

National Grid
Cable Tunnel Replacement
Project

Environmental Statement
Volume VI

Appendix 8.2 Visual
Assessment - Tilbury

December 2023



Quality information

Prepared by		Checked by		Verified by		Approved by
BM Consultant Landscape Architect		RM Associate Director - Landscape		RM Associate Director – Landscape		HT Principal EIA Consultant

Prepared for:

National Grid Electricity Transmission

Prepared by:

AECOM Limited
Aldgate Tower, 2 Leman Street
London, E1 8FA
United Kingdom

T: +44 20 7061 7000
aecom.com

© 2023 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	Visual Assessment Tables – Tilbury.....	1
---	---	---

Tables

Table 1: Viewpoint 1: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 near Tilbury Fort	1
Table 2: Viewpoint 2: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 near Tilbury Fort	3
Table 3: Viewpoint 3: PRoW 144 (footpath).....	5
Table 4: Viewpoint 4: Fort Road, adjacent to the rear of properties at Pepys Close, Tilbury.....	7
Table 5: Viewpoint 5: PRoW 72 (footpath).....	9
Table 6: Viewpoint 6: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 to the east of the Tilbury Site	10
Table 7: Viewpoint 7: Saxon Shore Way (PRoW NG 1) to the east of the Gravesend Site	12
Table 8: Viewpoint 8: PRoW NG 2 (footpath) and NCN route 1	13
Table 9: Viewpoint 9: Lower Higham Road, Chalk.....	14
Table 10: Viewpoint 10: Malthouse Field, Denton	15
Table 11: Viewpoint 11: Saxon Shore Way (PRoW NG 1) to the west of the Gravesend Site	16
Table 12: Viewpoint 12: PRoW 68 (footpath) near West Tilbury	17

1 Visual Assessment Tables – Tilbury

1.1.1 This Appendix provides details of the assessment of effects on visual amenity during construction and at operation. The following tables should be read in conjunction with Figure 16.6 'Representative Viewpoint and Visual receptor Locations' and Figure 16.7 'Baseline Photography'.

Table 1: Viewpoint 1: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 near Tilbury Fort

Viewpoint 1: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 near Tilbury Fort			
Approximate Grid Reference	565387, 175268		
Approximate distance (km)	1.0		
Receptor type	Representative of views for recreational and cultural receptors with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites. Viewpoint located within the proposed SSSI		
Baseline description	A view encompassing the industrial riverine Essex coastline adjacent to the River Thames from the England Coast Path (Essex). The footpath with its low sea wall dominates the foreground of the view. A grass field with occasional low scrub vegetation is adjacent to the path with the River Thames visible to the other side of the path. Industrial elements dominate the middle ground. Buildings at the Tilbury sewage treatment works and the freight containers at the container park are observed along the horizon. The loading jetties are also prominent at the coastline. These extend across the middle ground obscuring views of the Kent coastline. The land is flat and forms a narrow band that makes the view truncated with limited views beyond the elements in the middle ground. Twin OHLs are visible including the pylon at the Tilbury site and break the skyline along with the tall lighting columns at the Tilbury container park.		
Value	Low – An ordinary riverine view in which the detracting industrial elements dominate and truncate the view.		
Susceptibility	High - Views for receptors who are engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, whose attention or interest is likely to be focused on the landscape and on particular views (including promoted viewpoints), and views for cultural receptors including visitors to heritage assets, or to other attractions, where views of the surroundings are an important contributor to the experience, are considered to be of high importance indicating a High susceptibility.		
Sensitivity	Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect

Viewpoint 1: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 near Tilbury Fort			
Construction	Within the context of the baseline view, construction work would be an unobtrusive change in the composition of the view. Ground level activities would be heavily screened by the tall coastal wall along the footpath although there might be a perception of an increased construction presence in the vicinity (movement of construction vehicles). Due to the flat terrain and distance, visibility of construction would be primarily limited to tall plant in the background of the view including the three stacks. This work would be short term, reversible and localised around particular tasks such as shaft construction and pylon erection. There is the possibility that spoil storage might be visible although it is likely these would be barely perceptible. At night, there would be lighting to illuminate the construction site during the tunnel construction phase, but this would be viewed within the context of the industrial backdrop of Tilbury.	Small	Minor adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	There would be localised views of the headhouse and SEC, but this will be partially screened by the stacked placement of containers stored at the adjacent Tilbury container park. Much of this is transient in nature so there would be the potential for views if these were depleted in size and scale. When views are available it would be limited to the upper sections of the headhouse, the SEC, and the fencing. The SEC and fencing are semi-transparent in nature. The Sewage treatment works building would also partially screen views in this direction. There would be a net loss of two OHLs within the view.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operational year 1. Mitigation planting to the south of the headhouse may partially screen the building but this would be localised and unlikely to have a substantial effect on views.	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Table 2: Viewpoint 2: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 near Tilbury Fort

Viewpoint 2: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 near Tilbury Fort			
Approximate Grid Reference	565065, 175200		
Approximate distance (km)	1.4		
Receptor type	Representative of views for recreational and cultural receptors with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites. Viewpoint located within the proposed SSSI		
Baseline description	This is an open riverine view looking southeast across the River Thames from the England Coast Path (Essex) with an inland view of the landscape around Tilbury Fort and a longer distance view of the Kent coastline. The fore and middle ground of the view is dominated by the River Thames and the tall sea wall comprised of concrete and corrugated steel pilings. Part of the grassy rampart and gun position at Tilbury Fort is visible in the foreground above the sea wall just beyond the handrail along the footpath. Industrial elements dominate the middle ground. Buildings at the Tilbury sewage treatment works and the freight containers at the container park are observed along the horizon. The loading jetties are also prominent at the coastline. The land is flat making the view truncated with limited views beyond the elements in the middle ground. OHLs are visible including the pylon at the Tilbury site which breaks the skyline along with the tall lighting columns at the Tilbury container park. There are however unobstructed views across the River Thames to the Kent coastline in the background. The Kent landscape forms a narrow band in the background of the view that rises up very slightly from the waterfront to the horizon in the vicinity of Gravesend. The coastline here is largely industrial with units serving the waterfront jetties along the shoreline. OHLs also form a detracting element breaking the skyline. Further east the rise in the landform is more pronounced with large blocks of woodland around Shorne, Higham and Chattenden forming a wooded horizon.		
Value	Low – An open and expansive riverine view largely dominated by detracting industrial elements and an urban and industrial background albeit with the Tilbury Fort ramparts.		
Susceptibility	High - Views for receptors who are engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, whose attention or interest is likely to be focused on the landscape and on particular views (including promoted viewpoints), and views for cultural receptors including visitors to heritage assets, or to other attractions, where views of the surroundings are an important contributor to the experience, are considered to be of high importance indicating a High susceptibility.		
Sensitivity	Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect

Viewpoint 2: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 near Tilbury Fort			
Construction	Within the context of the baseline view, construction work would be an unobtrusive change in the composition of the view. Ground level activities would be heavily screened by the tall coastal wall along the footpath although there might be a perception of an increased construction presence in the vicinity (movement of construction vehicles). Due to the flat terrain and distance, visibility of construction would be primarily limited to tall plant in the background including the temporary presence of the three stacks. This work would be short term, reversible and localised around particular tasks such as shaft construction and pylon erection. There is the possibility that spoil storage might be visible although it is likely these would be barely perceptible. At night, there would be lighting to illuminate the construction site during the tunnel construction phase, but this would be viewed within the context of the industrial backdrop of Tilbury.	Small	Minor adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	There would be localised views of the headhouse and SEC, but this would be partially screened by the stacked placement of containers stored at the adjacent Tilbury container park. Much of this is transient in nature so there would be the potential for views if these were depleted in size and scale. When views are available it would be limited to the upper sections of the headhouse, the SEC, and the fencing. The SEC and fencing are semi-transparent in nature. The Sewage treatment works building would also partially screen views in this direction. There would be a net loss of two OHLs within the view.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operational year 1. Mitigation planting to the south of the headhouse may partially screen the building but this would be localised and unlikely to have a substantial effect on views.	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Table 3: Viewpoint 3: PRow 144 (footpath)

Viewpoint 3: PRow 144 (footpath)			
Approximate Grid Reference	564820, 175937		
Approximate distance (km)	1.5		
Receptor type	Representative of recreational receptors in the vicinity of Tilbury and residential receptors at the southern extents of Tilbury with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites. Viewpoint located within the proposed SSSI		
Baseline description	This is an open view looking southeast across flat fields adjacent to Tilbury towards the River Thames and Kent coastline. A field drain in the immediate foreground leads onto a medium sized field bound by post and wire stock fencing. A grass field with occasional low scrub vegetation and the remnants of larger trees with occasional tree stumps and wood piles indicating that minor clearance work has taken place in the past. Individual clumps of taller vegetation are dispersed along the boundary of the field and into the adjacent field. Industrial buildings associated with the concrete works and the Tilbury sewage treatment works can be seen along the horizon in the middle ground. The roofline of the officers barracks at Tilbury Fort are also visible just below the horizon. The rural landscape around the Kent marshes is visible as it rises up in the background with areas of woodland around Shorne, Higham and Chattenden forming a wooded horizon. OHLs are also observed breaking the skyline to the east and lighting columns at the Tilbury container park are detracting elements breaking the skyline across the middle ground of the view.		
Value	Low - An ordinary rural foreground view where the flat terrain and lack of vegetation allows a wide vista, but with many detracting industrial elements dominating the horizon.		
Susceptibility	High – Views from residential properties are generally considered to be of primary importance, with residents likely to notice even minor change, indicating a High susceptibility. Views for receptors who are engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, are typically focussed on enjoyment of the view. However, in this context it is likely to be equally about access for exercise/dog walking or other activities not linked to the view.		
Sensitivity	Residential – Medium Recreational - Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect

Viewpoint 3: PRoW 144 (footpath)			
Construction	Construction activities would be barely perceptible as a small-scale addition within a largely unchanged panorama. Due to the flat terrain and intervening infrastructure, visibility of construction would be limited to tall plant in the background including the temporary presence of the three stacks. This work would be short term, reversible and localised around particular tasks such as shaft construction and pylon erection. The movement of site deliveries and excavated materials via the A1089 within the vicinity of this viewpoint would be a constant element adding to the perception of development albeit in the context of an already heavily industrialised area. At night, there would be lighting to illuminate the construction site during the tunnel construction phase, but this would be barely perceptible viewed within the context of the lighting columns at the Tilbury container park.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	At operation the Proposed Development would be partially screened by intervening vegetation. Views of the headhouse, SEC and fencing would be barely perceptible and limited to the upper sections of these elements.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	At operation the Proposed Development would be heavily screened by intervening vegetation in leaf. Views of the headhouse, SEC and fencing would be barely perceptible and limited to the upper sections of these elements.	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Table 4: Viewpoint 4: Fort Road, adjacent to the rear of properties at Pepys Close, Tilbury

Viewpoint 4: Fort Road, adjacent to the rear of properties at Pepys Close, Tilbury			
Approximate Grid Reference	565411, 176738		
Approximate distance (km)	1.2		
Receptor type	Representative of residential receptors at the eastern extents of Tilbury with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites. The viewpoint is also representative of road users along the section of Fort Road within the study area, and rail users on the section of the Tilbury loop railway line between East Tilbury and Tilbury Town stations within the study area, with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites.		
Baseline description	A view from Fort Road at the eastern extents of Tilbury across flat rural fields with an industrial backdrop along the horizon. A field drain forms the immediate foreground leading onto two flat fields separated by a further field drain. Overhead telegraph lines cross the field. A line of fragmented boundary vegetation across the middle ground marks the railway line with some associated power columns marking the route. Beyond this, the horizon is dominated by detracting industrial elements. Tall aggregate heaps and palletted materials are uniformly arranged with other industrial buildings and infrastructure present to the south. The Tilbury substation is visible to the southeast with multiple OHLs including the pylon at the Tilbury site breaking the skyline as they converge from the east. The view is truncated with the flat terrain obscuring any longer distance views.		
Value	Low – An open view of ordinary arable land in the foreground that is dominated by the detracting heavy industry elements that form the backdrop of the panorama.		
Susceptibility	High – Views from residential properties are generally considered to be of primary importance, with residents likely to notice even minor change, indicating a High susceptibility. Road and rail users are typically not focussed on appreciation of the view, which is assessed as incidental to their purpose in this case.		
Sensitivity	Residential – Medium Road and rail users - Low		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect

Viewpoint 4: Fort Road, adjacent to the rear of properties at Pepys Close, Tilbury			
Construction	Construction activities would be barely perceptible as a small-scale addition within a largely unchanged panorama. Due to the flat terrain and intervening, visibility of construction would be limited to tall plant in the background including the temporary presence of the three stacks. This work would be short term, reversible and localised around particular tasks such as shaft construction and pylon erection. The vehicular movement of site deliveries and excavated materials via the A1089 within the vicinity of this viewpoint would be a constant element adding to the perception of development albeit in the context of an already heavily industrialised area. At night, there would be lighting to illuminate the construction site during the tunnel construction phase, but this would be barely perceptible viewed within the context of the lighting columns at the Tilbury container park.	Small	Minor adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	At operation the Proposed Development would be partially screened by intervening infrastructure. Much of this is transient in nature (pallets, containers, aggregate stacks) so there would be the potential for views if these were depleted in size and scale. However, views of the headhouse, SEC and fencing would be barely perceptible and limited to the upper sections of these elements and would be viewed within the existing industrial context.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Table 5: Viewpoint 5: PRoW 72 (footpath)

Viewpoint 5: PRoW 72 (footpath)			
Approximate Grid Reference	565500, 177902		
Approximate distance (km)	2.1		
Receptor type	Representative of recreational receptors in the vicinity of Gun Hill and residential receptors at the southern extents of Chadwell St Mary with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites. Viewpoint located within the proposed SSSI		
Baseline description	A view from PRoW 72 at Gun Hill across a disused pit with background views of the River Thames coastline. The excavated bowl of the disused pit dominates the fore to middle ground of the view and consists of a grass field with occasional low scrub vegetation. A line of post and stock wire fencing segregates the field just beyond the footpath. The landform rises up a with indentations and cuttings at the edge of the excavation bowl framing the field. A further line of post and stock wire fencing sits atop the lip of the bowl forming the first horizon line across the middle ground. The terrain falls down beyond this and out of view before taller elements in the distance along the Essex coastline become visible. These include the concrete works and the sewage treatment works at Tilbury, the Tilbury substation and the multiple OHLs that converge around the Tilbury site. The Kent coastline is visible in the background with panoramic longer distance views being observed. The urban townscape of Gravesend is notable including the distinctive roof of the Siri Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara Sikh temple. Windmill Hill is also visible where the terrain rises prominently in this area. The distant view is more rural to the east with open marshland in front of large blocks of woodland around Shorne, Higham and Chattenden that form a wooded horizon.		
Value	Low – An ordinary view from an elevated PRoW with few distinguishing or notable elements other than the expansive views across to the distant landform of Kent. Detracting elements are prominent along the skyline.		
Susceptibility	High – Views from residential properties are generally considered to be of primary importance, with residents likely to notice even minor change, indicating a High susceptibility. Views for receptors who are engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, are typically focussed on enjoyment of the view. However, in this context it is likely to be equally about access for exercise/dog walking or other activities not linked to the view.		
Sensitivity	Residential – Medium Recreational – Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect
Construction	Construction would form a distant barely perceptible element in the central background of the view, observable in periods of exceptional or very good visibility	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The Proposed Development would not be discernible or would occupy such a small part of the view as to represent no change.	No change	Neutral
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	No change	Neutral

Table 6: Viewpoint 6: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 to the east of the Tilbury Site

Viewpoint 6: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 to the east of the Tilbury Site.			
Approximate Grid Reference	567783, 175796		
Approximate distance (km)	1.5		
Receptor type	Representative of middle-distance views for recreational and cultural receptors with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites. Viewpoint located within the proposed SSSI		
Baseline description	An open panoramic view across a flat riparian edge landscape to the fore and middle ground with an urban and industrial backdrop along the horizon. A straight section of the England Coast Path (Essex) leads from the foreground to the middle ground heading west toward Tilbury. The terrain falls down gently to the rivers edge to the southwest where an oblique view along the River Thames leads from the fore to middle ground. The terrain rises up gently across a field to the northwest beyond a post and wire fence line adjacent to the footpath. The field shows signs of recent earthworks along with some low level vegetation although this is reduced compared to the edge of the path and riparian edge. The Gravesend townscape is observed in the distance along the Kent coastline. The land forms a narrow band that rises up slightly from the waterfront to the horizon under a large sky. This is most notable at Windmill Hill. The waterfront jetties serving Tilbury are also noticeable along the rivers horizon. Industrial elements dominate the horizon to the west and northwest of the view. Detracting elements breaking the skyline include the multiple OHLs that diverge from Tilbury including the Tilbury site, the wind turbines at the Tilbury wind farm, and the Tilbury substation. Three tower blocks at Tilbury (Freemantle House) are also perceptible against the skyline in periods of good visibility.		
Value	Medium – An ordinary rural view from the riverine edge offering an element of remoteness and tranquillity. The horizon is dominated by detracting industrial elements making it unlikely to be visited specifically to experience the view.		
Susceptibility	High - Views for receptors who are engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, whose attention or interest is likely to be focused on the landscape are considered to be of high importance indicating a High susceptibility.		
Sensitivity	Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect
Construction	Construction activities would form a narrow element in the centre of the background of the view. Construction would be perceptible within a localised part of the view but would be a constant when travelling west along the footpath. It would be limited to tall elements required during shaft construction and pylon erection including the temporary presence of the three stacks. Construction works would be viewed in the context of a heavily industrialised backdrop. Given the duration and localised extent of change in the view from construction, effects would be of small magnitude.	Small	Minor adverse

Viewpoint 6: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 to the east of the Tilbury Site.			
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The Proposed Development would form a distant, barely perceptible narrow element within the background of the view. The new OHL would be visible but viewed in the same plane as the existing OHLs that diverge from the Tilbury substation. The headhouse, SEC and fencing are likely to be barely perceptible and assimilated into the background of other incongruous elements including the Tilbury sewage works, the Tilbury container park and large buildings at Tilbury Docks. Views along the path would be localised but are also heavily screened in the vicinity by the tall coastal wall. There would be a net loss of two OHLs within the view.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Table 7: Viewpoint 7: Saxon Shore Way (PRoW NG 1) to the east of the Gravesend Site

Viewpoint 7: Saxon Shore Way (PRoW NG 1) to the east of the Gravesend Site.			
Approximate Grid Reference	568075, 174423		
Approximate distance (km)	2.2		
Receptor type	Representative of views for recreational receptors and located within the RAMSAR, SSSI and SPA designated area (South Thames Estuary and Marshes) with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites.		
Baseline description	An open panoramic view looking northwest along the riparian edge of the Kent coastline of the River Thames. The natural sea defences that form the Saxon Shore Way and England Coast Path footpaths lead from the foreground to the horizon. The riparian edge of the River Thames is apparent to the northwest providing oblique views along the river toward London. The Gravesend substation is prominent in the middle ground, breaking the skyline. Loading jetties and floating pontoons along the Kent coastline highlight the industrial rivers edge. The land forms a narrow band along the Essex coastline remaining flat under a large sky. The loading jetties at Tilbury are observed along the Essex coastline set amongst other detracting elements within an industrial backdrop. This includes the Tilbury wind farm along the skyline along with other freight container cranes and associated industrial infrastructure at Tilbury docks. The Tilbury site is visible breaking the skyline along with multiple OHLs that diverge from this location. The landscape become more natural moving away from Tilbury to the northwest. The flat terrain truncates the views into the distance although three tower blocks at Chadwell St. Mary are perceptible in periods of good visibility.		
Value	Low – An ordinary, discordant foreground view of the River Thames but with detracting industrial elements set against an urban and industrial background.		
Susceptibility	High Views for receptors who are engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, whose attention or interest is likely to be focused on the landscape are considered to be of high importance indicating a High susceptibility.		
Sensitivity	Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect
Construction	Construction would form a distant barely perceptible element in the central background of the view, observable in period of exceptional or very good visibility	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The Proposed Development would be barely perceptible occupying such a small part of the view as to represent no adverse change. There would be a net loss of two OHLs within the view.	Negligible	Negligible beneficial
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	Negligible	Negligible beneficial

Table 8: Viewpoint 8: PRoW NG 2 (footpath) and NCN route 1

Viewpoint 8: PRoW NG 2 (footpath) and NCN route 1			
Approximate Grid Reference	568810, 173788		
Approximate distance (km)	3.2		
Receptor type	Representative of views for recreational receptors and located on the disused Thames and Meadway Canal within the RAMSAR, SSSI and SPA designated area (South Thames Estuary and Marshes) with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites.		
Baseline description	A rural view looking west northwest along the footpath and NCN that is dominated by riparian vegetation to either side and OHLs running parallel to the path. A straight section of the footpath leads from the foreground to the horizon. Riparian vegetation marks the presence of a field drain to the northwest adjacent to the Shorne Marshes. Small trees are interspersed with the riparian vegetation to the path edge. These foreshorten longer distance views to the west. The view is dominated by the OHLs that run parallel to the northwestern edge of the path. The flat expanse of the Shorne Marshes occupy much of the visible middle ground to the northwest. The marshes are open and expansive fields with occasional low scrub vegetation and small trees. The OHLs that diverge from Tilbury, and three tower blocks at Chadwell St. Mary are perceptible against the skyline in periods of good visibility in an otherwise flat landscape. The rising wooded landform in the vicinity of Brentwood and Langdon Hills is barely perceptible in the far distance.		
Value	Medium – Relatively open and dominated by the expansive marsh land albeit with the detracting element of the OHL alongside the path and along the horizon. However, highly characteristic of the Kent Marshes and therefore increasing the value.		
Susceptibility	High – Views for receptors who are engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, whose attention or interest is likely to be focused on the landscape are considered to be of high importance indicating a High susceptibility.		
Sensitivity	Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect
Construction	Construction would form a distant barely perceptible element in the central background of the view, observable in periods of exceptional or very good visibility	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The Proposed Development would not be discernible or would occupy such a small part of the view as to represent no change.	No change	Neutral
Operation Year 15 (summer)	The Proposed Development would not be discernible or would occupy such a small part of the view as to represent no change.	No change	Neutral

Table 9: Viewpoint 9: Lower Higham Road, Chalk

Viewpoint 9: Lower Higham Road, Chalk			
Approximate Grid Reference	567399, 173204		
Approximate distance (km)	2.8		
Receptor type	Representative of residential receptors at the northern extents of Chalk with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites.		
Baseline description	A view looking north from the field entrance to Great Clane Lane Marshes framed by two residential dwellings along Lower Higham Road, Chalk. A vehicle access route between rough vegetation forms the centre of the foreground of the view, framed on either side by residential dwellings and their associated fence and hedgerow boundaries. The residential dwellings and their associated vegetation foreshorten the views to either side. The view opens out in the middle ground to reveal the flat, open fields of the Great Clane Lane Marshes. A line of taller vegetation along the boundary is evident just below the horizon. This includes the riparian vegetation bounding the Thames and Medway Canal and some intermittent small trees along the footpath and NCN route. There is also a linear belt of coniferous trees screening part of the National Maritime Training Centre. The linear blocks of the Metropolitan Police Specialist training centre are prominent along the horizon. The OHL pylon at the Gravesend site is also prominent against the skyline. These elements on an otherwise flat terrain limit longer distance views except for the wooded horizon around the elevated terrain in the vicinity of Brentwood.		
Value	Low - Beyond the residential properties framing the foreground there is an open, ordinary view of low value across a field truncated by boundary vegetation and several noticeable detracting elements.		
Susceptibility	High - Residents within properties and their curtilage are considered of high susceptibility to changes in their view.		
Sensitivity	Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect
Construction	Construction of the Proposed Development would not be discernible or would occupy such a small part of the view as to represent no change.	No change	Neutral
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The Proposed Development would not be discernible or would occupy such a small part of the view as to represent no change.	No change	Neutral
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	No change	Neutral

Table 10: Viewpoint 10: Malthouse Field, Denton

Viewpoint 10: Malthouse Field, Denton			
Approximate Grid Reference	567154, 173282		
Approximate distance (km)	2.6		
Receptor type	Representative of residential receptors at the northern extents of Denton with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites.		
Baseline description	A view looking north from the residential edge of Malthouse Field (part of the Denton Ward of Gravesend). A fragmented native hedgerow set behind a low wooden post and rail fence defines the immediate foreground at the end of the residential road. The hedgerow partially screens views from ground level. Properties on Malthouse Field and Barchamber Way occupy the middle ground views to the northwest and truncate longer distance views with the exception of large industrial cranes situated at the Kent coastline. To the northeast the view is open with views across to Great Clane Lane Marshes from the fore to middle ground. A line of tall vegetation along the boundary of the marshes is observed along the horizon. This includes the riparian vegetation bounding the Thames and Medway Canal and some intermittent small trees along the footpath and NCN route. The flat terrain truncates any views into the distance beyond this line of vegetation with the only exception being the line of OHLs that run alongside the Thames and Medway Canal from the Gravesend substation.		
Value	Low – a typical suburban view at the settlement edge with ordinary views across a large open field. Adjacent properties contribute to the setting along with oblique views of OHLs along the horizon.		
Susceptibility	High – Views from residential properties are generally considered to be of primary importance, with residents likely to notice even minor change, indicating a High susceptibility.		
Sensitivity	Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect
Construction	Construction of the Proposed Development would not be discernible or would occupy such a small part of the view as to represent no change.	No change	Neutral
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The Proposed Development would not be discernible or would occupy such a small part of the view as to represent no change.	No change	Neutral
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	No change	Neutral

Table 11: Viewpoint 11: Saxon Shore Way (PRoW NG 1) to the west of the Gravesend Site

Viewpoint 11: Saxon Shore Way (PRoW NG 1) to the west of the Gravesend Site.			
Approximate Grid Reference	566809, 174293		
Approximate distance (km)	1.6		
Receptor type	Representative of views for recreational and work receptors (at nearby industrial and commercial buildings) with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites.		
Baseline description	An open panoramic view across a flat riparian edge landscape to the fore and middle ground with an urban and industrial backdrop along the horizon. The rivers edge is observed in the foreground before opening out onto a large expanse of water that stretches to the middle ground. Loading jetties and small boats are observed along the river edge. The middle ground of the view is dominated by the River Thames. The flat terrain forms a narrow horizon along the background and limits the views beyond the coastal edge to taller elements. The industrial setting of Tilbury forms the background view to the west. This includes detracting elements such as the Tilbury substation and the OHLs that diverge from it and are prominent against the skyline. It also includes the lighting columns at the Tilbury container park and three large blocks of flats at Chadwell St. Mary. There is a more rural background view to the north of the view where trees form a wooded horizon. The rising wooded landform in the vicinity of Brentwood and Langdon Hills is barely perceptible in the far distance.		
Value	Low - An ordinary view from the riverine edge but with detracting industrial elements and set against an urban and industrial background.		
Susceptibility	High – Users of PRoW and long distance routes are typically focussed on enjoyment of the view. Views for receptors at their place of work are typically not focussed on appreciation of the view, which is assessed as incidental to their purpose.		
Sensitivity	Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect
Construction	There is potential for periodic temporary views of tall construction plant/cranes required during shaft construction and pylon erection along with the temporary presence of the three stacks. When present these elements would occupy a distant and very limited/localised extent of the overall panorama for a short period during periods of good visibility. Overall, any construction activity evident in the view would form a barely discernible and small-scale change in a largely unchanged panorama.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The Proposed Development would be barely perceptible occupying such a small part of the view as to represent no adverse change. There would be a net loss of two OHLs within the view.	Negligible	Negligible beneficial
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	Negligible	Negligible beneficial

Table 12: Viewpoint 12: PRoW 68 (footpath) near West Tilbury

Viewpoint 12: PRoW 68 (footpath) near West Tilbury			
Approximate Grid Reference	565919, 177733		
Approximate distance (km)	1.8		
Receptor type	Representative of recreational receptors in the vicinity of Gun Hill and residential receptors at the southern extents of West Tilbury with views to both the Tilbury and Gravesend Sites. Viewpoint located within the proposed SSSI.		
Baseline description	A view from an accessible area of PRoW 68 to the southern extent of West Tilbury in the foot slopes of Gun Hill. The footpath passes through a field. A post and wire boundary fence is observed along the field boundary in the foreground of the view. A block of woodland immediately to the east of the field boundary screens views beyond the field boundary truncating longer distance views in this direction. At the edge of the woodland block the view becomes more open. The rising foot slopes of the adjacent Hall Hill restrict views in this direction. Where the terrain flattens out to the southwest there are more expansive views across the field in the middle ground. The fragmented hedgerow along the field boundary partially filters views of the field beyond. The view becomes more industrial into the distance. Detracting elements including the concrete works, the sewage treatment works, the Tilbury substation, and the railway line and the Bridge road crossing all dominate the Essex coastline. The multiple OHLs that converge around the Tilbury site and the lighting columns at the Tilbury container park all break the skyline. The rising Kent landscape is visible into the distance with the elevated landform of Windmill Hill prominent and visible during periods of good visibility.		
Value	Low - An ordinary rural view with few elements of note but allowing a wide vista across to the intervening marshes albeit set against a heavily industrial and urban backdrop		
Susceptibility	High – Views from residential properties are generally considered to be of primary importance, with residents likely to notice even minor change, indicating a High susceptibility. Views for receptors who are engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, whose attention or interest is likely to be focused on the landscape and on particular views are considered to be of high importance indicating a High susceptibility.		
Sensitivity	Medium		
Assessment scenario	Change	Magnitude of effect	Significance of effect
Construction	Construction would form a distant barely perceptible element in the central background of the view, observable in period of exceptional or very good visibility	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The Proposed Development would form a distant barely perceptible element in the central background of the view, observable in period of exceptional or very good visibility.	No change	Neutral
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	No change	Neutral

