



# Connah's Quay Low Carbon Power

## Environmental Statement Volume IV Appendix 15-D: Landscape Impact Assessment

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010166  
Document Reference: EN010166/APP/6.4  
Planning Act 2008 (as amended)  
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 - Regulation 5(2)(a)  
Revision 00

August 2025

Prepared for:  
Uniper UK Limited

Prepared by:  
AECOM Limited

© 2025 AECOM Limited. All Rights Reserved.

This document has been prepared by AECOM Limited ("AECOM") for sole use of our client (the "Client") in accordance with generally accepted consultancy principles, the budget for fees and the terms of reference agreed between AECOM and the Client. Any information provided by third parties and referred to herein has not been checked or verified by AECOM, unless otherwise expressly stated in the document. No third party may rely upon this document without the prior and express written agreement of AECOM.

## Table of Contents

1.	Landscape / Seascape Impact.....	1
1.1	Introduction.....	1
1.2	Landscape / Seascape Baseline .....	1
1.3	Likely Impacts and Effects.....	3
	References .....	36

## Tables

Table 1:	Landscape Sensitivity Assessment.....	3
Table 2:	Assessment of Landscape Effects – Construction .....	12
Table 3:	Assessment of Landscape Effects – Operation .....	23
Table 4:	Assessment of Landscape Effects – Decommissioning .....	32

# 1. Landscape / Seascape Impact

## 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Environmental Statement (ES) appendix sets out the potential landscape and seascape impacts of the Proposed Development.
- 1.1.2 The potential landscape/ seascape impacts of the Proposed Development primarily relate to the visibility of proposed structures (temporary and long term), including how this affects the perceptual qualities and tranquility of a character area and the direct loss of landscape features within the Main Development Area.
- 1.1.3 Landscape/seascape character is considered at national, regional, and local levels.
- 1.1.4 The relevant characteristics of these character area profiles are contained within **Appendix 15-B: Landscape Character (EN010166/APP/6.4)** and summarised within **Chapter 15: Landscape and Visual Amenity (EN010166/APP/6.2.15)**. The character areas are illustrated on **Figure 15-4A: National Landscape Character Areas, Figure 15-4B: Local Landscape Character Area and Figure 15-B1: LANDMAP (EN010166/APP/6.3)**.

## 1.2 Landscape / Seascape Baseline

### National Character Areas

- 1.2.1 National Landscape Character Areas (NLCA) have been defined and described by Natural Resources Wales. National Character Areas (NCA) have been defined by Natural England. These are broad scale and provide context to more detailed studies of local landscape character.
- 1.2.2 The study area contains two NLCA profiles:
- NLCA 12 - Bryniau Clwyd / Clwydian Range (Ref 1); and
  - NLCA 13 - Glannau Dyfrdwy a Wrecsam /Deeside and Wrexham (Ref 2).
- 1.2.3 The Proposed Development Site (excluding the Accommodation Works Areas) is located within NLCA 13 - Glannau Dyfrdwy a Wrecsam /Deeside and Wrexham (Ref 2).
- 1.2.4 NLCA 12 – Bryniau Clwyd/ Clwydian Range includes the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape (CRDV).
- 1.2.5 The likelihood of significant adverse landscape effects on NLCA 12 is considered negligible, because of the very limited intervisibility and distance from the Proposed Development and are therefore not considered further.
- 1.2.6 The study area contains NCA profiles:
- NCA 59: Wirral (Ref 3);
  - NCA 60: Mersey Valley (Ref 4); and

- NCA 61: Shropshire, Chesire and Staffordshire Plain (Ref 5).
- 1.2.7 The likelihood of significant adverse landscape effects on NCA 60 and NCA 61 is considered negligible, because of the very limited intervisibility and distance from the Proposed Development and are therefore not considered further.
- 1.2.8 The Construction and Operation Area is situated along the southern shore of the Dee Estuary and is located within Marine Character Area (MCA) 01: Dee Estuary (Ref 6 and Ref 7) and MCA 36 – Dee and Mersey Estuaries and Coastal Waters (Ref 8). MCA 01: Dee Estuary overlaps MCA 36 - Dee and Mersey Estuaries and Coastal Waters therefore an assessment of MCA 36 has been carried out for the area that lies out with MCA 01.

## Local Character Area

- 1.2.9 At a local level, the LVIA study area is covered by the following Landscape Character Areas (LCA) within the following areas:
- The Wirral Landscape Character Assessment (2019) (Ref 9);
    - LCA 1b Dee Estuarine Edge;
    - LCA 3b Thurstaston and Greasby Sandstone Hills;
    - LCA 3c Irby and Pensby Sandstone Hills;
    - LCA 3d Heswall Dales Sandstone Hills;
    - LCA 4b Thornton Hough Lowland Farmland Estates; and
    - LCA 6a Dee Estuary.
  - A Landscape Strategy for Cheshire West and Cheshire Borough (2016) (Ref 10);
    - LCA 4d: Burton and Shotwich;
    - LCA 6a: Willaston;
    - LCA 6b: Neston;
    - LCA 6c: Neston and Saughall;
    - LCA 6d: Ness, Burton, Puddington & Shotwick Slopes;
    - LCA 6e: Capenhurst Plateau;
    - LCA 9d: Saughall to Waverton Plain; and
    - LCA16b: Dee Estuary.
  - Areas of Special County Value (ASCV) in Cheshire West and Chester (2017) (Ref 11);
    - Area 2 – Dee Coastal Area (ASCV).
  - LANDMAP Wales (Ref 12);
    - LCA Built Land;
    - LCA Coastal Intertidal Marsh;
    - LCA Lowland;

- LCA Mosaic Rolling Lowland; and
- LCA Upland.

1.2.10 The likelihood of significant adverse landscape effects on LCA 3b and LCA 4b within Wirral is considered negligible, because of the very limited intervisibility and distance from the Proposed Development and are therefore not considered further.

## 1.3 Likely Impacts and Effects

### Assessment of Landscape Effects

1.3.1 **Table 1** provides an assessment of the sensitivity of each landscape receptor whilst **Table 2**, **Table 3**, and **Table 4** provide an assessment of the anticipated magnitude of landscape impacts and the classification of effects for each landscape receptor at construction, at operation and at decommissioning.

1.3.2 Refer to **Appendix 15-A: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology (EN010166/APP/6.4)** for a detailed description of the criteria used to assess the landscape receptors.

**Table 1: Landscape Sensitivity Assessment**

Landscape receptor	Sensitivity Assessment		
	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
<b>National Landscape Character Area (Wales)</b>			
NLCA 13 - Glannau Dyfrdwy a Wrecsam /Deeside and Wrexham	Medium	The low-lying open landscape contains nationally significant conservation features, although it is influenced by the presence of existing large-scale infrastructure. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is therefore considered to be very low as this is consistent with the defining characteristics of the NLCA.	Medium
<b>Natural England National Character Area Profiles (Natural England 2014)</b>			
NCA 59: Wirral	High	The coastal strip along the Dee Estuary and north Wirral Foreshore is characterised by extensive areas of intertidal sand flats, mudflats, coastal salt marshes and coastal sand dunes of particular biodiversity value. At some locations there are expansive views across the Dee Estuary although they are influenced by the presence of existing large-scale infrastructure.	Medium

Landscape receptor	Sensitivity Assessment		
	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
		Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is therefore considered to be very low as this is consistent with the defining characteristics of the NCA.	
<b>Marine Character Areas (Marine Management Organisation 2018)</b>			
MCA 36 – Dee and Mersey Estuaries and Coastal Waters	Medium	The low-lying open landscape contains nationally and internationally significant conservation features, although it is influenced by the presence of existing large-scale infrastructure. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is therefore considered to be low as this is consistent with the defining characteristics of the NCA.	Medium
<b>Marine Character Areas (Natural Resources Wales 2015, and Welsh National Marine Plan 2019)</b>			
MCA 01 – Dee Estuary (Wales)	High	The Dee Estuary is internationally and nationally designated for biodiversity and contains important cultural elements. Area is influenced by the presence of existing large-scale infrastructure such as the steel works, Existing Gas Treatment Plant at Connah's Quay, landfill site, and a chemical manufacturing plant. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is therefore considered to be low as this is consistent with the defining characteristics of the NCA.	Medium
<b>Areas of Special County Value in Cheshire West and Chester (2017)</b>			
Area 2 – Dee Coastal Area (ASCV)	High	Dramatic vistas across the Dee estuary, particularly from elevated viewpoints away from the ASCV boundary towards the coast across well-managed pastoral farmland offering exceptional panoramic views across the Dee Estuary. The susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be low due taking into account the factors above.	Medium

Landscape receptor	Sensitivity Assessment		
	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
<b>Wirral Landscape Character Assessment (2019)</b>			
LCA 1b: Dee Estuarine Edge	High	The area has a rural character with open and expensive views over the Dee Estuary, the susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be low due to the presence of other existing large-scale infrastructure.	Medium
LCA 3b: Thurstaston and Greasby Sandstone Hills	High	This is one of the most wooded character areas within Wirral with woodland concentrated around Thurstaston Hill, Caldby Hill and Royden Park. Deciduous woodland is mostly located on the slopes of the hills, although there is some tree cover on the ridgeline. Narrow bands of mature woodland along the fringes of fields and periphery of public open spaces create the impression of a densely wooded landscape, particularly when viewed from high ground. Farmland is mixed with a higher proportion of pasture to arable. Field pattern varies; to the south, fields are often long and linear, and bordered by heavily wooded boundaries. The susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be low due to the location of the Proposed Development in relation to other existing large-scale infrastructure and distance and lack of inter-visibility of the landscape receptor from the Proposed Development Site.	Medium
LCA 3c: Irby and Pensby Sandstone Hills	High	An elevated ridgeline, which is wooded in parts, provides a backdrop to the surrounding landscape, and a sense of separation between the urban settlements and the coastal landscape along the Dee Estuary. The susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be low due to the location of the Proposed Development in relation to other existing large-scale infrastructure and distance and lack of inter-visibility	Medium

Landscape receptor	Sensitivity Assessment		
	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
		of the landscape receptor from the Proposed Development Site.	
LCA 3d: Heswall Dales Sandstone Hills	High	A small high area of wooded heathland to the west of Heswall, retains a remote and 'natural' character. It has expansive views over the Dee Estuary to the Welsh coastline and hills beyond and is popular for informal recreation. The susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be low due to the distance between the Proposed Development and the limited available views.	Medium
LCA 4b: Thornton Hough Lowland Farmland Estates	Medium	A largely flat landform between 40 m and 50 m AOD, rising to wooded ridgelines outside the area which create a bowl-like landscape. Substantial geometric blocks of mixed deciduous woodland are prominent within large arable fields. Overall, an agricultural landscape, with regular large fields in arable and pastoral use. Fields are bordered by well-maintained mature hedgerows with hedgerow trees or Cheshire rail fencing which provides an estate character. The susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be low due to the distance between the Proposed Development and the limited available views.	Medium
LCA 6a: Dee Estuary	High	Extensive views over the Dee Estuary, mudflats, saltmarsh to the Welsh coastline and Clwydian Range contribute to the perception of a large-scale exposed landscape. Valued for formal and informal recreation, providing access to the coast via Wirral Country Park and the Wirral Way coastal path. The susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be low taking into account the above.	Medium

Landscape receptor	Sensitivity Assessment		
	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
<b>A Landscape Strategy for Cheshire West and Cheshire Borough (2016)</b>			
LCA4d: Burton and Shotwich	Low	The flat landform and long panoramic views contribute to the perception of a large scale, exposed landscape. The landscape has an industrial character where the Deeside / Shotton industrial area including Connah's Quay power station, pylons and the Flintshire Bridge are visually dominant. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development as part of the existing landscape character is therefore considered to be low.	Low
LCA 6a: Willaston	Medium	The study area covers small sections of this LCA in the areas of Neston and east of the A540 north-east of Burton. There is a strong urban and suburban as well as busy transport infrastructure (A540) influence on the landscape character in the section around Neston. The section near Burton is close to the A540 and contains a small field pattern with pockets of woodland. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development as part of the existing landscape character is therefore considered to be low.	Medium
LCA 6b: Neston	High	The Neston Enclosed Farmland landscape character type is a small character area enclosed to the north, east and south by the built-up suburbs of Neston. To the west, open views of the Dee Estuary, the Mudflats, Saltmarsh, and water body is the main focus in available open views. The Welsh shoreline and Clwydian range beyond form the horizon in the distance. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development as part of the existing landscape character is therefore considered to be very low.	Medium

Landscape receptor	Sensitivity Assessment		
	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
LCA 6c: Neston to Saughall	High	The Neston to Saughall Enclosed Farmland character area extends from Neston in the west to Saughall. Landscape scale, enclosure and views are dependent on location where hedgerows, trees and woodland provide partial screening, however, some larger scale panoramic views westward across the Dee Estuary afford views of Wales and the Clwydian Range in the distance. The Shotton industrial area and the Connah's Quay Power Station are visible from this LCA. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development as part of the existing landscape character is therefore considered to be low.	Medium
LCA 6d: Ness, Burton, Puddington and Shotwick Slopes	High	The Ness, Burton, Puddington & Shotwick Slopes Enclosed Farmland is in active agricultural use. It is a medium to large scale landscape with open expansive views westward across the Dee Estuary towards north Wales and the Clwydian Hills; also views to the south towards the Shotton industrial area where both the Connah's Quay Power Station stacks and the dramatic Flintshire Bridge are visible. An area to the south and west of Burton is designated at county level as part of the Dee Coastal ASCV.	Medium
LCA 6e: Capenhurst Plateau	Medium	The Capenhurst Plateau Enclosed Farmland character type is an almost flat area of land surrounding the Capenhurst industrial complex to the west of Ellesmere Port. Distant views are not a feature of this landscape, unlike other character areas within the same character type.	Low
LCA9d: Saughall to Waverton Plain	Low	Contrasting and complex character of rural and urban landscapes together in fragmented patterns where overhead wires and pylons locally dominate the skyline. The susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed	Low

Landscape receptor	Sensitivity Assessment		
	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
		Development is considered to be low due to the industrial character.	
LCA 16b: Dee Estuary Banks	Medium	The Dee Estuary landscape character area is an area of inter-tidal mudflats and saltmarsh along the western coastline of the Wirral peninsula. The flat open landform and long views contribute to the perception of a large scale, exposed landscape. The Dee estuary is highly dynamic and there are continuous shifts in the transport and distribution of sediments and the development of habitats, but the visual balance of features remains similar and in good condition. The susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be medium.	Medium

#### LANDMAP Wales

Built Land	Low	Landscape containing large scale industrial development, residential areas and smaller villages. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is therefore considered to be low considering the above.	Low
Coastal Intertidal Marsh	High	The landscape has unique and rare qualities due to the influence of the Dee Estuary and is an 'area of national & international value'. Area is influenced by the presence of existing large-scale industrial and road infrastructure such as the steel works, Connah's Quay Power Station, and a chemical manufacturing plant. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is therefore considered to be high considering the above.	High
Lowland	Medium	Simple and discordant landscape with strong contrasts extending over agricultural land to the north of the River Dee. Low scenic quality with detracting features associated with the	Medium

Landscape receptor	Sensitivity Assessment		
	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
		industrial influence from adjacent areas. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is therefore considered to be low.	
Mosaic Rolling Lowland	Medium	Gently undulating lowland which extends up to the Dee Estuary edge with distinct east/west grain and areas of linear woodland stream valleys, farmland, and ribbon settlement along the urban fringe. The Visual Sensory is evaluated to be moderate. The landscape value of Rolling Lowland is assessed to be moderate. Susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is therefore considered to be low as this is consistent with the defining characteristics of the receiving environment.	Medium
Upland	High	The Clwydian Range comprises of scrub and open rough grassland, to medium scale improved grassland shoulders, and smaller more intimate scale hedged pastures with traditional farming. The upper plateau is simple and harmonious with few detracting features. It is considered unlikely construction activities would be discernible from this distance. Considering the above, the susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be high.	High
National Landscape			
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley	High	This National Landscape includes high levels of tranquility, remoteness, wilderness, space, and freedom. 'Tranquility is associated with an atmosphere of calm and stillness; peace and quiet; and with dark night skies.' It also includes access to the landscape and the uninterrupted and extensive views and a sense of belonging and attachment to the landscape.	High

<b>Landscape receptor</b>	<b>Sensitivity Assessment</b>		
	<b>Value</b>	<b>Susceptibility</b>	<b>Sensitivity</b>
		<p>Considering the above, the susceptibility to change arising from the Proposed Development is considered to be high.</p>	

**Table 2: Assessment of Landscape Effects – Construction**

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Construction	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
<b>National Landscape Character Areas Wales</b>				
NLCA 13 - Glannau Dyfrdwy a Wrecsam /Deeside and Wrexham	Medium	Construction activities associated with the Proposed Development would directly impact the NLCA. Construction activities would be viewed in context with other large-scale power related structures. Due to the presence of large-scale structures which lie within this NLCA and the nature of construction activities, it is assessed that the Proposed Development would have very limited potential to affect the landscape character and perception of the NLCA. Impacts would be very low, over a small geographical extent, medium term and reversible.	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
NCA 59: Wirral	Medium	The Proposed Development lies outside of this area but would introduce long distance views of construction activity within limited views from it. Due to existing views containing large-scale industrial structures it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in very limited perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the NCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Construction	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
MCA 36 – Dee and Mersey Estuaries and Coastal Waters Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	Medium	Construction activities associated with the Proposed Development would indirectly impact the MCA. Due to the existing influence of large-scale structures and road infrastructure within the surrounding area, it is considered that the Proposed Development would have limited potential to affect the character and tranquility of the MCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a limited area, medium term and reversible.	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
MCA 01 – Dee Estuary (Wales)	Medium	Construction activities associated with the Proposed Development would indirectly impact the MCA. Due to the existing influence of large-scale structures and road infrastructure within the surrounding area, it is considered that the Proposed Development would have limited potential to affect the character and tranquility of the MCA. Impacts are assessed to be low, over a limited area, medium term and reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

#### Areas of Special County Value in Cheshire West and Chester

Area 2 - Dee Coastal Area (ASCV)	Medium	The Proposed Development lies outside of this area but would introduce long distance views of additional power related structures within limited views from it. Due to existing views containing large-scale industrial structures it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in small perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the ASCV	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
----------------------------------	--------	---	----------	--------------------------------------

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Construction	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
		during the construction stage. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.		
<b>Wirral Landscape Character areas</b>				
LCA 1b: Dee Estuarine Edge	Medium	Construction activities associated with the Proposed Development would indirectly impact the LCA. Due to the existing influence of large-scale industrial structures and road infrastructure within the surrounding area, it is considered that the Proposed Development would have limited potential to affect the character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low, over a small geographical area, medium term and reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 3c: Irby and Pensby Sandstone Hills	Medium	The Proposed Development when seen across the Dee Estuary and would introduce views of structures associated with the Proposed Development within it. Due to the existing influence of large-scale industrial structures and road infrastructure within the surrounding LCA, it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would have low impact over a small geographical area, medium term and reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 3d: Heswall Dales Sandstone Hills	Medium	The Proposed Development lies outside of this area but would introduce long distance views of	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Construction	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
		additional power related structures within limited views from it. Due to existing views containing large-scale industrial structures it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in very limited perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.		
LCA 6a: Dee Estuary	Medium	The construction activities associated with the Proposed Development include excavators, cranes and heavy machinery which would all contribute to visual disturbance of this LCA. Due to existing views containing large-scale industrial structures similar in scale, it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
<b>Cheshire West and Cheshire Character Areas Construction</b>				
LCA4d: Burton and Shotwich	Low	The Proposed Development would result in long distance views of construction activity, intervisibility between the Main Development Area and the LCA would be limited by the industrial nature of the available landscape features. Due to existing	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Construction	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
		<p>landscape character containing large-scale industrial structures and road network infrastructure, it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a small geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.</p>		
LCA 6a: Willaston	Medium	<p>The urban / suburban areas east and north of Neston would mainly not experience open westward vistas and rarely experience long distance views of construction activity on the Main Development Area. Views from within the area around the A540 north-east of Burton are also limited, if possible at all, due to intervening vegetation and topography. Due to the limited availability of views towards the Proposed Development and existing large-scale industrial structures similar in scale, it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.</p>	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
LCA 6b: Neston	Medium	<p>Extensive long distance views westward from above Parkgate towards the Main Development</p>	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Construction	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
		<p>Area are available and construction activity would be visible. Over this distance, the scale of cranes and large construction machinery, and the incremental development of the built form in an industrial area across the Dee Estuary would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low over a small geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.</p>		
LCA 6c: Neston to Saughall	Medium	<p>The Neston to Saughall enclosed farmland character with open westward vistas would experience long distance views of construction activity on the Main Development Area. The existing Connah's Quay Power Station is visually prominent, and the Proposed Development construction would introduce long distance views of construction activities, operating machinery, and the incremental development of large scale power infrastructure. Due to existing views containing large-scale industrial structures similar in scale, it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.</p>	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Construction	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
LCA 6d: Ness, Burton, Puddington and Shotwick Slopes	Medium	Construction activity, including excavators, cranes, and heavy machinery, would contribute to visual disturbance from Burton and the western part of the LCA. The area towards Shotwick is considered less likely to experience visual impact. While existing views contain large-scale industrial structures similar in scale, it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low over a small geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 6e: Capenhurst Plateau	Low	The Capenhurst Plateau Enclosed Farmland character type is an almost flat area of land surrounding the Capenhurst industrial complex to the west of Ellesmere Port. Distant views are not a feature of this landscape, unlike other character areas within the same character type. It is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA.	No impact	No impact
LCA 9d: Saughall to Waverton Plain	Low	The Proposed Development lies to the west of this LCA but may introduce long distance views of construction activity of the taller elements of the	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Construction	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
		Proposed Development. Due to existing views containing large-scale industrial structures it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a small geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.		
LCA 16b: Dee Estuary Banks	Medium	The construction activities associated with the Proposed Development include excavators, cranes and heavy machinery which would all contribute to visual disturbance of this LCA. Due to existing views containing large-scale industrial structures similar in scale, it is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

### LANDMAP Wales

Built Land	Low	The construction of the Proposed Development is partially located within this LCA, but as a result of the existing large-scale industrial structures there would be a small perceptible change on the character. Impacts are assessed to be very low,	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
------------	-----	---	----------	--------------------------------------

## LANDMAP Wales

		over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.		
Coastal Intertidal Marsh	High	The Proposed Development is located on the shoreline of the Dee Estuary. Occasional views may be available containing large-scale industrial structures of the existing Connah's Quay Power Station and construction activities would introduce cranes and large structures associated with the Proposed Development within its small geographical area. Due to the existing influence of large-scale industrial structures and road infrastructure within the surrounding LCA, it is considered that the Proposed Development would have very low impact over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Very low	Minor adverse (not significant)
Lowland	Medium	The Proposed Development is located adjacent to the Lowland LCA. The Visual Sensory across these areas is evaluated to be medium with areas evaluated as low adjacent to the industrial areas. The Proposed Development construction would have a small perceptible change on the character and tranquility of the lowlands. Impacts are assessed to be low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
Mosaic Rolling Lowland	Medium	The gently undulating lowland, with linear stream woodlands, has an overall estuarine influence and intermittent intervisibility of the Proposed Development Site. The resulting Visual Sensory is evaluated to be moderate. The landscape value is	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)

## LANDMAP Wales

		also medium. Construction activities on the Main Development Area would be visible in places; the absorber stacks would require temporary structures and heavy lifting equipment. It is considered that the construction of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.		
Upland	High	The Proposed Development would introduce long distance views of additional power related structures within a number of views in this attractive upland with pastoral slopes of the Clwydian hills. Due to available long-range views containing large-scale industrial structures, it is considered that the addition of the Proposed Development would result in an intensification of the existing industrial landscape character at this location although this would cause no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquillity of the NCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a small geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.	Very low	Minor adverse (not significant)

## National Landscape

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley	High	Construction activities associated with the Proposed Development would be located to the north-east of the National Landscape. As a result of the long distance and limited intervisibility,	No impact	No impact
-------------------------------	------	--	-----------	-----------

---

## LANDMAP Wales

---

		construction activities associated with the Proposed Development would not impact on the special qualities of the National Landscape.		
--	--	---	--	--

**Table 3: Assessment of Landscape Effects – Operation**

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Operation	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
<b>National Landscape Character Areas Wales</b>				
NLCA 13 - Glannau Dyfrdwy a Wrecsam /Deeside and Wrexham	Medium	The Proposed Development would introduce views of additional infrastructure within the NLCA. Due to the existing influence of other large-scale industrial structures and road and rail infrastructure within the NLCA, the Proposed Development would result in a small change to the character without altering the overall characteristics of the landscape. Impacts would be very low, over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
NCA 59: Wirral	Medium	The Proposed Development lies outside of this NCA but would introduce views of structures into it. Due to expansive views containing large-scale industrial structures and associated infrastructure and road infrastructure, it is considered that the Proposed Development would result in limited perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the NCA. Impacts would be very low, over a medium geographical area, long term and reversible.	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
MCA 36 – Dee and Mersey Estuaries and	Medium	The Proposed Development would indirectly impact the MCA and would introduce views of structures associated with the Proposed Development. The existing influence of other large-scale industrial structures within the MCA would result in a small change to the character without	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Operation	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Coastal Waters (MMO)		altering the overall characteristics of the landscape. The impacts would be very low, over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.		
MCA 01 – Dee Estuary (Wales)	Medium	The Proposed Development would indirectly impact the MCA and would introduce views of structures associated with the Proposed Development. The existing influence of other large-scale industrial structures within the MCA would result in a small change to the character without altering the overall characteristics of the landscape. The impacts would be low, over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

#### Areas of Special County Value in Cheshire West and Chester

Area 2 - Dee Coastal Area ASCV	Medium	The Proposed Development would introduce long distance views of tall elements of the power infrastructure. Raised elevation and low density of development in the ASCV contrast with surrounding settled and industrial and urban landscapes. Due to available views containing large-scale industrial structures, it is considered that the addition of the Proposed Development would result in an intensification of the existing industrial landscape character at this location although this would cause no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the ASCV. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a small geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
--------------------------------	--------	---	----------	--------------------------------------

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Operation	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
<b>Wirral Landscape Character Areas</b>				
LCA 1b: Dee Estuarine Edge	Medium	The Proposed Development is located on the shoreline of the Dee Estuary and would indirectly impact the LCA. The influence of large-scale industrial structures, power infrastructure and road infrastructure within the surrounding area are part of the landscape character of the LCA. It is considered that the Proposed Development would have limited potential to affect the existing landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low, over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 3c: Irby and Pensby Sandstone Hills	Medium	The Proposed Development when seen across the Dee Estuary would introduce views of structures associated with the Proposed Development within it. Due to the existing influence of large-scale industrial structures and road infrastructure within the surrounding LCA, it is considered that the operation of the Proposed Development would have a low impact over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 3d: Heswall Dales Sandstone Hills	Medium	The Proposed Development is located across the Dee Estuary. Occasional views may be available containing large-scale industrial structures of the existing Connah's Quay Power Station and would introduce views of structures associated with the Proposed Development within a small geographical area. Due to the distance, lack of intervisibility and where views may be available, the existing influence of large-scale industrial structures and	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Operation	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
		road infrastructure within the surrounding LCA, it is considered that the Proposed Development would have very low impact over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.		
LCA 6a: Dee Estuary	Medium	The Proposed Development is located across the Dee Estuary. Occasional long distance views may be available containing large-scale industrial structures of the existing Connah's Quay Power Station and would introduce views of structures associated with the Proposed Development within a small geographical area. Due to the distance, lack of intervisibility and where views may be available, the existing influence of large-scale industrial structures and road infrastructure within the surrounding LCA, it is considered that the Proposed Development would have very low impact over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
<b>Cheshire West and Cheshire Character Areas</b>				
LCA 4d: Burton and Shotwich	Low	The Proposed Development lies outside of this LCA but would introduce views of structures associated with existing power infrastructure. Due to expansive views containing large-scale industrial structures and associated infrastructure and road infrastructure, it is considered that the Proposed Development would result in limited perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts would be very low, over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Operation	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
LCA 6a: Willaston	Medium	<p>The urban / suburban areas east and north of Neston would mainly not experience open westward vistas and rarely experience long distance views of construction activity on the Main Development Area. Views from the area around the A540 north-east of Burton are also limited, if possible at all, due to intervening vegetation and topography. The Proposed Development would be located at least 6 km from this LCA. Due to the limited availability of views towards the Proposed Development and existing large-scale industrial structures similar in scale, it is considered that the Proposed Development would result in an intensification of the existing industrial landscape character at this location although this would cause no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a small geographical area in the long term that would be reversible.</p>	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
LCA 6b: Neston	Medium	<p>Available views will contain large-scale industrial structures similar in scale to the existing Connah's Quay Power Station. The Proposed Development would be approximately 6 km from this LCA. Due to available views containing large-scale industrial structures, it is considered that the addition of the Proposed Development would result in an intensification of the existing industrial landscape character at this location although this would cause no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low,</p>	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Operation	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
		over a small geographical area in the long term that would be reversible.		
LCA 6c: Neston to Saughall	Medium	Available views of the Welsh shoreline contain large-scale industrial structures and the existing Connah's Quay Power Station. The Proposed Development would introduce additional large structures associated with the power infrastructure. The Main Development Area comprises a small geographical area in the larger industrial region along the Dee Estuary. Due to the existing influence of large-scale industrial structures and road infrastructure in available views, it is considered that the Proposed Development would have low impact over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 6d: Ness, Burton, Puddington and Shotwick Slopes	Medium	At operation, the presence of large industrial structures, such as absorber stacks, and extensive built form would dominate the landscape over a small geographical area. The development would not alter the landscape character, rather intensify the industrial built form. Due to existing views containing large-scale industrial structures similar in scale, it is considered that the operation of the Proposed Development would result no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 6e: Capenhurst Plateau	Low	The Capenhurst Plateau Enclosed Farmland character type is an almost flat area of land surrounding the Capenhurst industrial complex to the west of Ellesmere	No impact	No impact

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Operation	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
		Port. Distant views are not a feature of this landscape, unlike other character areas within the same character type.		
LCA 9d: Saughall to Waverton Plain	Low	The Proposed Development may introduce long distance views of the taller elements of the Proposed Development. Due to existing available views containing large-scale industrial structures it is considered that the addition of the Proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a small geographical area in the long term which would be reversible.	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
LCA 16b: Dee Estuary	Medium	The Proposed Development would indirectly impact the LCA. The introduction of large scale structures associated with the Proposed Development alongside the existing influence of other large-scale industrial structures within this LCA would result in a small change to the character without altering the overall characteristics of the landscape. The impacts would be low, over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
<b>LANDMAP Wales</b>				
Built Land	Low	The Proposed Development is partially located within this LCA, but as a result of the existing large-scale industrial structures there would be a small perceptible change on the character. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Operation	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
		limited geographical area in the long term that would be reversible.		
Coastal Intertidal Marsh	High	The Proposed Development is located in an area containing large scale industrial structures. Due to the existing influence of Connah's Quay Power Station, other power related infrastructure and road infrastructure within the surrounding LCA, it is considered that the Proposed Development would have a very low impact over a small geographical area, long term and reversible.	Very low	Minor adverse (not significant)
Lowland	Medium	The Proposed Development is located adjacent to the Lowland LCA. The operation of the Proposed Development would result in a small perceptible change on the character and tranquility of the Lowland LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low, over a limited geographical area in the long term that would be reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
Mosaic Rolling Lowland	Medium	The Proposed Development is located adjacent to this LCA. The taller elements, including the absorber stacks, would be clearly visible from this LCA. However, intervisibility of tall power infrastructure alongside the Dee Estuary is currently experienced from within this LCA. The Proposed Development would have a small perceptible change on the character and tranquility of the LCA. Impacts are assessed to be low, over a limited geographical area in the medium term that would be reversible.	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of landscape effects - Operation	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
Upland	High	Due to available long range views towards the Dee Estuary and the adjacent large-scale industrial structures, it is considered that the addition of the Proposed Development would result in an intensification of the existing industrial character at this location although this would cause no perceptible change to the landscape character and tranquility of the area. Impacts are assessed to be very low, over a small geographical area in the long term that would be reversible.	Very Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
<b>National Landscape</b>				
Clwydian Range and Dee Valley	High	The Proposed Development would lie to the north-east of the National Landscape. As a result of the long distance and limited intervisibility, the operation of the Proposed Development would not impact on the special qualities of the National Landscape.	No impact	No impact

**Table 4: Assessment of Landscape Effects – Decommissioning**

Impacts arising from the physical decommissioning of the project would be similar in scale and activity to construction, and similar or slightly shorter in duration.

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of effects - Decommissioning	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect
<b>National Landscape Character Areas Wales</b>				
NLCA 13 - Glannau Dyfrdwy a Wrecsam /Deeside and Wrexham	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
NCA 59: Wirral	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
MCA 36 – Dee and Mersey Estuaries and Coastal Waters Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
MCA 01 – Dee Estuary (Wales)	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of effects - Decommissioning	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect impact
<b>Areas of Special County Value in Cheshire West and Chester</b>				
Area 2 - Dee Coastal Area (ASCV)	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
<b>Wirral Landscape Character areas</b>				
LCA 1b: Dee Estuarine Edge	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 3c: Irby and Pensby Sandstone Hills	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 3d: Heswall Dales Sandstone Hills	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
LCA 6a: Dee Estuary	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
<b>Cheshire West and Cheshire Character Areas Construction</b>				
LCA4d: Burton and Shotwich	Low	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
LCA 6a: Willaston	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very Low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
LCA 6b: Neston	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

Landscape Type	Sensitivity of receptor	Description of effects - Decommissioning	Predicted magnitude of impact	Significance of effect impact
LCA 6c: Neston to Saughall	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 6d: Ness, Burton, Puddington and Shotwick Slopes	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)
LCA 6e: Capenhurst Plateau	Low	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	No impact	No impact
LCA 9d: Saughall to Waverton Plain	Low	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
LCA 16b: Dee Estuary Banks	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

#### LANDMAP Wales

Built Land	Low	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
Coastal Intertidal Marsh	High	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very low	Minor adverse (not significant)
Lowland	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Low	Minor adverse (not significant)

### LANDMAP Wales

Mosaic Rolling Lowland	Medium	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very low	Negligible adverse (not significant)
Upland	High	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	Very low	Minor adverse (not significant)

### National Landscape

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley	High	Decommissioning activities and resulting effects would be broadly similar as described in <b>Table 2</b> .	No impact	No impact
-------------------------------	------	--	-----------	-----------

## References

- Ref 1. Natural Resources Wales, (NRW), 2013: National Landscape Character Area NLCA12: Clwydian Range
- Ref 2. Natural Resources Wales, (NRW), 2014; National Landscape Character Area NLCA13: Deeside and Wrexham
- Ref 3. Natural England, 2014; National Landscape Character Area Profile: 59: Wirral (NE545). Available online: <https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6535185847812096> (Accessed 20/05/2025)
- Ref 4. Natural England, 2013; National Landscape Character Area Profile: 60: Mersey Valley (NE492). Available online: <https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6387892108656640> (Accessed 20/05/2025)
- Ref 5. Natural England, 2014; National Landscape Character Area Profile: 61: Shropshire, Chesire and Staffordshire Plain (NE556). Available online: <https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6076647514046464> (Accessed 20/05/2025)
- Ref 6. Natural Resources Wales, 2015; Marine Character Areas: MCA 01, Dee Estuary, Wales.
- Ref 7. Welsh Government, November 2019. Welsh National Marine Plan Available online: [https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-11/welsh-national-marine-plan-document\\_0.pdf](https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-11/welsh-national-marine-plan-document_0.pdf) (Accessed 20/05/2025)
- Ref 8. Marine Management Organisation (MMO),2018; Seascape Character Assessment for the North West Inshore and Offshore marine plan areas. Available online: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5bcdac69e5274a6be7fbcfae/North\\_West\\_-\\_Seascape\\_character\\_assessment\\_report.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5bcdac69e5274a6be7fbcfae/North_West_-_Seascape_character_assessment_report.pdf) (Accessed 20/05/2025)
- Ref 9. Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council 2019: Wirral Landscape Character Assessment Available online: <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/planning-and-building/local-plans-and-planning-policy/local-planning-evidence-and-research-report-35> (Accessed 20/05/2025)
- Ref 10. Cheshire West and Chester Council 2016: A Landscape Strategy for Cheshire West and Cheshire Borough Available online: <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-control/total-environment/local-landscape-character-assessment-landscape-strategy-2016> (Accessed 20/05/2025)
- Ref 11. Cheshire West and Chester Council, June 2017. Local landscape designations: Areas of Special County Value in Cheshire West and Chester Available online: <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/asset->

[library/local-landscape-designations-areas-of-special-county-value-june-2017.pdf](#) (Accessed 20/05/2025)

- Ref 12. Natural Resources Wales, 2018: LANDMAP - the Welsh landscape baseline. Available online: <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/business-sectors/planning-and-development/evidence-to-inform-development-planning/landmap-the-welsh-landscape-baseline/?lang=en> (Accessed 09/06/2025)

