 400 kV overhead lines are a noticeable feature of the view. To the left of the view both overhead lines are seen together creating additional clutter on the skyline.

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context, and the pylons are a prominent and discordant element.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)



Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have glimpsed, long-ranging views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with ground level activity partially screened by the intervening vegetation and back dropped against a wooded horizon. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be visible as a very small part of the view, with visibility of the lower portion filtered by intervening vegetation. Some of the taller elements such as the 15 m high gantries associated with the proposed substation would be partially visible although they would not break the skyline when viewed against the backdrop of the wooded horizon created by the woodland adjacent to the Lord's Drain. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be small.

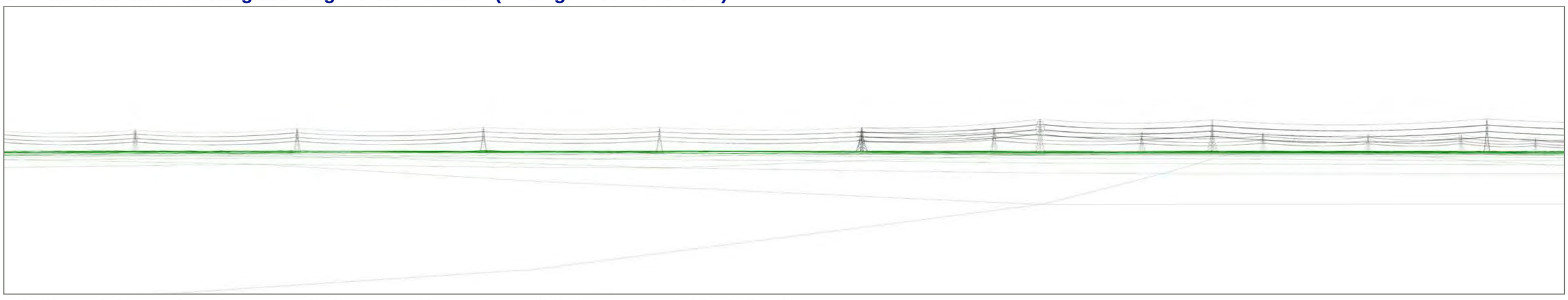
Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be screened, with visibility of the taller elements filtered by vegetation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

S37 Overhead Line Works

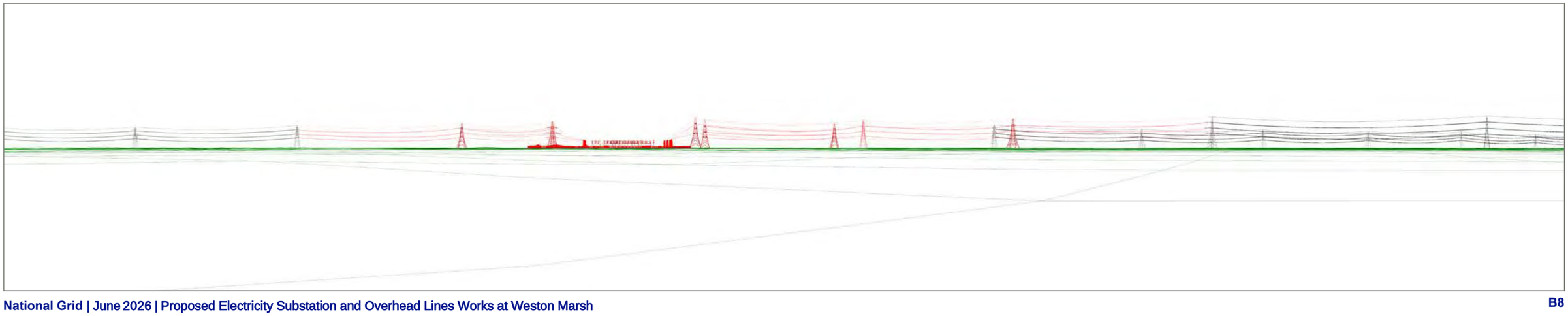
Construction - During construction, two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400 kV overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line and partly screened by vegetation. Overall, construction activities associated with the S37 Overhead Line Works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be noticeable, the new pylons would appear in the centre of the view and would be of a similar scale to the existing. The intervening vegetation would provide some screening of the lower portions of the new pylons, with visibility further reduced by the wooded backdrop. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the distant skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element. This would result in an adverse change but would only affect a small part of the view and would not fundamentally alter its character or quality. The magnitude of change as a result of the S37 Overhead Line Works would be small.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)



Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



VP D: View from Stone Gate near Bass Cottages

Viewpoint Location Map

Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	528329 , 326998
Approx. Elevation	4 m AOD
General Direction of View	30° NE
Approx. Distance to the Project	1125 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 1760 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	16:19 / 3rd March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located on Stone Gate, a minor road for residential access from Weston, and represents the views experienced by road users and the residents of isolated properties within Weston Marsh

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From Stone Gate, there are open views across the flat, open, arable farmland of Weston Marsh. The landscape is defined by large fields that merge together, their boundaries subtly marked by a network of dykes and drains. While much of the scene consists of the typical uninterrupted fen farmland, small blocks of woodland give the horizon a wooded character. The tall Poplar trees at the junction of Stone Gate and the access track to Bass Cottages are evident. The group of residential properties at Bass Cottages are visible in the right of view. Two 400 kV overhead lines and a utility wood pole cross the farmland, and the pylons on the nearest line are prominent in the skyline, adding to the overall cluttered appearance of the view.

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context, and the pylons are a prominent and discordant element.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have glimpsed, long-ranging views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with ground level activity partially screened by the intervening vegetation and back dropped against a wooded horizon. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be visible as a very small part of the view, with visibility of the lower portion filtered by intervening vegetation. Some of the taller elements such as the 15 m high gantries would be partially visible although they would not break the skyline when viewed against the backdrop of the wooded horizon created by the woodland adjacent to the Lord's Drain with visibility further reduced by intervening vegetation along Stone Gate. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be small.

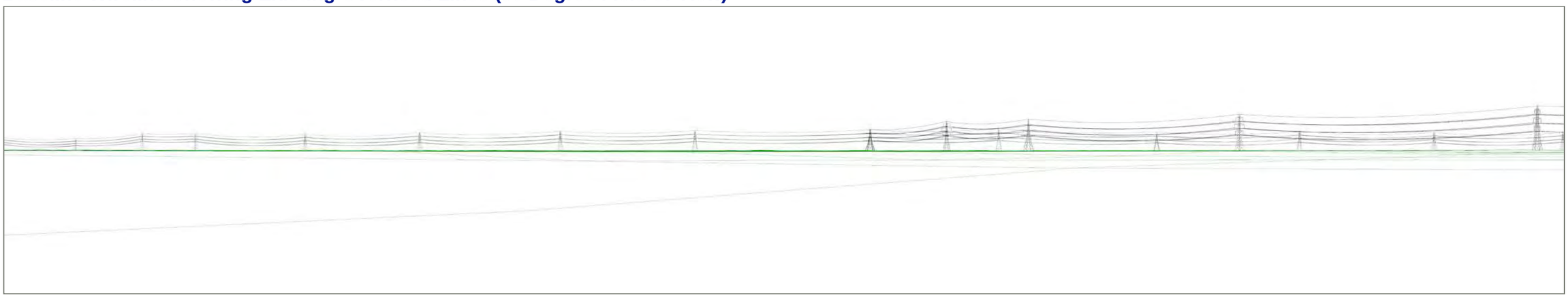
Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be screened, by the proposed planting to the southwest of the substation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

S37 Overhead Line Works

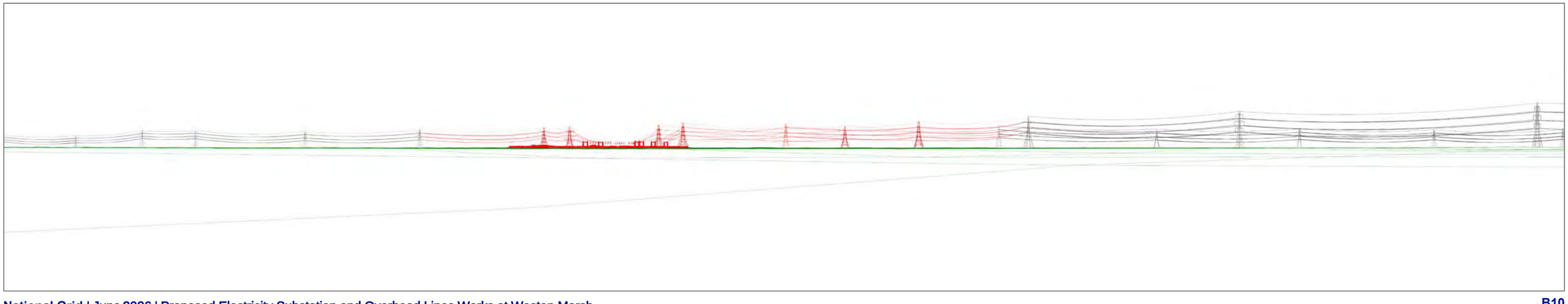
Construction - Two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400kV overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line and partly screened by vegetation. Overall, construction activities associated with the S37 Overhead Line Works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be noticeable, the new pylons would appear in the centre of the view and would be of a similar scale to the existing. The intervening vegetation would provide some screening of the lower portions of the new pylons, with visibility further reduced by the wooded backdrop. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the distant skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element. This would result in an adverse change but would only affect a small part of the view and would not fundamentally alter its character or quality. The magnitude of change as a result of the S37 Overhead Line Works would be small.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

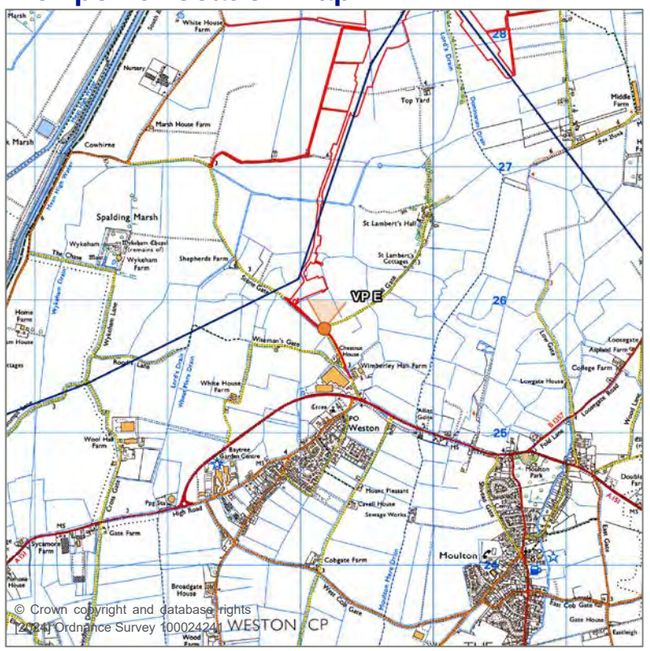


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



VP E: View from Stone Gate north of Weston

Viewpoint Location Map



Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	529180 325788
Approx. Elevation	3 m AOD
General Direction of View	330° NNW
Approx. Distance to the Project	1600 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 2675 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	16:25 / 3rd March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located on Stone Gate and represents the views experienced by people in the community of Weston.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From the junction of Stone Gate and Hall Gate, there are open views across the flat, open, arable farmland of Weston Marsh. The landscape is defined by large fields that merge together, their boundaries subtly marked by a network of dykes and drains. While much of the scene consists of the typical uninterrupted fen farmland, small blocks of woodland give the horizon a wooded character. Two 400 kV overhead lines cross the farmland, and the pylons on the nearest line are prominent on the skyline, adding to the overall cluttered appearance of the view. To the left (out of image), the pylons head towards Spalding Power Station which is a noticeable element.

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context, and the pylons are a prominent and discordant element.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have glimpsed, long distance views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with ground level activity screened by the intervening vegetation and back dropped against a wooded horizon. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a very small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be barely perceptible as a very small part of the view, with visibility filtered by intervening vegetation and views restricted by the distance to the site. The taller elements of the proposed substation such as the 15 m high gantries would be barely perceptible and would not break the skyline when viewed against the backdrop of the wooded horizon with visibility further reduced by the density of the intervening field boundary vegetation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be screened, by the proposed planting to the southwest of the substation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

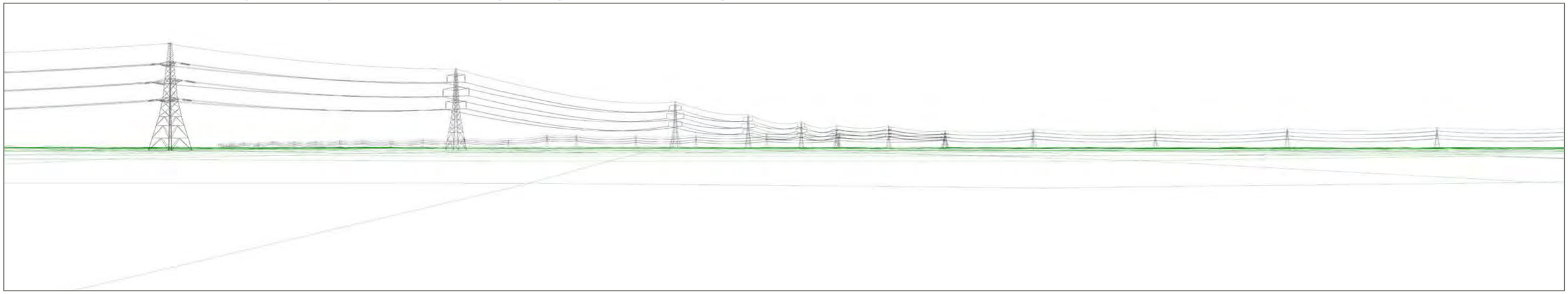
S37 Overhead Line Works

Construction

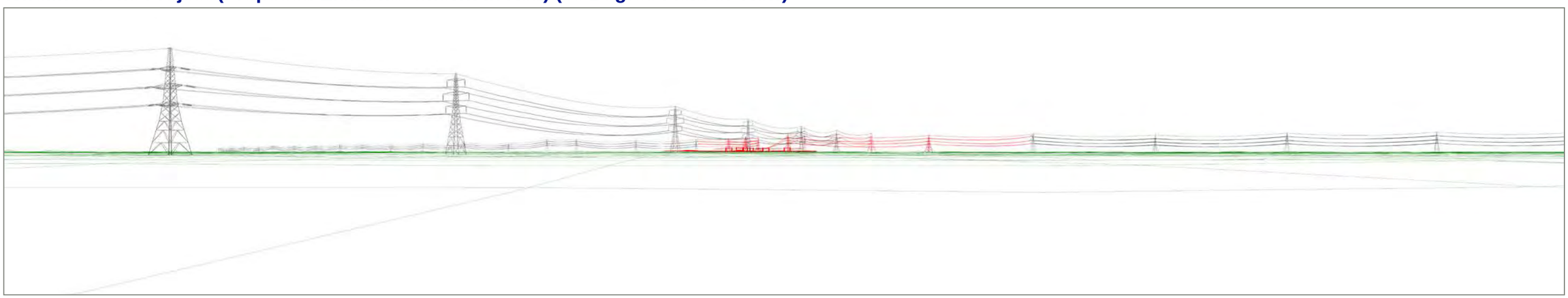
Two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400kV overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line and partly screened by vegetation. Overall, construction activities associated with the S37 Overhead Line Works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a very small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be perceptible, but the new pylons would appear in the centre of the view and would be of a similar scale to the existing. The intervening vegetation would provide some screening of the lower portions of the new pylons, with visibility further reduced by the wooded backdrop. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the distant skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element. This would result in an adverse change but would only affect a small part of the view and would not fundamentally alter its character or quality. The magnitude of change as a result of the S37 Overhead Line Works would be small.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

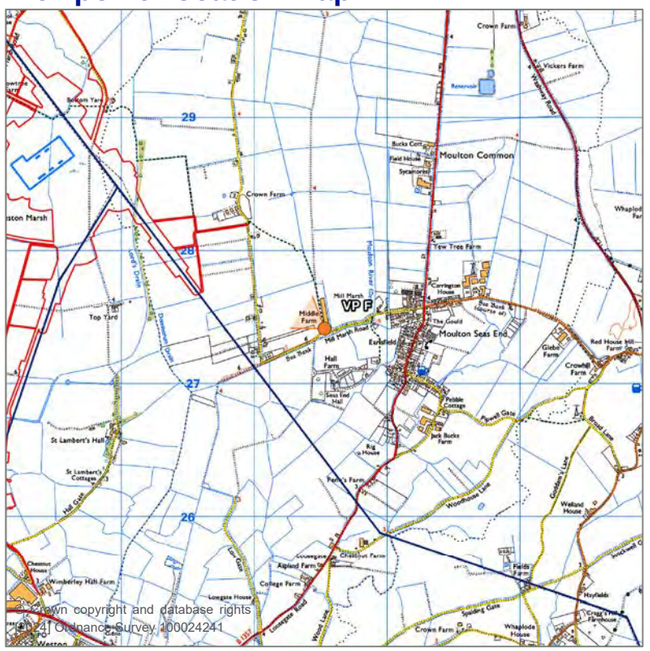


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



VP F: View from Moulton Seas End

Viewpoint Location Map



Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	531528 327417
Approx. Elevation	4 m AOD
General Direction of View	305° NW
Approx. Distance to the Project	975 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 2285 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	13:16 / 4th March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located on the public right of way (Footpath Moul/2/2) that connects Mill Marsh Road with Carrington Road. It represents the views experienced by people in the community of Moulton Seas End.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community and those engaged in recreational activities in the countryside, including users of the public right of way, are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From the public right of way, there are westerly views across the flat, open, arable farmland of Weston Marsh. The landscape is defined by large fields that merge together, their boundaries subtly marked by a network of dykes and drains rather than more visually distinct hedgerows. While much of the scene consists of the typical uninterrupted fen farmland, small fields bordered by post and wire fencing enclose the farmland to the left of the frame. Some large commercial sheds are located behind the viewpoint (out of frame) at Middle Farm. The horizon, which becomes more distant to the right of the frame, is formed by a mix of buildings and vegetation along Carrington Road. Two 400 kV overhead lines cross the farmland, and the pylons on the nearest line are prominent on the skyline, adding to the overall cluttered appearance of the view.

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context. The absence of notable landscape elements or features, combined with the presence of pylons, wood pole lines, and post and wire fencing, detracts from its aesthetic and perceptual qualities.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have glimpsed, long distance views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with ground level activity screened by the intervening vegetation and back dropped against a wooded horizon. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a very small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be barely perceptible as a very small part of the view, with views restricted by intervening vegetation and buildings along Carrington Road and the distance to the site. The taller elements of the proposed substation such as the 15 m high gantries would be barely perceptible and would not break the skyline when viewed against the backdrop of the wooded horizon with visibility further reduced by the density of the intervening field boundary vegetation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

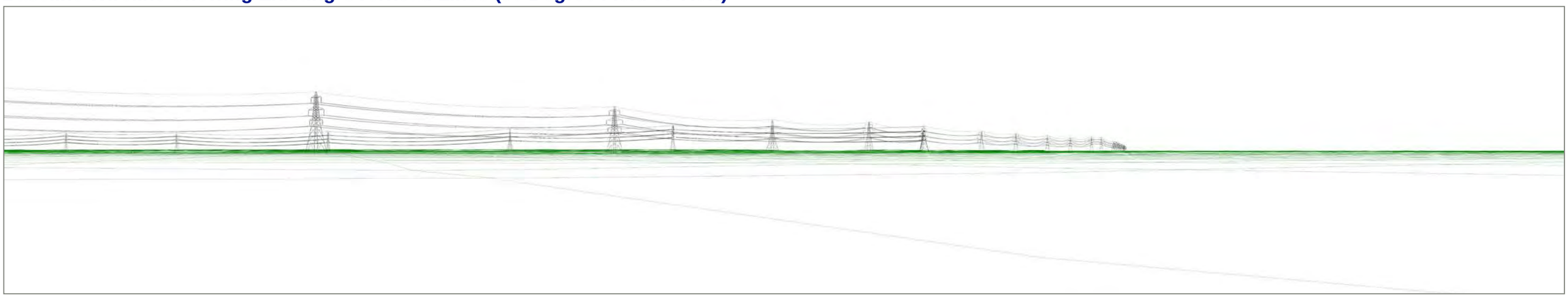
Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be backdropped by the proposed planting to the southwest of the substation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

S37 Overhead Line Works

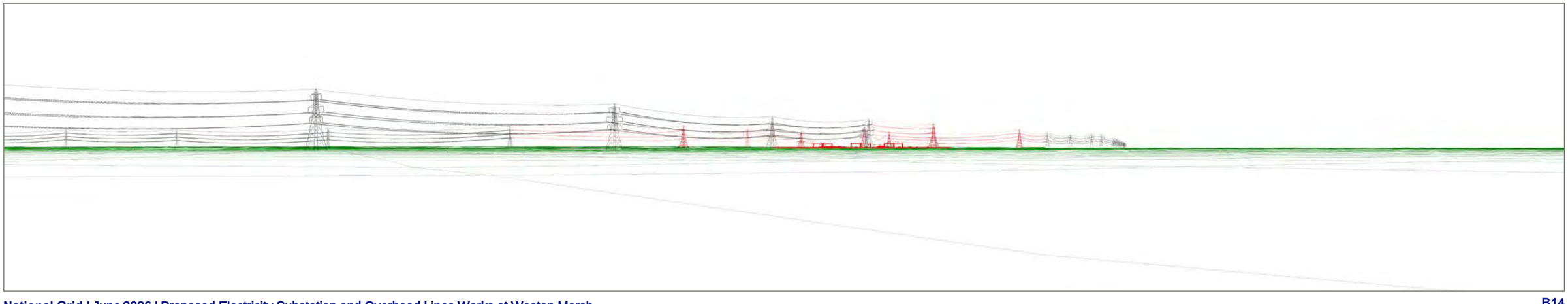
Construction - Two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400kV overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line and partly screened by vegetation. Overall, construction activities associated with the S37 Overhead Line Works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a very small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be perceptible, the new pylons would appear in the centre of the view but beyond the existing which remain more prominent. The intervening vegetation would provide some screening of the lower portions of the new pylons, with visibility further reduced by the wooded backdrop. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the distant skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element. This would result in an adverse change but would only affect a small part of the view and would not fundamentally alter its character or quality. The magnitude of change as a result of the S37 Overhead Line Works would be very small.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)



Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



VP G: View from B1357 Common Road north of Moulton

Viewpoint Location Map

Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	532396 , 329092
Approx. Elevation	4 m AOD
General Direction of View	255° W
Approx. Distance to the Project	2275 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 2775 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	13:35 / 4th March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located on B1357 Common Road, which connects Moulton to the south with Washway Road and Fosdyke Bridge to the north. The viewpoint represents the views experienced by road users and the residents of properties on Common Road.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From Common Road, there are open views across the flat, open, arable farmland of Weston Marsh. The landscape is defined by large agricultural fields that merge together, their boundaries subtly marked by a network of dykes and drains. While much of the scene consists of the typical uninterrupted fen farmland, small blocks of woodland give the horizon a wooded character. In the distance along the wooded horizon the rear of the properties along Carrington Road are visible. The rear curtilage boundary vegetation of the residential property Healy House is visible in the foreground right of view. Two 400 kV overhead lines and a utility wood pole cross the farmland, and the pylons on the nearest line are prominent in the skyline, adding to the overall cluttered appearance of the view.

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context, and the pylons are a prominent and discordant element.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have glimpsed, long distance views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with ground level activity screened by the intervening vegetation and back dropped against a wooded horizon. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a very small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be barely perceptible as a very small part of the view, with views restricted by intervening vegetation and buildings along Carrington Road and the distance to the site. The taller elements of the proposed substation such as the 15 m high gantries would be barely perceptible and would not break the skyline when viewed against the backdrop of the wooded horizon with visibility further reduced by the density of the intervening field boundary vegetation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be backdropped by the proposed planting to the southwest of the substation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

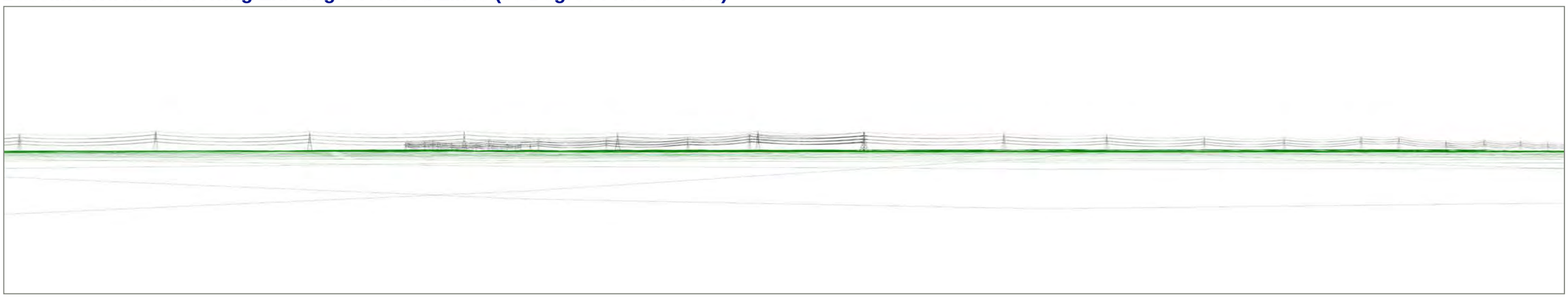
S37 Overhead Line Works

Construction

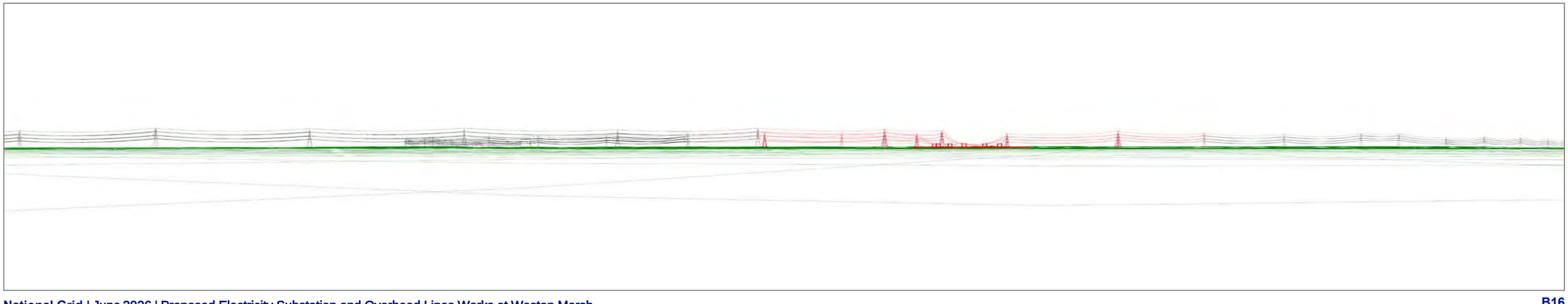
Two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400k V overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line and partly screened by vegetation. Overall, construction activities associated with the S37 Overhead Line Works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be perceptible, the new pylons would appear in the centre of the view and would be of a similar scale to the existing. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the distant skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element. This would result in an adverse change but would only affect a small part of the view and would not fundamentally alter its character or quality. The magnitude of change as a result of the S37 Overhead Line Works would be very small.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

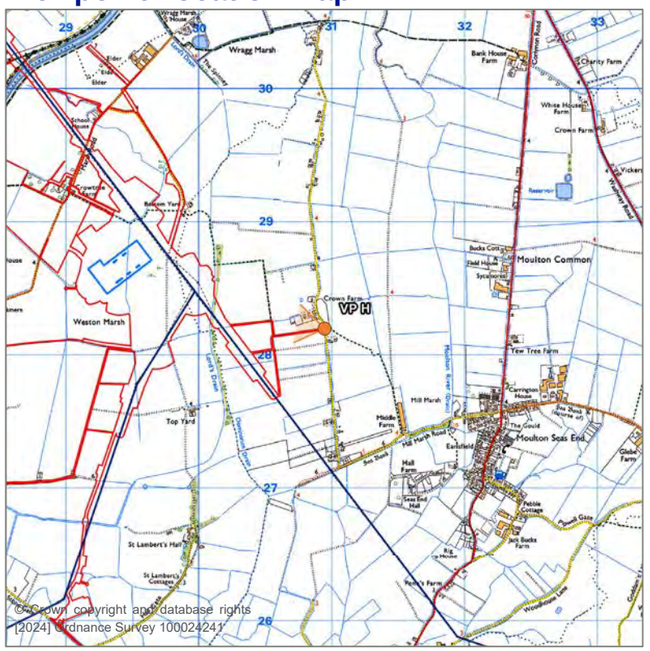


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



VP H: View from Carrington Road near

Viewpoint Location Map



Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	530945 , 328200
Approx. Elevation	4 m AOD
General Direction of View	280° W
Approx. Distance to the Project	575 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 1395 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	13:26 / 10th September 2025
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located on the public right of way (Footpath Moul/2/2) that connects Mill Marsh Road with Carrington Road. It represents the views experienced by people in the farmsteads of Weston Marsh.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community and those engaged in recreational activities in the countryside, including users of the public right of way, are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From the public right of way, there are westerly views across the flat, open, arable farmland of Weston Marsh. The landscape is defined by large fields that merge together, their boundaries subtly marked by a network of dykes and drains rather than more visually distinct hedgerows. While much of the scene consists of the typical uninterrupted fen farmland, small blocks of woodland give the horizon a wooded character. A residential property and farmstead with associated agricultural buildings, some mature trees and large haystacks are evident in the foreground of the right of view. Two 400 kV overhead lines cross the farmland, and the pylons on the nearest line are prominent on the skyline, adding to the overall cluttered appearance of the view.

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context, and the pylons are a prominent and discordant element.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have glimpsed, long distance views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with ground level activity screened by the agricultural buildings and intervening woodland alongside Lord's Drain. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a very small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be barely perceptible as a very small part of the view, with views restricted by intervening woodland and agricultural buildings. The taller elements of the proposed substation would be barely perceptible and would not break the skyline due to the density of the intervening woodland. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

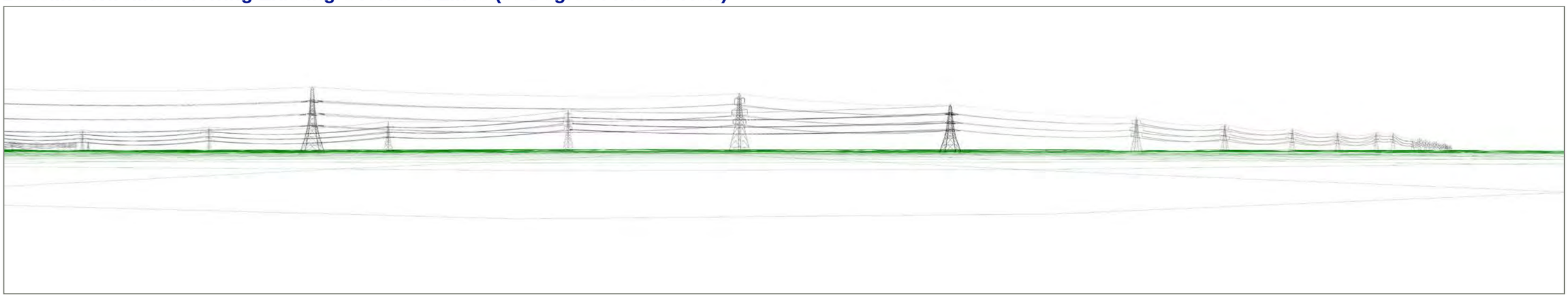
Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be backdropped by the proposed planting to the southwest of the substation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be very small.

S37 Overhead Line Works

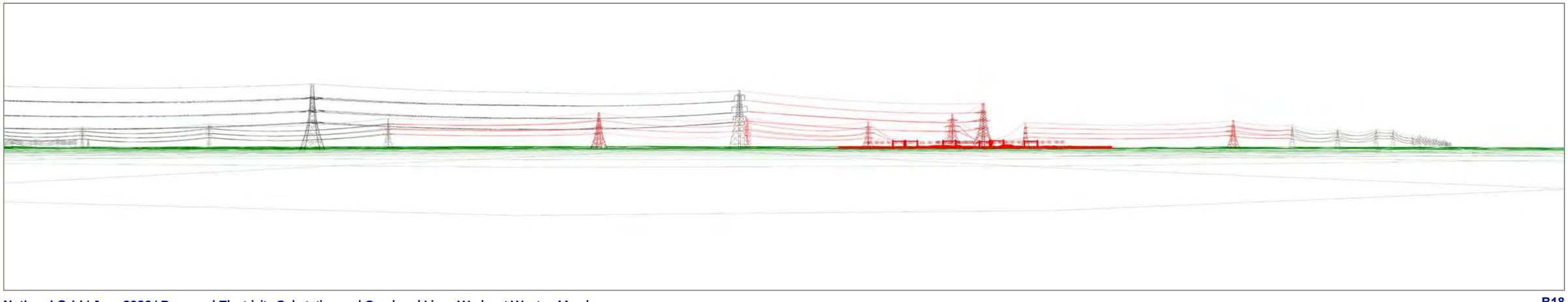
Construction - Two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400kV overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line and partly screened by vegetation. Overall, construction activities associated with the S37 Overhead Line Works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a very small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be barely perceptible, the new pylons would appear in the centre of the view and would be of a similar scale to the existing. The intervening woodland would provide some screening of the lower portions of the new pylons, with visibility further reduced by the agricultural buildings in the right of view. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the distant skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element and mostly screened by intervening vegetation. This would result in an adverse change but would only affect a small part of the view and would not fundamentally alter its character or quality. The magnitude of change as a result of the S37 Overhead Line Works would be very small.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

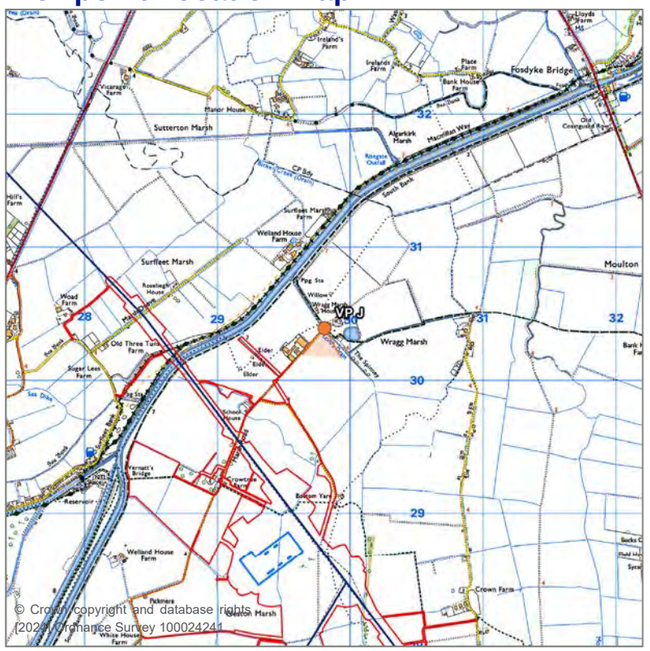


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



VP J: View from Old Sea Bank near Spalding Marsh

Viewpoint Location Map



Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	529805 , 330393
Approx. Elevation	5 m AOD
General Direction of View	196° SSW
Approx. Distance to the Project	995 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 1555 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	16:05 / 3rd March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located from an elevated position on a bridge crossing Lord's Drain at the junction of Marsh Road and the public bridleway (Wstn/4/1) which runs alongside the drain. The viewpoint represents the views experienced by users of the bridleway and local residents of the farmsteads of Spalding Marsh.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community and those engaged in recreational activities in the countryside, including users of the byway, are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From the byway, there are southerly views across the flat, open, arable farmland of Spalding Marsh. The engineered landscape is defined by large fields of brassica crop that merge together, their boundaries subtly marked by a network of dykes and drains rather than more visually distinct hedgerows. While much of the scene consists of the typical uninterrupted fen farmland, small blocks of woodland give the horizon a wooded character. Prominent in the foreground on the left of view is the Lord's Drain and the engineered earth banks of the flood defences. Visible to the right of the view is a farmstead and agricultural buildings located on Marsh Road. Two 400 kV overhead lines cross the farmland, and the pylons on the nearest line are prominent on the skyline, adding to the overall cluttered appearance of the view.

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context, and the presence of the pylons detracts from its aesthetic and perceptual qualities.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have glimpsed, long distance views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with ground level activity partially screened by the intervening block of woodland. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a very small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be noticeable as a small part of the view, with views partially screened by the intervening block of woodland. Some of the taller elements such as the 15 m high gantries associated with the proposed substation would be partially visible and would potentially break the skyline although visibility would be reduced by the intervening woodland block and when viewed against the backdrop of the partially wooded horizon. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be small.

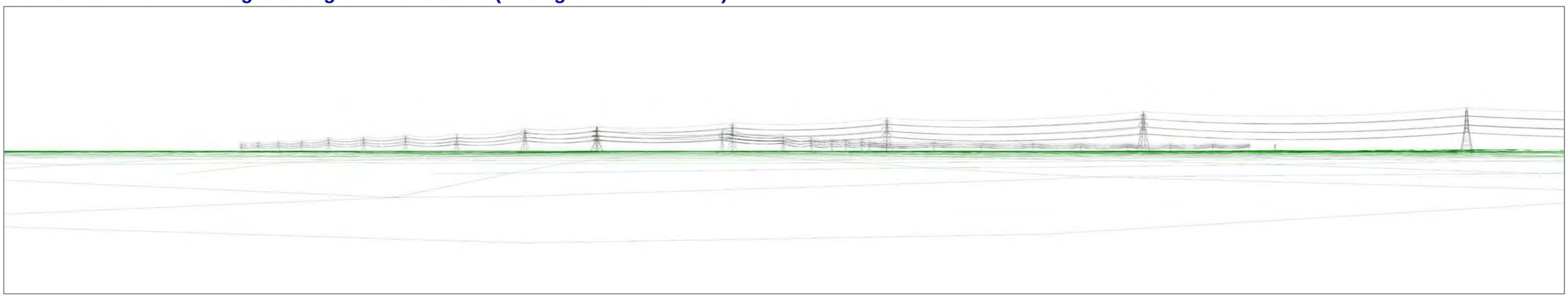
Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be backdropped by the proposed planting to the southwest of the substation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be small.

S37 Overhead Line Works

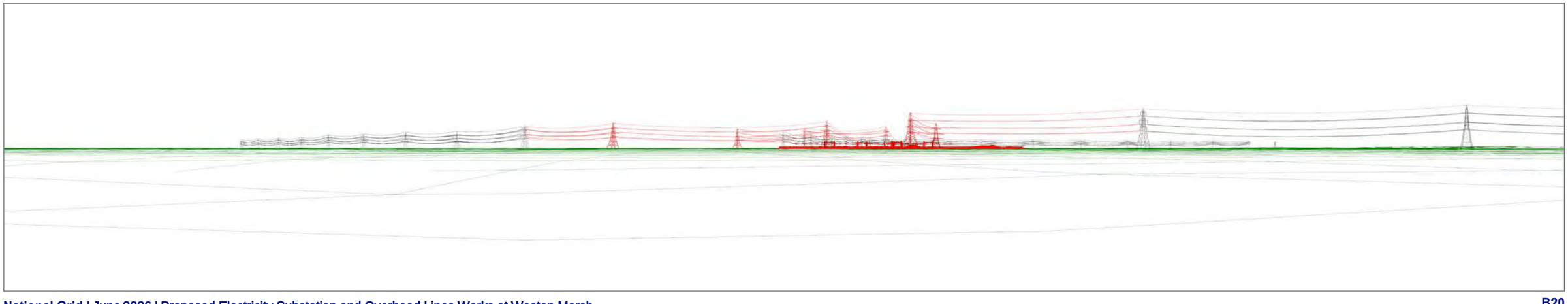
Construction - Two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400kV overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line and partly screened by vegetation. Overall, construction activities associated with the S37 Overhead Line Works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be noticeable, the new pylons would appear in the centre of the view and would be of a similar scale to the existing. The intervening block of woodland would provide some screening of the lower portions of some of the new pylons. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the distant skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element. This would result in an adverse change but would only affect a small part of the view and would not fundamentally alter its character or quality. The magnitude of change as a result of the S37 Overhead Line Works would be small.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

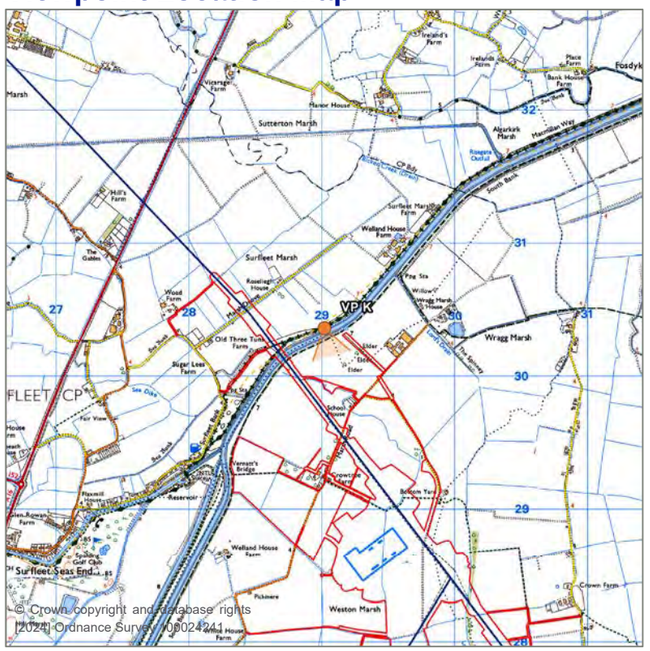


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)

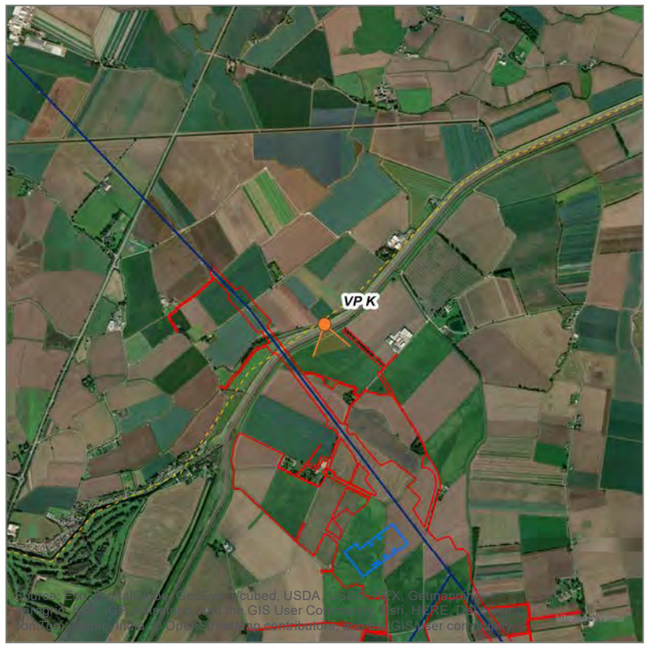


VP K: View from footpath on the north bank of the River Welland

Viewpoint Location Map



Aerial Photo



Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	529805 , 330393
Approx. Elevation	5 m AOD
General Direction of View	185° SSW
Approx. Distance to the Project	350 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 1485 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	14:52 / 3rd March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located from an elevated position on the public byway (Surf/3/4) which runs on the top of the dyke on the northern bank of the River Welland. The viewpoint represents the views experienced by users of the byway.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community and those engaged in recreational activities in the countryside, including users of the footpath, are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From the footpath there are southerly views across the flat, open, arable farmland of Spalding Marsh. The landscape is defined by agricultural fields that merge together, their boundaries subtly marked by a network of dykes and drains rather than more visually distinct hedgerows. While much of the scene consists of the typical uninterrupted fen farmland, small blocks of woodland give the horizon a wooded character. Prominent in the foreground is the River Welland and the engineered earth banks of the flood defences. Visible to the right of the view is a farmstead and agricultural buildings located on Marsh Road. Two 400 kV overhead lines cross the farmland, and the pylons on the nearest line are prominent on the skyline, adding to the overall cluttered appearance of the view.

Value of View

Medium - This view is not in a designated landscape or protected area. While it has a rural and distinctive fenland character, it is not uncommon within the local context, and the presence of the pylons detracts from its aesthetic and perceptual qualities.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Substation Works

Construction - It is anticipated that receptors may have some partial, long distance views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with ground level activity partially screened by the intervening block of woodland. The works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be noticeable as a small part of the view, with views partially screened by the intervening block of woodland. Some of the taller elements such as the 15m high gantries associated with the proposed substation would be partially visible and would potentially break the skyline although visibility would be reduced by the intervening woodland block and when viewed against the backdrop of the partially wooded horizon. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be small.

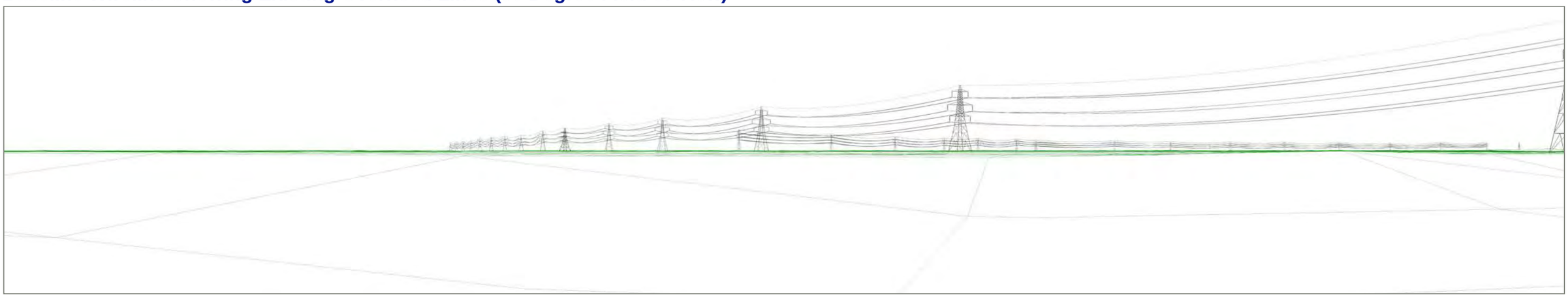
Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be screened by the mitigation planting to the north of the proposed substation and backdropped by the planting to the southwest of the substation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be small.

S37 Overhead Line Works

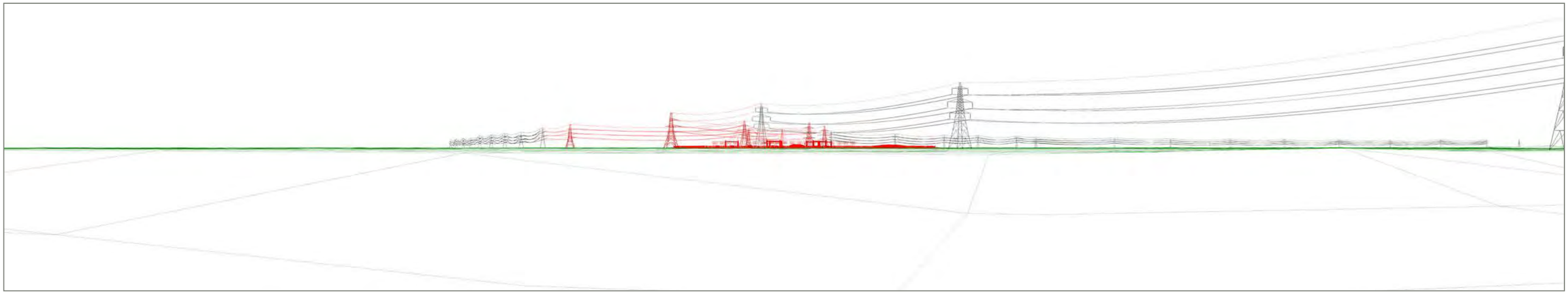
Construction - Two temporary pylons would be required to divert the existing 400kV overhead line from pylon 4ZM410 to pylon 4ZM407. These would be present for up to a year. The temporary pylons would be visible on the skyline, but within the extent of the existing overhead line and partly screened by vegetation. Reconductoring works would be perceptible but would be a very small element within the view. Overall, construction activities associated with the S37 Overhead Line Works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation - Four pylons (4ZM409, 4ZM408, 4ZM407 and 2WS016), would be removed and three replaced with new pylons which would appear in a similar location and at a similar scale to the existing. An additional four new pylons would be required to provide connection to the proposed substation. From this viewpoint, the change would be noticeable, the new pylons would appear in the centre of the view and would be of a similar scale to the existing. The intervening block of woodland would provide some screening of the lower portions of some of the new pylons. The introduction of four new pylons into the view would mean that more pylons would potentially be seen on the distant skyline, but these would not be a prominent or uncharacteristic element. This would result in an adverse change but would only affect a small part of the view and would not fundamentally alter its character or quality. The magnitude of change as a result of the S37 Overhead Line Works would be small.

Baseline Wireline Showing Existing Overhead Lines (90 Degree Field of View)

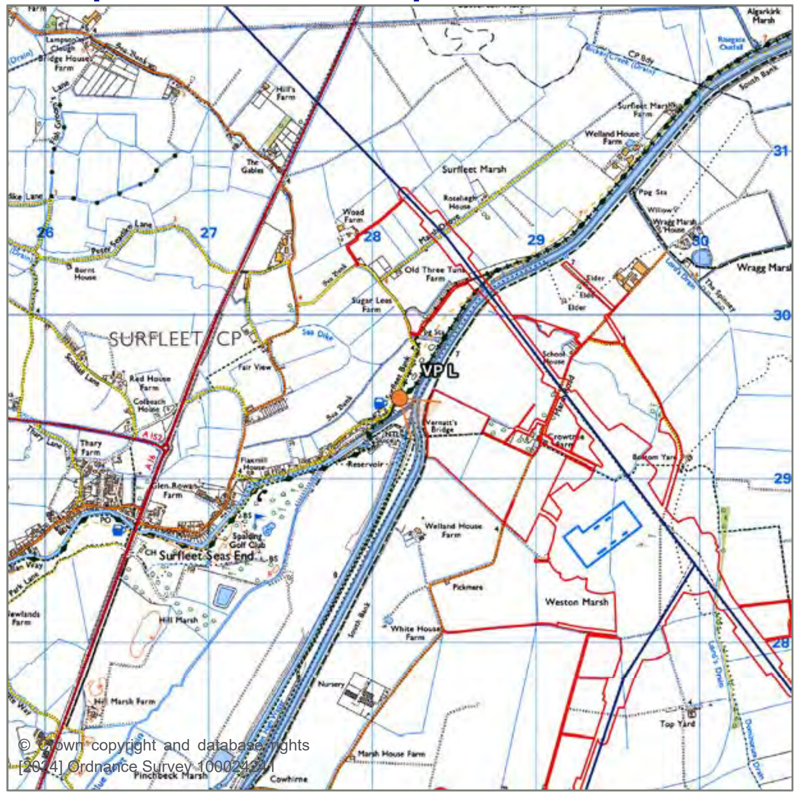


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



VP L: View from the Macmillan Way at Surfleet Bank

Viewpoint Location Map



Aerial Photo

Notes on Viewpoint Location

Grid Reference	528167 , 329495
Approx. Elevation	4 m AOD
General Direction of View	037° NE
Approx. Distance to the Project	790 m to Limit of Deviation (LOD) / 1220 m to Substation site boundary
Time / Date of Photo	14:13 / 3rd March 2026
Camera	Canon EOS 6D Canon EF 50 mm f/1.8 fixed focal lens

Reason for Selection

This viewpoint is located on the Macmillan Way on Surfleet Bank, near the confluence of the River Glen with Vernatt's Drain and the River Welland. It represents the views experienced by people in the community of Surfleet as well as users of the Macmillan Way.

Susceptibility of Receptors

High - The local community and those engaged in recreational activities in the countryside, including users of the Macmillan Way are highly susceptible to changes in the views they would experience due to the Project.

Description of Visual Baseline

From the Macmillan Way on Surfleet Bank there are slightly elevated views to the northeast. The artificial landforms created by the flood embankments around the confluence of the River Glen with Vernatt's Drain and the River Welland and adds visual interest to the otherwise flat, low-lying grassland of the floodplain. Trees, shrubs, and occasional woodland define the middle-distance horizon. In addition to the flood embankments, the most noticeable feature is the 400 kV pylon line that crosses the floodplain.

Value of View

Medium - Although this view is not in a designated landscape or protected area, its value is enhanced by its location on the Macmillan Way. However, the pylons are a prominent visual detractor.

Photograph of Existing Landscape from Viewpoint (90 Degree Field of View)

Description of Effects

Construction Year

It is anticipated that receptors may have some direct, long distance views of the short term construction activities associated with the proposed substation, with the visibility ground level activity filtered by the wooded backdrop. The construction compound for the proposed substation would be visible from this location but the works would be temporary, short-term and reversible resulting in a small magnitude of change in the view.

Operation – Year 1 - The proposed substation would be noticeable as a small part of the view, with direct views possible across open arable land. Some of the taller elements such as the 15m high gantries associated with the proposed substation would be partially visible and would potentially break the skyline although visibility would be reduced by when viewed against the backdrop of the partially wooded horizon. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be medium.

Operation – Year 15 - Once embedded mitigation measures begin to mature at year 15, it is anticipated that views of the proposed substation would be screened by the proposed planting to the north and west of the substation. It is anticipated that the magnitude of change in the view would be small.

S37 Overhead Line Works

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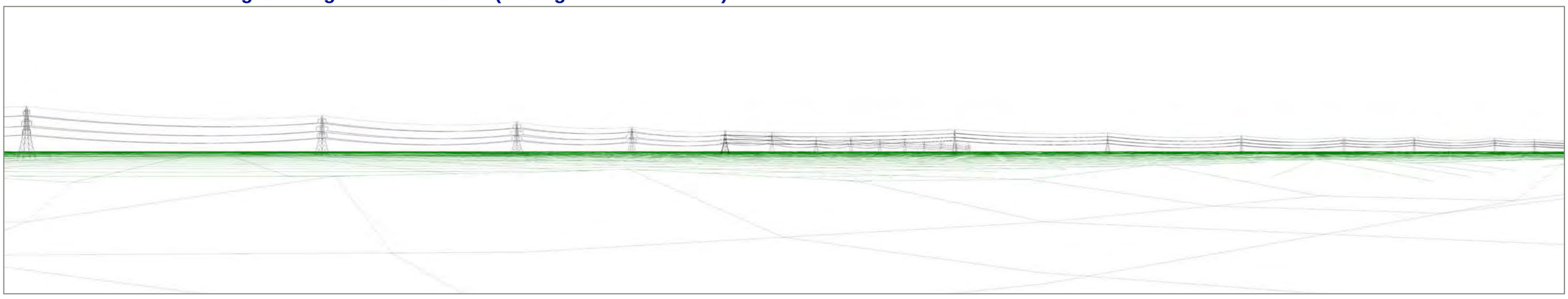
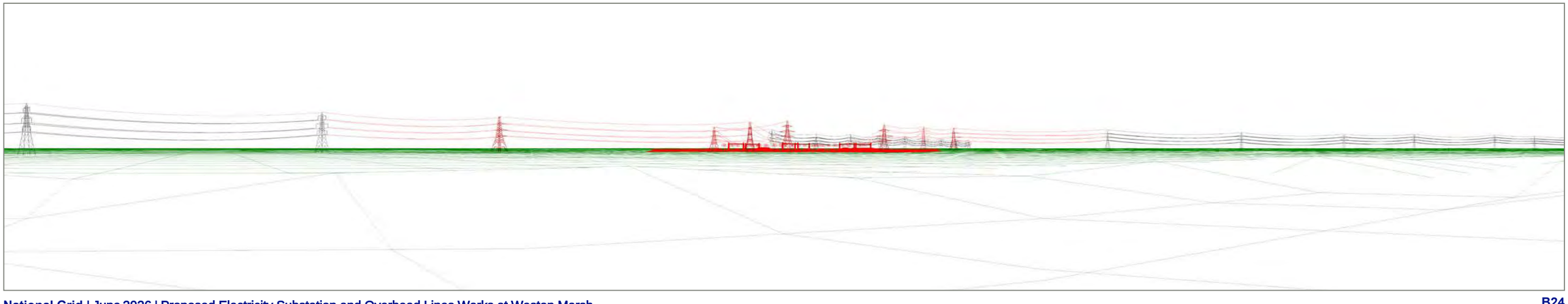


Wireline of the Project (Proposed Elements Shown in Red) (90 Degree Field of View)



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