

National Grid
Cable Tunnel Replacement
Project

Environmental Statement

Volume VI
Appendix 16.2 Visual
Assessment Tables -
Gravesend

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Quality information

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1 Visual Assessment Tables – Gravesend

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)	2.3		
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) towards the Kent coastline. The River Thames dominates the fore and middle ground. A section of the sea wall along the England Coast Path (Essex) is visible in the foreground from the elevated viewpoint. Loading jetties connected to the Tilbury coastline extend across the middle ground and obscure part of the Kent coastline. The Kent coastline is largely urban with industrial units serving the waterfront jetties. A block of trees and vegetation is present around the Gravesend promenade to the south. The land forms a narrow band that rises up slightly from the waterfront to the horizon under a large sky. Glimpses of rural land are evident in the background of the view with areas of woodland around Shorne, Higham and Chattenden forming a wooded horizon to the southeast. The pylon at the Gravesend site is 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 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	Construction activities associated with the Proposed Development at Gravesend would be barely perceptible as a small-scale addition within a largely unchanged panorama. Due to the flat terrain and distance, visibility of construction would be limited to tall plant in the background. This work would be short term, reversible and localised around particular tasks such as shaft construction and pylon erection. 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 urban backdrop of Gravesend.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The additional OHL would form a distant barely perceptible element in the background of the view. It would be set in the context of the existing OHL and would be observable in periods of exceptional or very good visibility.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation Year 1. Mitigation planting to the north of the site along with a linear block of trees to the south of the site would help assimilate the structures into the background.	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)	2.6		
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) towards the Kent coastline. The River Thames dominates the fore and middle ground. The Kent coastline is largely urban with commercial and residential dwellings interspersed with trees to the south, and industrial units serving the waterfront jetties to the southeast. A block of trees and vegetation is present around the Gravesend promenade to the south. The landscape becomes more rural towards the east around the marshes. The land forms a narrow band that rises up slightly from the waterfront to the horizon under a large sky. Twin OHLs are visible against the skyline including the pylon at the Gravesend site which are perceptible in periods of good visibility. Glimpses of rural land are evident in the background of the view with areas of woodland around Shorne, Higham and Chattenden forming a wooded horizon to the southeast.		
Value	Low – An ordinary, discordant foreground view of the River Thames, but with detracting industrial elements and set against an urban and industrial background. A low value view unlikely to be visited specifically for enjoyment of it.		
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
Construction	Construction activities would be barely perceptible as a small-scale addition within a largely unchanged panorama. Due to the flat terrain and distance, visibility of construction would be limited to tall plant in the background. This work would be short term, reversible and localised around particular tasks such as shaft construction and pylon erection. 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 urban backdrop of Gravesend	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Viewpoint 2: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 near Tilbury Fort			
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The additional OHL would form a distant barely perceptible element in the background of the view. It would be set in the context of the existing OHL and would be observable in periods of exceptional or very good visibility.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation Year 1. Mitigation planting to the north of the site along with a linear block of trees to the south of the site would help assimilate the structures into the background.	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Table 3: Viewpoint 3: PRoW 144 (footpath): Visual amenity assessment - baseline

Viewpoint 3: PRoW 144 (footpath)			
Approximate Grid Reference	564820, 175937		
Approximate distance (km)	3.2		
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 evident 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
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 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)	3.3		
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
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 5: Viewpoint 5: PRoW 72 (footpath)

Viewpoint 5: PRoW 72 (footpath)			
Approximate Grid Reference	565500, 177902		
Approximate distance (km)	4.3		
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 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 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)	1.7		
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	This is an open riverine view looking southwest across the River Thames from the England Coast Path (Essex) towards the Kent coastline. The terrain falls down gently from the footpath in the immediate foreground with a mixture of low-level vegetation before reaching the river's edge. The River Thames dominates the fore and middle ground with the Tilbury and Gravesend jetties both visible. The Kent coastline is largely urban with commercial and residential dwellings interspersed with trees to the west, and industrial units serving the waterfront jetties to the centre of the view. Windmill Hill is observed as the terrain rises up around Gravesend with the distinctive roof of the Siri Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara Sikh temple perceptible in periods of good visibility. The landform becomes more rural to the south of the view moving away from Gravesend. A mixture of fields with well-defined hedgerows, and marshland are located in front of large blocks of woodland around Shorne, Higham and Chattenden that form a wooded horizon. Twin OHLs break the skyline forming a detracting feature.		
Value	Medium – An ordinary riverine view with few distinguishing elements albeit offering an element of remoteness and tranquillity. The horizon is dominated by the urban and industrial edge of Gravesend making it unlikely to be visited specifically for the enjoyment of 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	Due to the flat terrain and distance, visibility of construction would be a small-scale addition within a largely unchanged panorama, limited to tall plant in the background of the view. This would occasionally break the skyline during pylon erection but would be short term, temporary and reversible in effect.	Small	Minor adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	Views are likely to be limited to the new OHL set in proximity to the existing OHP that would break the skyline. The headhouse building, SEC and fencing are likely to be barely perceptible remaining below the skyline and being sufficiently distant to form a small-scale addition within a largely unchanged panorama.	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Viewpoint 6: English Coast Path (PRoW 146) and NCN Route 13 to the east of the Tilbury Site.			
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1. The proposed mitigation planting is unlikely to affect views from this direction other than assisting to assimilate the Proposed Development into the landscape and provides the vegetative backdrop.	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)	0.7		
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 west 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. Open marshland in the foreground to the southwest consists of large, flat fields with sporadic clumps of low vegetation and small trees. The riparian edge of the River Thames is observed to the northwest providing oblique views along the river towards London. The Gravesend substation is prominent in the middle ground, breaking the skyline and connecting into the OHLs that run parallel to the Thames and Medway Canal. The urban townscape of Gravesend and Denton form a narrow band along the horizon. The loading jetties along the river's edge are also prominent and form an industrial setting to both sides of the river. The Tilbury wind farm is also notable along the skyline along with other freight container cranes and associated industrial infrastructure at Tilbury docks.		
Value	Low - Although set against the banks of the River Thames and Shorne Marshes, the view is heavily influenced by urban and industrial elements of discordant quality and 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 be openly visible in the middle ground of the view. Work at ground level would be noticeable and include the presence of construction plant and activity including vehicular movement and excavated materials adding to the perception of increased development. The presence of spoil storage areas would also form an incongruous element within the view. However, the presence of the construction plant and activity including tall plant machinery would be temporary and reversible in nature and present in the view for a short period of time. Whilst prominent within the view for a short section of the long distance route, the overall focus and characteristics of the wide panoramic views experienced would remain largely unchanged.	Small	Minor adverse

Viewpoint 7: Saxon Shore Way (PRoW NG 1) to the east of the Gravesend Site.			
Operation Year 1 (winter)	Whilst the new OHL would be a dominant element breaking the skyline, it would be visible in proximity to the existing OHL remaining a narrow element within an expansive panorama, much of which is industrial in nature. The headhouse, SEC and fencing would be noticeable adjacent to the existing fencing forming a continuation of this element. The nature of the elevated terrain along the footpath would mean that these elements would remain below the skyline and would be set against the existing vegetation and the tall buildings at the Metropolitan Police Specialist Training Centre. The key features and focus of the view experienced by users of this long distance route would remain largely unchanged.	Small	Minor adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	Small	Minor adverse

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)	1.4		
Receptor type	Representative of views for recreational receptors and located on the disused Thames and Medway 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 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 to either side marks the presence of a field drain to the northwest and the Thames and Medway Canal to the southwest. 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 are perceptible against the skyline in periods of good visibility in an otherwise flat landscape.		
Value	Medium – Relatively open and dominated by the expansive marsh land albeit with the detracting element of the OHL alongside the path. 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	There is potential for periodic temporary views of tall construction plant/cranes required during shaft construction and pylon erection. When present these elements would be barely perceptible but occupy a very limited/localised extent of the overall panorama, visible above the vegetation within the panorama for a short period. Overall, any intrusion in the view would form a small-scale change in a largely unchanged panorama.	Small	Minor adverse
Operation Year 1 (winter)	Due to the intervening vegetation, the Proposed Development is not likely to be more than barely perceptible along this footpath until in proximity of the site. These views would be short term and partially screened by intervening landform. Overall, any change is considered negligible in effect.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1 however mitigation planting to the south of the site would have matured and when in leaf would further screen the views in proximity of the site.	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Table 9: Viewpoint 9: Lower Higham Road, Chalk

Viewpoint 9: Lower Higham Road, Chalk			
Approximate Grid Reference	567399, 173204		
Approximate distance (km)	0.9		
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	The construction would be noticeable seen within the context of the existing OHL tower and development within the view. Work undertaken at ground level would be barely perceptible however taller elements including cranes, would break the skyline and be noticeable within the view. Whilst these would be apparent in mid ground views, the construction activity would be temporary, of a short duration and reversible in nature, and the key components of the view would remain including the intervening fields and marsh.	Small	Minor adverse

Viewpoint 9: Lower Higham Road, Chalk			
Operation Year 1 (winter)	Whilst the new OHL would be a prominent element, breaking the skyline in the view, it would be seen in proximity to the existing OHL occupying a narrow part of the expansive panorama. Views of the headhouse, SEC and fencing would be partially filtered by intervening vegetation. Views would be limited to the upper sections of the headhouse, the SEC, and the fencing with intervening vegetation screening lower parts of the site. The biodiverse roof of the headhouse would help assimilate the building further into the landscape and views.	Small	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1 however mitigation planting to the south of the site would have matured and when in leaf would heavily screen views in proximity of the site.	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Table 10: Viewpoint 10: Malthouse Field, Denton

Viewpoint 10: Malthouse Field, Denton			
Approximate Grid Reference	567154, 173282		
Approximate distance (km)	0.9		
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	There is potential for periodic temporary views of tall construction plant/cranes required during shaft construction and pylon erection, but it would be limited to upper story views from properties at the outskirts of the residential area adjacent to open fields. When present these elements would be noticeable due to proximity but occupy a very limited/localised extent of the overall panorama, visible above the vegetation for a short period. Vehicles using the haul roads would add additional movement within a small horizontal extent of the view, including from vehicle headlights in the winter working hours. These would be in the context of the existing industrial activities within the area. Overall, any intrusion in the view would form a small-scale change in a largely unchanged panorama.	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Viewpoint 10: Malthouse Field, Denton			
Operation Year 1 (winter)	The Proposed Development is likely to be barely perceptible limited to the upper sections of the new OHL. This will be observed in the same viewing plane and scale as the existing OHL and perceived as a continuation of the existing baseline.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	Negligible	Negligible adverse

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)	0.6		
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 looking east 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 evident to the northeast providing oblique views along the river toward Cliffe and the Lower Hope section of the River Thames, and in the direction of the Thames estuary. The middle ground is dominated by large industrial buildings and the elevated section of the loading jetty that links the industrial buildings to the river's edge. This loading jetty passes above the promoted route, breaking the skyline and framing the view beyond. The Gravesend substation is just beyond the loading jetty and subordinate in the view with only the upper section that is visible above the loading jetty being prominent against the skyline in the middle ground. A second smaller jetty is also visible. Several OHLs are visible against the flat terrain which recede into the distance. These are perceptible in periods of visibility. Elevated terrain around Cliffe is barely perceptible in the far distance. Other detracting elements in the view are the large freight vessels that frequent this section of the river. Their notable presence in the view is temporary but frequent.		
Value	Low - An ordinary, discordant foreground view of the River Thames and PRoW foreshortened and enclosed by detracting industrial elements.		
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	Construction would be noticeable in the middle ground of the view in the context of the existing industrial baseline. Work at ground level would be barely perceptible apart from when adjacent to the site. When visible this would include the presence of construction operatives and the vehicular movement of site deliveries and excavated materials adding to the perception of increased development. The presence of spoil storage areas would also be apparent within part of the view. Whilst construction operations including the presence of tall plant machinery would be temporary and reversible in nature, it would form a noticeable feature in the view albeit within an industrial background. It would also be apparent within part of the passing view with open aspects across the Thames estuary and north Kent coastline remaining unaffected.	Small	Minor adverse

Viewpoint 11: Saxon Shore Way (PRoW NG 1) to the west of the Gravesend Site.			
Operation Year 1 (winter)	Whilst the new OHL would be a dominant element that will break the skyline, it will be in proximity of the existing OHL with limited combined effect and remaining a narrow element within a wider panorama, much of which is industrial in nature. The headhouse, SEC and fencing will only be noticeable when adjacent to the site with the existing buildings and infrastructure heavily screening these elements that are set back from the footpath. When adjacent to the site, the nature of the elevated terrain along the footpath will mean that these elements will remain below the skyline and with views being localised and transient in nature.	Negligible	Negligible adverse
Operation Year 15 (summer)	As operation year 1	Negligible	Negligible adverse

Table 12: Viewpoint 12: PRoW 68 (footpath) near West Tilbury: Visual amenity assessment - baseline

Viewpoint 12: PRoW 68 (footpath) near West Tilbury			
Approximate Grid Reference	565919, 177733		
Approximate distance (km)	3.9		
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 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

