

# Gate Burton Energy Park

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Volume 3, Appendix 10-D: Visual Baseline

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Gate Burton Energy Park Limited



## Quality information

<u>Prepared by</u>	<u>Checked by</u>	<u>Verified by</u>	<u>Approved by</u>
<u>BM</u>	<u>JS</u>	<u>JR</u>	<u>NT</u>

Prepared for:

Gate Burton Energy Park Limited

Prepared by:

AECOM Limited

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# 1. Visual Baseline

## 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Appendix to **PEI Report Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual effects** presents details of each representative viewpoint and visual receptor group (including a description of their baseline view and sensitivity).

## 1.2 Representative viewpoints

- 1.2.1 A total of 29 representative viewpoints have been selected to assist in illustrating the effects on visual receptors. These viewpoints represent the experience of different types of visual receptor.
- 1.2.2 Representative viewpoints are also referred to in the case of private views, for example the views of residents from properties where it has not been possible to access or where large numbers of viewpoints cannot all be included individually. In such cases reference is made to viewpoints located on public land, such as roads, or Public Rights of Way (PRoW).
- 1.2.3 The selection of viewpoints has been informed by the Zone of Theoretical Visibility analysis, fieldwork and desk-based research. Additional viewpoints recommended by Lincolnshire County Council are still subject to verification and photography on site. These additional viewpoints will be included as the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) progresses.
- 1.2.4 In some cases, viewpoints have been chosen specifically to demonstrate a particular effect or specific issue, for example where visibility is restricted by intervening vegetation or buildings.
- 1.2.5 The following text describes the baseline view from each viewpoint that would exist without the Scheme. Reference should be made to **PEI Report Volume 1: Chapter 10**, which identifies which receptor group(s) each viewpoint relates to. Reference should also be made to **PEI Report Volume 3, Appendix 10-F: Existing Viewpoint Photography**, which includes baseline winter photography from each viewpoint.

## 1.3 Viewpoint 1: View northeast from an access track close to Gate estate

- 1.3.1 This view is representative of commercial users of Gate Burton Estate and Prospect Farm. The viewpoint is located within an Area of Great Landscape Value.
- 1.3.2 This is an open view to the northeast across a rural landscape. Medium scale arable fields with long linear hedgerows are interspersed with mature deciduous trees occupying the fore- and middle ground. The view is framed by the Long Nursery woodland to the north as well as mature field boundary vegetation. The railway line running between Sheffield and Lincoln runs

through the background. Just beyond this, agricultural fields with hedgerow boundaries and stands of trees shape the background. These distant views of fields are interrupted by large blocks of woodland on the skyline, which create enclosure and limit the extent of views beyond. The terrain slopes down gently towards the railway line and then rises gently again.

- 1.3.3 The view is across the proposed location of the substation and BESS development, which are to be located in the fore- and middle ground. The view does not have a particular focus.

### Sensitivity

- 1.3.4 The view consists of landscape elements, such as fields, hedgerows and pockets of woodland. The value attached to the view is assessed as medium.
- 1.3.5 Views are relevant to the receptor's experience but not specific to the reason for visiting. Susceptibility to change is medium.
- 1.3.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.4 Viewpoint 2: View north-northwest from Clay Lane west of Clay Farm

- 1.4.1 Clay Lane terminates east of the railway line. This view is representative of commercial users of Prospect Farm and Clay Farm. The viewpoint is located within an Area of Great Landscape Value.
- 1.4.2 This is a middle distance, open view looking north across medium sized arable fields from the gated field boundary. Arable fields in the foreground and middle ground rise up gently to a wooded horizon (Burton Wood and Long Nursery) alongside the heavily vegetated railway embankments. These dense blocks of woodland on slightly elevated ground screen views beyond. The fields are interspersed with linear hedgerows with intermittent gaps. Overhead power lines are visible crossing the view from west to east. The Sheffield to Lincoln railway is also visible along the line of the track with occasional passing trains.
- 1.4.3 The Scheme will occupy the fields in the foreground and middle ground of the view. The view does not have a particular focus.

### Sensitivity

- 1.4.4 This view consists of common landscape elements, with fields and woodlands and is crossed by overhead power lines and the value of the view is assessed as medium.
- 1.4.5 Views related to people passing through the area on secondary roads, where the view is not relevant to the activity. Susceptibility to change is medium.
- 1.4.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.5 Viewpoint 3: View northeast from Clay Lane at the corner of Gate Burton estate

- 1.5.1 The view is representative of vehicle users travelling to Clay Farm. The viewpoint is located within an Area of Great Landscape Value.
- 1.5.2 This is a middle distance, open view looking northeast from a slightly elevated perspective. A medium scale arable field that doglegs around the mature woodland of Burton Wood occupies the foreground. There are gentle undulations in the field to the north whilst gently falling to the east. The centre of the view is dominated by Burton Wood with a mixture of mature deciduous and evergreen trees. To the north, woodland pockets in the vicinity of Knaith create a wooded horizon. To the east the views are enclosed by hedgerows.
- 1.5.3 The Scheme will occupy the field from the middle ground until the boundary of Burton Wood. The view does not have a particular focus.

### Sensitivity

- 1.5.4 The view consists of landscape elements such as fields and distinctive for this area, mature woodland. The value of the view is assessed as high.
- 1.5.5 Views are relevant to the receptor's experience but not specific to the reason for visiting. Susceptibility to change is medium.
- 1.5.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium-high.

## 1.6 Viewpoint 4: View north / northeast from Willingham Road, east of the railway bridge

- 1.6.1 This view is representative of vehicle users on Willingham Road. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel.
- 1.6.2 This is a wide, long distance view orientated north. Beyond the deciduous native hedgerow, the foreground view comprises a series of medium sized arable fields interwoven with hedgerows. To the west, the embanked railway line, running between Sheffield and Lincoln, is visible heading into the middle ground before being screened by intervening buildings at Clay Farm. The flat topography affords distant views of fields, hedgerows, and dispersed farmsteads with pockets of woodland creating a wooded horizon.
- 1.6.3 The Scheme will occupy the fields in the foreground and middle ground of the view. The view does not have a particular focus.

### Sensitivity

- 1.6.4 The view consists of common landscape elements, with fields and patches of woodland, along with overhead power line and railway infrastructure. The value of the view is assessed as low.
- 1.6.5 Views are relevant to the receptor's experience but not specific to the reason for visiting. Susceptibility to change is medium.

1.6.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.7 Viewpoint 5: View north from the A1500 (Stow Park Road)

1.7.1 This view is representative of people traveling by vehicle along the A1500 (Stow Park Road). The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel.

1.7.2 This view is orientated north and is foreshortened by rising landform in the centre of the view. A small pastoral field occupies the foreground bounded to all sides by hedgerow and post and rail fencing. Scrubland rises beyond the hedgerow in the central middle ground with a mixture of shrubs and low trees. Arable fields occupy the middle ground to either side with field boundary vegetation filtering views of dispersed farmsteads. Pockets of woodland in the far distance create a wooded horizon to the east.

1.7.3 The view has no obvious focus, and the Scheme will be barely discernible due to intervening vegetation. The view has been included to illustrate mid-range views south of the Scheme.

### Sensitivity

1.7.4 The view consists of common landscape elements, with fields and woodland, the value of the view is assessed as low.

1.7.5 Views are relevant to the receptor's experience but not specific to the reason for visiting. Susceptibility to change is medium.

1.7.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.8 Viewpoint 6: View northwest from Manor Farm, Stow

1.8.1 This view is representative of residents arriving or leaving Manor Court and dwellings along Stow Park Road and Church Lane at the extents of the settlement edge at Stow. The view is also representative of vehicle users along Stow Park Road. Travelling views are fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel.

1.8.2 This is a wide, long distance view orientated northwest across arable landscape. Medium scale arable fields occupy the foreground and middle ground neatly interwoven by intermittent hedgerows and occasional larger deciduous trees. The flat topography affords distant views of the cooling towers at Cottam Power Station on the horizon. Solar panels at the Sustain Solar Park near Danes Farm are also visible. A line of pylons are visible against the sky along the horizon. The cooling towers and chimneys at West Burton are perceptible behind intervening vegetation on the horizon in the centre right of this view.

1.8.3 Glimpses of the Scheme will be visible in the middle to far ground.



## Sensitivity

- 1.8.4 The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements, with fields, hedgerows and individual trees or groups of trees. Pylons and power station infrastructure provide an industrial component and detracting features to the otherwise rural view. The value of the view is assessed as medium.
- 1.8.5 The view is representative of residents living in the area and vehicle drivers. Similar views can be obtained from upper windows of nearby houses. Susceptibility to change is medium.
- 1.8.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.9 Viewpoint 7: View northwest from Tillbridge Lane Viewpoint

- 1.9.1 This view is representative of recreational users of the designated Tillbridge Lane tourist viewpoint adjacent to RAF Scampton.
- 1.9.2 This is a wide, open and long-distance view orientated west / northwest. Beyond the deciduous native hedgerow in the foreground, arable fields slope downhill and far into the middle ground. A myriad of medium sized arable fields are interwoven with hedgerows, bands or pockets of trees along with two small reservoirs. The elevated perspective affords views across the flatter topography of the middle ground. Distant views of fields and dispersed farmsteads are filtered by intervening vegetation. Pockets of woodland in the distance create a wooded horizon punctuated by the cooling towers and chimneys of Cottam Power Station and West Burton Power Station.
- 1.9.3 Long distance glimpses of the Scheme will be visible in the distance due to the elevated nature of this view.

## Sensitivity

- 1.9.4 Composition of the view consists of common landscape elements, with fields and woodland and is crossed by pylons. The view includes detracting features of historic and modern energy infrastructure but is likely to be valued by the community experiencing the view. The value of the view is assessed as medium-high.
- 1.9.5 Views from this recognised viewpoint are an important part of the receptor's experience. The susceptibility to change is high.
- 1.9.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is High.

## 1.10 Viewpoint 8: View northwest from Marton Road

- 1.10.1 This view is representative of recreational users of PRow Stow/70/1 and vehicle users.
- 1.10.2 This is a middle to long distance and open view looking northwest across irregular medium sized arable fields separated by a fragmented hedgerow running across the middle ground of the view from east to the centre of the

view. Due to the gently undulating topography, distant views of fields and dispersed farmsteads (notably Park Farm) are available. Pockets of woodland in the distance create a wooded horizon only punctuated by the cooling towers and chimneys at West Burton Power Station.

- 1.10.3 The Scheme will occupy the fields in the close middle ground and extent into the background of the view. The cooling towers at West Burton Power Station provide a focus in this view.

### Sensitivity

- 1.10.4 The view consists of common landscape elements. The value of the view is low.
- 1.10.5 Views are relevant to the receptor's experience but not specific to the reason for visiting. Susceptibility to change is medium.
- 1.10.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.11 Viewpoint 9: View west from Marton Road, Willingham by Stow

- 1.11.1 The view is representative of recreational users of PRow Wlgm/976/1 and Wlgm/976/2; vehicle users and visitors to the nearby Willingham by Stow cemetery. The view is also representative of residents of Howson Care Home and dwellings along Marton Road at the western extents of the settlement edge at Willingham by Stow. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel.
- 1.11.2 This is a long distance view, with semi-mature trees and hedgerows along the road partially filtering the otherwise open view orientated west at the western edge of Willingham by Stow. A medium scale arable field occupies the middle ground framed to the southwest by a mature hedgerow with intermittent mature trees, and to the northwest by the Howson Care Home. The landform falls gently to the middle ground and is met by overhead power lines that cross the view from east to west. Beyond this, further arable fields gently rising back up into the distance. Pockets of woodland in the distance create a wooded horizon only punctuated by the cooling towers and chimneys at West Burton Power Station.
- 1.11.3 The Scheme will occupy the fields in the middle ground of the view until it reaches the wooded background. The cooling towers at West Burton Power Station provide a focus in the distance.

### Sensitivity

- 1.11.4 The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements, with road side trees, hedgerows, fields, pockets of woodland and is crossed by pylons. The view includes detracting industrial features of energy infrastructure. The value of the view is assessed as low.

- 1.11.5 The views is representative of receptors travelling along Marton Road as well as for residents living in the area, which experience similar views from their dwellings. Views for visitors and recreational receptors are relevant to the receptor's experience but not specific to the reason for visiting. Susceptibility to change is medium.
- 1.11.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.12 Viewpoint 10: View northwest from B1241 (Kexby Lane)

- 1.12.1 The view is representative of vehicle users along Kexby Lane as well as a number of residents living adjacent at the western edge of a band of residences along the northern side of Kexby Lane.
- 1.12.2 This is a wide, open and middle to long distance view orientated northwest from the B1241 (Kexby Lane). A medium scale arable field occupies the foreground and is unbounded by vegetation. Instead, field drains form the boundary to the adjacent dwelling. The view is open with sparse vegetation (individual trees) in the middle ground. Overhead power lines cross the view from north to west running parallel to the B1241. In the middle ground, large woodland pockets (Top Fox Covert, Thurlby Wood, and Stag wood respectively) form the background and screening most further views into the distance beyond. The landscape in the background with pockets of woodland is designated as an Area of Great Landscape Value. A gap between these woodland pockets affords a long distance view to the horizon across the flat topography where intervening vegetation filters views towards Lea.
- 1.12.3 The Scheme will occupy the fields in the foreground and middle ground of the view. The view does not have a particular focus.

### Sensitivity

- 1.12.4 The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements with fields, pockets of woodland and is crossed by overhead power lines. The value is medium.
- 1.12.5 Views are fleeting and the susceptibility to change is assessed as high.
- 1.12.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is high.

## 1.13 Viewpoint 11: View east from B1241 (Kexby Lane) at the eastern entry to Knaith Park

- 1.13.1 The view is representative of pedestrians along Kexby Lane / Willingham Road and from dwellings along Willingham Road and Upton Road at the extents of the settlement edge at Knaith Park. It is also representative of vehicle users travelling east along Kexby Lane.
- 1.13.2 This is an enclosed middle distance view along Kexby Lane at the junction with Upton Road. The foreground is dominated by a short linear stretch of the

B1241 heading southeast before it gently turns out of view. Orthogonal to this, the T-junction with Upton Road heads northeast. The road is bounded by street furniture including lighting and road signage. Overhead telephone cables cross in the middle ground running parallel with both roads. Views into the adjacent fields are filtered by intervening hedgerows and some mature deciduous trees. Overhead power lines cross through the view from north to south in the middle distance. Large pockets of woodland (Top Fox Covert and Thurlby Wood) as well as intervening vegetation screen distant views beyond towards Upton.

- 1.13.3 The Scheme will occupy the fields in the middle ground of the view. The view does not have a particular focus.

### Sensitivity

- 1.13.4 The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements, with fields and woodland and is crossed by overhead power lines and telephone cables. The view includes detracting features of street furniture. The value is low.
- 1.13.5 A number of residents along Willingham Road and Kexby Lane will have open or oblique views from windows of their houses and gardens. Views for road users are fleeting. The susceptibility to change is assessed as medium.
- 1.13.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.14 Viewpoint 12: View south from Station Road west of Knaith Park

- 1.14.1 This view is representative of vehicle users and recreational users travelling along Station Road. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel. The viewpoint is located within an Area of Great Landscape Value.
- 1.14.2 The view is orientated south with the foreground and middle ground comprising a medium sized arable field with sparse intervening vegetation. Views are foreshortened by the large woodland plantations (Park and Jubilee Plantations) as part of Broom Hills and Park Wood. A patchwork of shrubs (part of a former hedgerow) and stands of mature trees bound the field to the west.
- 1.14.3 The Scheme will occupy the field in the foreground and middle ground until the edge of the woodland. The large woodland plantation largely focuses the view.

### Sensitivity

- 1.14.4 The large woodland belt in the background is a distinctive feature in this view, which otherwise contains common landscape elements such as arable ground, hedgerows, shrubs and stands of mature trees. The value of the view is assessed as high.

1.14.5 Views are relevant to the receptor's experience but not specific to the reason for visiting. Views for road users are fleeting. The susceptibility to change is assessed as medium.

1.14.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium-high.

## 1.15 Viewpoint 13: View east from A156 (Gainsborough Road) between Knaith and Gate Burton

1.15.1 This view is representative of vehicle users along the A156 (Gainsborough Road). Views experienced whilst driving along the road are typically framed by hedgerows flanking the road corridor. Occasional glimpses beyond the road corridor, such as represented by this viewpoint, are afforded by gaps in the vegetation. The viewpoint is located within an Area of Great Landscape Value.

1.15.2 This is a middle distance view orientated east from a field entrance along the A156 (Gainsborough Road). A pair of long and linear arable fields stretch uphill from the foreground to middle ground separated by a linear native hedgerows. The landform rises steadily to the intermittent and disconnected field boundary just below the horizon line. Beyond this, a further arable field rises to the horizon, flanked by intermittent hedgerow vegetation with occasional mature trees. To the northeast, the large woodland pocket of Fox Covert meets the horizon under the large sky.

1.15.3 Potential glimpses of the upper most sections of the Scheme may be visible in the distance and slightly beyond the brow of the hill.

### Sensitivity

1.15.4 The view consists of fields, hedgerows and larger pockets of woodland, the value of the view is assessed as medium-high.

1.15.5 Views are fleeting and the susceptibility to change is assessed as low.

1.15.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.16 Viewpoint 14: View east from Littleborough Road, Littleborough

1.16.1 This view is representative of vehicle users along Littleborough Road as well as recreational users of the Trent Valley Way.

1.16.2 The view is orientated east. An arable field with a new tree plantation / or orchard occupies the foreground, bounded by hedgerows, some of them fragmented. The flat landscape of the River Trent floodplain offers views across several further fields in the middle ground. The landscape rises notably in the background, which is lined with pockets of woodland, stands of mature trees and small arable fields.

- 1.16.3 The Scheme will be located to the east beyond the ridge in the background. The Scheme will unlikely be visible due to intervening mature vegetation and landform.

### Sensitivity

- 1.16.4 The view consists of landscape elements including fields, hedgerows and pockets woodland. It is an overall rural view without interruption by high voltage transmission line infrastructure, which is otherwise common in the area. The value of the view is assessed as medium.
- 1.16.5 Views from the Trent Valley Way are an important part of the receptor's experience. Susceptibility to change is high.
- 1.16.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is high.

## 1.17 Viewpoint 15: View east along view axis between Gate Burton Estate and Burton Wood

- 1.17.1 The view is representative of a viewing axis along a straight road (located in a north-eastern/south-western alignment) within Gate Burton Estate focusing east towards Burton Wood. While the view is currently partially obscured due to overgrown boundary vegetation along Gate Burton Estate, it is part of a formerly planned view out from Gate Burton Estate. The viewpoint is located within an Area of Great Landscape Value.
- 1.17.2 This is a medium distance, open view looking east from a slightly lower perspective that foreshortens the view. A medium scale arable field occupies the foreground and gently rises into the distance. The centre of the view is dominated by Burton Wood with a mixture of mature deciduous and evergreen trees. Set behind this is another small woodland parcel with both contributing to the wooded horizon. Several mature deciduous trees sit interspersed along the arable fields along the horizon line before a further distant area of woodland (Long Nursery) subsumes the horizon line to woodland.
- 1.17.3 The Scheme will become visible in middle distance until it reaches the woodland boundary. The view does not have a particular focus.

### Sensitivity

- 1.17.4 The view consists of pockets of woodland and arable fields, the value of the view is assessed as high.
- 1.17.5 Views are relevant to the receptor's experience when located within Gate Burton Estate. Susceptibility to change is medium.
- 1.17.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium-high.



## 1.18 Viewpoint 16: View east from Clay Lane south of Gate Burton Estate

- 1.18.1 This view is representative of vehicle users along Clay Lane. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel. The viewpoint is located within an Area of Great Landscape Value.
- 1.18.2 The view is orientated east through a field entrance gap in vegetation. A long medium sized arable field occupies the foreground. The field is gently undulating, and the landform falls away from west to east offering long distance views. Mature hedgerows with intermittent trees flank Clay Lane to the north and Willingham Road to the south reducing views of vehicles to glimpses. Two separate sets of telephone lines cross the middle ground. Distant views of fields and dispersed farmsteads are filtered by intervening vegetation before the rising landform (Scampton, Ingham Cliff, Glentworth Cliff) defines the horizon with pockets of woodland below a large sky.
- 1.18.3 The Scheme will occupy the field in the middle ground of the view. The view does not have a particular focus.

### Sensitivity

- 1.18.4 The view is comprised of relatively common landscape elements and the value is medium.
- 1.18.5 The view is representative of people traveling on the local road network and their susceptibility to change is low.
- 1.18.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.19 Viewpoint 17: View north / northwest from Marton Road

- 1.19.1 This view is representative of vehicle users along on Marton Road. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel. The view is also representative of residents of Sandebus Farm although the actual view is not as open on account of substantial mature screening vegetation along the western boundary.
- 1.19.2 The view is orientated north-northwest through a field entrance gap in vegetation. A medium sized arable field occupies the foreground. The field gently rises to the north. A set of telephone lines cross the view from west to east and overhead power lines move from south to north receding into the distance. The gently undulating topography affords views across further arable fields interwoven with fragmented hedgerows and occasional trees. Distant views of fields and dispersed farmsteads are filtered by intervening vegetation. Pockets of woodland (particularly Burton Wood, Quilters, Long Nursery, Broom Hills) in the distance create a wooded horizon that partially screens views of the cooling towers of West Burton Power Station.

1.19.3 The Scheme will occupy the majority of fields in the foreground and middle ground of the view. The transmission lines, chimneys of West Burton Power Station and distant built farm structures focus the view somewhat.

### Sensitivity

1.19.4 The view consists of common landscape elements, such as fields, dispersed trees and pockets of woodland. The value of the view is assessed as low.

1.19.5 The view is representative of vehicle users along the local road network and residents of Sandebus Farm as well as residents along Willingham Road further west of this view. Susceptibility to change is medium.

1.19.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is low-medium.

## 1.20 Viewpoint 18: View north / northwest from Marton Road at elevated location

1.20.1 This view is representative of vehicle users travelling along an elevated section of Marton Road. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel.

1.20.2 The view is orientated north-northwest across a roadside hedgerow. A large sized arable field occupies the foreground with strips of gappy hedgerows. The gently undulating topography affords views across further arable fields interwoven with fragmented hedgerows and occasional trees in the middle ground and background. Distant views of fields and dispersed farmsteads are filtered by intervening vegetation. Pockets of woodland in the long distance create a wooded horizon.

1.20.3 The Scheme will occupy the fields in the foreground and middle ground of the view. The view does not have a particular focus.

### Sensitivity

1.20.4 The expansive view is comprised of relatively typical rural landscape elements, but it provides a slightly elevated location with good long-distance views across the land. The value is low.

1.20.5 The view is representative of vehicle users and recreational users travelling along the local road network. Their susceptibility to change is medium.

1.20.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is low-medium.

## 1.21 Viewpoint 19: View southwest from B1241 (Gainsborough Road) north of Willingham by Stow

1.21.1 The view is representative of dwellings along Gainsborough Road at the extents of the settlement edges of Willingham by Stow and Kexby. It is also



representative of people travelling by vehicle along Gainsborough Road between Willingham by Stow and Kexby.

- 1.21.2 The view is orientated southwest at the entrance to Valley Farm from Gainsborough Road. Beyond the deciduous native hedgerow, the foreground view comprises a medium sized arable field stretching into the middle ground. A set of telephone lines recede into the distance along the access road to Valley Farm and overhead power lines move from south to north across the view. Farm (Valley Farm) and agricultural buildings (Park Farm) are visible just below the horizon line. Pockets of woodland in the distance (particularly Dealtry Holt, Tiger Holt, Broom Hills) create wooded horizon that partially screen views of the cooling towers at Cottam Power Station. The upper sections of chimneys relating to West Burton Power Station appear above the woodland pocket in the right of this view.
- 1.21.3 The Scheme will occupy the fields in the foreground and middle ground of the view. The chimneys at Cottam focus the view.

### Sensitivity

- 1.21.4 The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements, with fields, hedgerows, overhead distribution lines and woodland. The view includes detracting features of street furniture and prominent industrial elements. The value is low.
- 1.21.5 Residents of dwellings along Gainsborough Road will have open views from a number of windows of their houses and from gardens. Views for vehicle users are fleeting. The susceptibility to change is assessed as medium.
- 1.21.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.22 Viewpoint 20: View southwest from Kexby, Junction Kexby Lane / B1241 Willingham Road / Upton Road

- 1.22.1 The view is representative of vehicle users along Gainsborough Road / Kexby Lane and from a number of residents along these roads, particularly near the junction.
- 1.22.2 The view is orientated southwest near the junction of Upton Road (Kexby) with the B1241 (Kexby Lane / Willingham Road). This is a wide view across the arable landscape foreshortened by the rising landform in the middle distance. Medium scale arable fields occupy the foreground interspersed with lines of native hedgerow. Telephone lines bisect the view from north to south across the view and connecting in from east to the centre of the main line. Distant views of fields and dispersed farmsteads are filtered by intervening vegetation and pockets of woodland. These also partially filter views of the cooling towers and chimney at Cottam Power Station.
- 1.22.3 The Scheme will occupy fields in the background. The cooling towers and chimney at Cottam Power Station provide a long distance focus in this view.

## Sensitivity

- 1.22.4 The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements, with fields, bands of hedgerows and trees as well as parcels of woodland and is crossed by telephone cables. The value is low.
- 1.22.5 Residents of dwellings near the junction of Gainsborough Road / Kexby Lane / Upton Road will have open or partial views from a number of windows of their houses and from gardens. Views for vehicle users are fleeting. The susceptibility to change is assessed as medium.
- 1.22.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is medium.

## 1.23 Viewpoint 21: View south from Coates Road towards Grid Connection Corridor

- 1.23.1 This view is representative of vehicle users along Coates Road. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel.
- 1.23.2 The viewpoint is located at a field entrance at a gap in the roadside hedgerow. The view is wide open and orientated south across large arable fields separated by drainage channels. The overall landscape is flat, part of the River Trent floodplain and lacks structure due to the absence of defined field boundaries. A set of telephone lines cross the view from the west receding into the distance. Views of Cottam Power Station dominate the view. A band of column shaped trees and a small pocket of woodland partially filter views of the cooling towers. Intervening vegetation and pockets of woodland form a thin horizon line that filters distant views and dispersed farmsteads. High voltage overhead transmission lines run along the horizon line visible against the skyline. They originate from Cottam Power Station and head west across the view.
- 1.23.3 The Scheme grid connection corridor occupies the fields in the foreground. The power station, the band of column shaped trees and overhead pylons are focus points in the view.

## Sensitivity

- 1.23.4 The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements, with fields and bands of trees. Overhead pylons and Cottam Power Station are prominent industrial features and are detracting in this view. The value is very low.
- 1.23.5 Views for vehicle users are fleeting. The susceptibility to change is assessed as low.
- 1.23.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is low.

## 1.24 Viewpoint 22: View northeast from Headstead Bank along Grid Connection Corridor

- 1.24.1 This view is representative of vehicle users on Headstead Bank. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel. The view is also representative of recreational users of PRow Cottam FP3.
- 1.24.2 This is a wide, long distance view orientated east / northeast along the footpath, which is framed by native hedgerows to either side. Medium sized arable fields occupy the foreground and middle ground to either side of the hedgerows. Distant views of fields and dispersed farmsteads are filtered by intervening vegetation and pockets of scrubland along the River Trent. High voltage overhead pylons run along the horizon line visible against the skyline originating from the northwest and receding across the view to the southeast.
- 1.24.3 The Scheme grid connection corridor occupies the fields in the foreground. The overhead pylons focus the view.

### Sensitivity

- 1.24.4 The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements, with fields, hedgerows, bushes and small trees. Overhead pylons are detracting industrial features within the view. The value is low.
- 1.24.5 Views are relevant to the receptors experience but not specific to the reason for visiting. The susceptibility to change is assessed as medium.
- 1.24.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is low.

## 1.25 Viewpoint 23: View south from Cottam Road / Outgang Lane along Grid Connection Corridor

- 1.25.1 This view is representative of vehicle users along Outgang Lane / Cottam Road. The view is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel. The view is also representative of recreational users of the South Leverton BOAT16 byway.
- 1.25.2 This view is a middle distance view orientated south. The view is foreshortened by the built infrastructure associated with Cottam Power Station. A post and rail fence boundary surrounds the scrubland grass adjacent to the power station site. A band of deciduous shrubs and trees lines the western power station boundary. Clusters of trees and sections of hedgerows provide some natural elements in the otherwise industrial view dominated by the power station structures, and parallel sets of high voltage transmission lines, which traverse north to south and into the far distance.
- 1.25.3 The Scheme grid connection corridor occupies the field in the foreground. The transmission lines and power station structures dominate the view.

## Sensitivity

- 1.25.4 The composition of the view consists of mainly industrial elements. Natural elements are common in nature and fulfil a subordinate role. Overhead pylons and the power station at Cottam are highly detracting within the view. The value is very low.
- 1.25.5 Views for vehicle users are fleeting. Views for recreational users of the byway are relevant to the receptors experience but not specific to the reason for visiting. The susceptibility to change is assessed as medium.
- 1.25.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is low.

## 1.26 Viewpoint 24: View northeast from Torksey Ferry Road at the eastern edge of Rampton towards Grid Connection Corridor

- 1.26.1 The view is representative of dwellings along Torksey Ferry Road and dwellings at the eastern extents of the settlement edge of Rampton (The Pastures, Orchard Drive, Glodenholm Lane). It is also representative of vehicle users along Torksey Ferry Road.
- 1.26.2 This view is a middle distance view orientated northeast. The view is foreshortened by the built infrastructure associated with the Cottam Power Station. A fragmented native hedgerow forms the boundary to the arable field in the foreground. Power station structures and parallel running high voltage power lines dominate the horizon to the east and north of the view, which is partially filtered by a small, wooded area (Rampton Thorns). Intervening vegetation and pockets of woodland form a thin horizon line that filters distant views to the north.
- 1.26.3 The Scheme grid connection corridor will occupy the fields in the middle ground. The power line and power station infrastructure form the main focus of this view.

## Sensitivity

- 1.26.4 The composition of the view consists of common landscape elements including fields, some trees and small pockets of woodland. The industrial structures are detracting within the view. The value is very low.
- 1.26.5 Residents of dwellings at the eastern extents of the settlement edge of Rampton can have open or intermittent views from some windows or from gardens of this or similar views. Views for vehicle users are fleeting. The susceptibility to change is assessed as medium.
- 1.26.6 Overall, sensitivity to the proposed Scheme is low.

## 1.27 Cumulative Viewpoints

- 1.27.1 The following 5 viewpoints have been selected to illustrate cumulative views of Gate Burton Energy Park in conjunction with Cottam Solar Farm and West

Burton Solar Farm. An assessment of cumulative visual effects is not yet feasible as the panel layout of Cottam and West Burton Solar Farms is not yet available. Therefore, the location and orientation of cumulative viewpoints will be reviewed again following the receipt of the final layouts of these 3<sup>rd</sup> party solar farms and will be finalised during the ES stage.

## **1.28 Viewpoint C1: View east / southeast of Gate Burton Energy Park and towards Cottam Solar Farm from an access track northeast of Burton Wood**

- 1.28.1 This view is representative of commercial users along this access road originating at Clay Lane. The view is wide and open.
- 1.28.2 This viewpoint is located in close proximity to the proposed Gate Burton Energy Park substation and energy storage area. Potentially combined views of Gate Burton Energy Park and the proposed Cottam Solar Farm will be possible from this location. However, the layout of Cottam Solar Farm has not yet been confirmed, which may result in a relocation of this viewpoint within the vicinity. Potential cumulative visual effects will be determined at ES stage considering the Cottam Solar Farm layout becomes available by then.

### **Sensitivity**

- 1.28.3 The provisional assessment concludes the following:

Value: Medium

Susceptibility: Medium

Sensitivity: Medium

## **1.29 Viewpoint C2: View south from Marton Road of Gate Burton Energy Park and towards Cottam Solar Farm**

- 1.29.1 This view is representative of vehicle users along Marton Road. The view is fleeting to the direction of travel.
- 1.29.2 This view is orientated south-southeast along Marton Road framed by the native hedgerows and field drains forming the field boundaries to either side. The view is foreshortened by rising landform in the centre of the view. Arable fields occupy the middle ground to either side with field boundary vegetation filtering views of dispersed farmsteads. Potentially combined views of Gate Burton Energy Park and the proposed Cottam Solar Farm will be possible from this location. However, the layout of Cottam Solar Farm has not yet been confirmed, which may result in a relocation of this viewpoint within the vicinity. Potential cumulative visual effects will be determined at ES stage considering the Cottam Solar Farm layout becomes available by then.

## Sensitivity

1.29.3 The provisional assessment concludes the following:

Value: Low

Susceptibility: Medium

Sensitivity: Low-Medium

## 1.30 Viewpoint C3-1: View northwest towards Gate Burton Energy Park from B1241 (Normanby Road) south of Normanby by Stow

1.30.1 This view is representative of vehicle users and pedestrians along the B1241 (Normanby Road) between Stow and Normanby by Stow. The view of the Scheme is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel by vehicle.

1.30.2 The view northwest along the road is bounded by native hedgerows, which will likely screen Gate Burton Energy Park in the middle distance. This viewpoint is likely the closest point to Cottam Solar Farm where potential cumulative views of both projects can arise. However, the layout of Cottam Solar Farm has not yet been confirmed, which may result in a relocation of this viewpoint within the vicinity. Potentially successive views resulting in cumulative visual effects will be determined at ES stage considering the Cottam Solar Farm layout becomes available by then.

## Sensitivity

1.30.3 The provisional assessment concludes the following:

Value: Low

Susceptibility: Low

Sensitivity: Low

## 1.31 Viewpoint C3-2: View northeast of Cottam Solar Farm from B1241 (Normanby Road) south of Normanby by Stow

1.31.1 This view is representative of vehicle users and pedestrians along the B1241 (Normanby Road) between Stow and Normanby by Stow. The view of this Scheme is fleeting and oblique to the direction of travel by vehicle.

1.31.2 This long distance and open view is looking northeast from a slightly elevated perspective. Beyond the deciduous native hedgerow, the foreground view comprises a series of medium sized arable fields interwoven with hedgerows. The gently downhill sloping topography affords distant views of fields, hedgerows, and sections of dispersed farmsteads with pockets of woodland



creating a partially wooded horizon before the landform rises towards Ingham Cliff and Glentworth Cliff.

- 1.31.3 Potentially successive views of Gate Burton Energy Park and the proposed Cottam Solar Farm will be possible from this location. Cottam Solar Farm may likely be visible in the foreground of this view. However, the layout of Cottam Solar Farm has not yet been confirmed. Potential cumulative visual effects will be determined once the Cottam Solar Farm layout becomes available, which may result in a relocation of this viewpoint within the vicinity. Potential cumulative visual effects will be determined at ES stage considering the Cottam Solar Farm layout becomes available by then.

### Sensitivity

- 1.31.4 The provisional assessment concludes the following:

Value: Medium

Susceptibility: Medium

Sensitivity: Medium

## 1.32 Viewpoint C4: View northwest from Tillbridge Lane viewpoint towards Cottam Solar Farm, West Burton Solar Farm and Gate Burton Energy Park

- 1.32.1 This view is representative of recreational users of the designated Tillbridge Lane tourist viewpoint adjacent to RAF Scampton.
- 1.32.2 This is a wide, open and long distance view orientated west / northwest. Beyond the deciduous native hedgerow in the foreground, arable fields slope downhill and far into the middle ground. A myriad of medium sized arable fields are interwoven with hedgerows, bands or pockets of trees along with two small reservoirs. The elevated perspective affords views across the flatter topography of the middle ground. Distant views of fields and dispersed farmsteads are filtered by intervening vegetation. Pockets of woodland in the distance create a wooded horizon only punctuated by the cooling towers and chimneys of Cottam Power Station and West Burton Power Station.
- 1.32.3 Combined views of sections of the proposed Gate Burton Energy Park, Cottam Solar Farm and West Burton Solar Farm will likely be possible from this location. Potential cumulative visual effects will be determined at ES stage considering the Cottam Solar Farm and West Burton Solar Farm layouts becomes available by then.

### Sensitivity

- 1.32.4 The provisional assessment concludes the following:

Value: Medium-High

Susceptibility: High

Sensitivity: High

### **1.33 Viewpoint C5: Elevated view west towards Cottam Solar Farm and Gate Burton Energy Park from B1398 Middle Street / Entrance to Cliff Park Farm**

1.33.1 This view is representative of vehicle users along the B1398 (Middle Street) as well as recreational users of PRow Ingh/18/1.

1.33.2 This view is a long distance, open view looking west from an elevated perspective. Open arable fields in the foreground and middle ground recede into the distance. The west sloping topography filters distant views of fields and dispersed farmsteads by ribbons of intervening vegetation. West Burton Power Station is visible along the horizon sitting against the skyline.

1.33.3 Likely combined and successive views of sections of Gate Burton Energy Park and Cottam Solar Farm will be possible from this location. However, the layout of Cottam Solar Farm has not yet been confirmed, which may result in a relocation of this viewpoint within the vicinity. Potential cumulative visual effects will be determined at ES stage considering the Cottam Solar Farm layout becomes available by then.

#### **Sensitivity**

1.33.4 The provisional assessment concludes the following:

Value: Medium

Susceptibility: Low-Medium

Sensitivity: Low-Medium