

APPENDIX B: LANDSCAPE EFFECTS TABLE (LET)									
Landscape Receptor and Reference	Judged Sensitivity of Landscape			Judged Magnitude of Landscape Effect		Description/ Notes	Overall Effect at Construction Phase	Overall Effect Upon Completion	Overall Effect at 15 Years Post Completion
	Susceptibility to Change	Landscape Value	Overall Sensitivity	Scale or Size of the Degree of Change including degree of contrast/ integration) at Stages of Project	Where applicable, are the Effects Reversible?		Major Moderate Minor Negligible None	Major Moderate Minor Negligible None	Major Moderate Minor Negligible None
	High Medium Low	High Medium Low	High Medium Low	High Medium Low Negligible None	Yes No N/A		Adverse Beneficial	Adverse Beneficial	Adverse Beneficial
National Landscape Character									
Natural England, National Character Area Profile (NCA) 64: ‘Potteries and Churnet Valley’.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Construction: Negligible Completion: Negligible Year 15: Negligible	Yes	This NCA encompasses the city of Stoke on Trent and extends north past Biddulph and east to the outskirts of Ashbourne therefore covers a very extensive landscape area of which the site forms a small part. The site’s pastoral agriculture land use with scattered hamlets and farmsteads with A-roads within the surrounding landscape relate to elements of the description for the NCA. Otherwise the site and its immediate landscape context do not generally reflect the listed key characteristics. The landscape mitigation proposals include a block of native woodland planting along the eastern boundary, which relates to SEO 1 which states: “...<i>Manage, expand, link and buffer the characteristic semi-natural woodland...</i>”. The filling-in gaps in hedgerows and planting new hedgerows with hedgerow trees also relates to SEO 3: “...<i>restoring traditional boundary features to benefit landscape character...</i>”. Overall effects are assessed to be Negligible.	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
Landscape Character Assessment (LCA): County/District									
<u>Staffordshire Moorlands Landscape and Settlement Character Assessment 2008</u> ‘Ancient Plateau Farmlands’ Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Medium / Low	Medium / Low	Medium / Low	Construction: Low Completion: Negligible Year 15: Negligible	Yes	The site is located within the ‘Ancient Plateau Farmlands’ LCT, which forms a small section of the Staffordshire Moorlands. The site reflects some key characteristics of the LCT including the: “...<i>gentle undulating landform... Fields often demarcated by fencing...Dairy farming... Electricity power lines and substation.</i>” The description highlights detracting features and declining Landscape Quality: “...<i>proliferation of incongruous features and the deteriorating condition of existing landscape features.</i>” This relates to the site and surrounding landscape including the field boundaries hedgerows being: “... <i>generally in poor condition... . Power lines and electricity substation are dominant incongruous features within the landscape...Hedges used as field boundaries are poorly maintained with gaps that have been replaced with post and barbed wire fence that is also in poor condition...</i>” The proposed development reflects the character of the adjacent substation, and proposed woodland and hedgerow planting provides opportunities to restore traditional field boundaries and soften views of the substation to the west, along	Minor Adverse	Negligible	Negligible

						with the existing pylons within the site and the built form of the proposed scheme. Overall the proposed effects on the LCT are anticipated to be Negligible.			
<u>Staffordshire Moorlands Landscape and Settlement Character Assessment 2008</u> ‘Ancient Slope and Valley Farmlands’ Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Medium / Low	Medium / Low	Medium / Low	Construction: Low / Negligible Completion: Negligible Year 15: Negligible / None	Yes	The ‘Ancient Slope and Valley Farmlands’ LCT covers a broad area across the district, and the boundary is located immediately adjacent to the site’s eastern boundary where it meets Rownall Road off PRow Footpath ref ‘CH60’. There is limited inter-visibility between the site and the vast majority of this LCT, with only glimpsed views from areas immediately adjacent to the site access off Rownall Road. The site and immediate context reflect only some Key Characteristics, including “ <i>Small scale ... irregular fields bounded by trees and hedgerows,</i> ” along with Rownall Road being a “ <i>Narrow winding lane.</i> ” The site and context also reflect “ <i>Incongruous Landscape Features</i> ” including “ <i>Electricity pylons are intrusive features visible in the landscape. Replacement of hedgerows and drystone walls by replacement by fences that are often poorly constructed.</i> ” Overall, there is extremely limited intervisibility between the site and this LCT. Once established, the proposed woodland planting along the eastern section of the site will soften views of the scheme and of the existing pylons and substation. The proposed scheme could help mitigate incongruous features for this adjacent LCT, therefore effects will be Negligible overall.	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
<u>Churnet Valley Landscape Character Assessment 2011</u> LCT 5 – ‘Ancient slope and valley farmlands’ (Sub-Area 5A: Wetley Rocks)	Medium / Low	Medium / Low	Medium / Low	Construction: Low / Negligible Completion: Negligible Year 15: Negligible / None	Yes	The ‘Wetley Rocks’ sub-area within the Ancient Slope and Valley Farmlands is described within the Churnet Valley Landscape Character Assessment. It forms the area west of Wetley Rocks and Cheddleton, and the westernmost edge of the Churnet Valley. As with the broader level LCT, there is limited intervisibility between the site and the Wetley Rocks sub-area, with only glimpsed views from immediately adjacent to the site access off Rownall Road. The site and immediate context reflect only some ‘Key Characteristics,’ including: <i>“Hedgerows mainly form field boundaries although these can be poorly maintained, left tall with frequent gaps. Infrequent small blocks of woodland include broadleaf and conifer plantations... Minor roads can be narrow, incised and steep linking small farms. Public Rights of Way link through this landscape.”</i> The proposed landscape mitigation measures reflect Landscape Planning Guidelines including: <i>“Field boundaries should be retained, maintained and, in places, replaced to maintain the scale of the landscape. Stone walls or native hedgerows should be used as a means of enclosure dependent upon local character... The planting of small woodlands, hedgerows with associated trees and tree groups can help to restore the vegetation cover and re-articulate the scale of the landscape...”</i> Effects will be Negligible overall.	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
Landscape Character: Site and Immediate Context									
Site and Immediate Context	Medium / Low	Medium	Medium / Low	Construction: High / Medium Completion: Medium Year 15: Low	Yes	The site and immediate context currently comprise agricultural fields and a large electrical substation to the west, which connects to 2 high voltage electrical pylons within the site and a further pylon. Three Public Rights of Way run adjacent to the site. The proposed vehicular access point makes use of an existing access track within the site, which is shared with the substation and Wayfields Farm, and also forms PRow Footpath ref ‘CH60’. Footpath ref ‘CH47’ traverses north to south through the fields to the south of the site and through the woodland adjacent to the site’s western boundary, connecting to Footpath ‘CH53’ which runs adjacent to the northern boundary. The site’s primary land use is pasture, and an agricultural barn and storage area is situated adjacent to the site’s north eastern boundary. A strip of woodland separates the site with the substation, however the structures within the substation are highly visible within the site and surrounding landscape and emit noise which can be heard from most points within the site and adjacent footpaths. There are currently no waterbodies within the site, however a pond marked ‘Reservoir’ lies adjacent to the site’s north eastern boundary, which was dry at the time of the assessment. The landform of the site will change but to a minor	Moderate Adverse	Moderate / Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse

						extent only, with the overall gradient remaining as existing. Earthworks are required for the construction of the infiltration basin in the north western corner and drainage swales / trenches along the proposed access road. 3 category 'U' trees are proposed to be removed as recommended within the Arboriculture Assessment, with 2 category 'C' trees and 1 category 'C' tree group to facilitate construction of the vehicular access. The development proposes to retain the majority of existing trees where appropriate. Gaps within the existing hedgerow field boundaries will be filled-in with suitable native species and where possible, hedgerow trees will be planted within the new sections of hedgerow. A strip of native woodland planting on the eastern boundary will offer enclosure of the scheme once established and will increase the overall tree cover of the site. Other land under control of the applicant to the south of the site / adjacent to the proposed access road is proposed to be managed in order to provide a 10% overall biodiversity net gain. The main improvements will be the ecological value of the grassland, with new hedgerow planting forming a new boundary to the field, with new hedgerow trees and a strip of trees adjacent to the southern boundary of the main land parcel. The grassland proposed to be enhanced with topsoil treatment / stripping or harrowing, green hay seeding methods and as recommended within the ecological appraisal. Proposed surface water drainage features will be seeded with an appropriate native wetland seed mix, increasing the diversity of habitats within the site. The proposed scheme will change the site's character by introducing new features in the form of the 4m high acoustic fencing. The paved surfaces are anticipated to be tarmac for the access road and gravel for the interior surfacing. The proposed electrical infrastructure within the site is anticipated to be smaller in scale in comparison to the adjacent substation and high voltage electrical pylons within the site. The proposed battery storage containers and other built infrastructure are reflective of that visible within the adjacent substation to the west. Once established, the proposed planting will assimilate the built form into the receiving landscape context and provide screening benefits to existing incongruous landscape features of the substation and pylons. Overall, the proposed effects on the landscape of the site at year 15 are anticipated to be Minor Adverse.			
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APPENDIX C: VISUAL EFFECTS TABLE (VET)												
Ref	Receptor Type, Location and photographs (Including approx. no. of dwellings where applicable)	Judged Sensitivity of Visual Receptor			Judged Magnitude of Visual Effects				Description/ Notes	Overall Effect at Construction Phase	Overall Effect Upon Completion (Winter)	Overall Effect at 15 Years Post Completion (Summer)
		Susceptibility to Change	Value	Overall Sensitivity	Distance from Site Boundary (or Built Development where stated) (approx. m/km)	Nature of View	Is the View Temporary or permanent?	Size/Scale of Visual Effect (including degree of contrast/ integration) at Stages of Project		Major Moderate Minor Negligible None	Major Moderate Minor Negligible None	Major Moderate Minor Negligible None
A	Residents to the east off Rownall Road Approx. 6-8 dwellings VPS 4C & 5	High	Medium	High	250m-520m	Partial	Permanent	Construction: Medium / Low Completion: Low Year 15: Negligible	Properties to the east of the site off Rownall Road include Dove Cottage, Home Farm, Rownall Lodge, Rownall Farm and Rownall Hall Farm. The majority of properties do not front onto Rownall Road and residents have no views of the site due to intervening agricultural buildings and vegetation. Dove Cottage fronts onto Rownall Road, and residents likely experience partial or glimpsed views into the site, from both upper and ground floor windows. At construction, machinery and workings will likely be visible through gaps in vegetation along intervening field boundaries. At completion, partial views of the proposed acoustic fencing will likely be possible from upper floor windows. At year 15 woodland planting along the eastern boundary will have established, integrating the development into the landscape and woodland adjacent to the site, softening existing views of pylons and electrical infrastructure within the substation.	Moderate Adverse	Moderate / Minor Adverse	Negligible
B	Residents to the south off Rownall Road including Wayfields Farm, Old Ashes Farm & Mayfield House Approx. 10 dwellings VPS 6 & 7	High	Medium	High	250m-650m	Glimpse / None	Permanent	Construction: Low / Negligible Completion: Negligible Year 15: Negligible	Properties to the south off Rownall Road include Wayfields Farm, Old Ashes Farm and Mayfield House. Residents of some properties experience may some glimpsed views towards the site from upper floor windows. Existing vegetation along intervening field boundaries and agricultural buildings obscure views towards the site. At construction, glimpsed views of machinery may be possible, particularly during the construction of the access road off the existing track / PRoW Footpath 'CH60'. At completion and year 15, glimpsed views of vehicles accessing the site from Rownall Road may be possible from upper floor windows. Views of the storage containers and fencing within the main field parcels will be minimal, and further softened with the establishment of the proposed tree planting to the south of the site.	Minor Adverse	Negligible	Negligible

C	Users of PRow Footpath ref 'CH60' VPS 1 & 2	High	Medium	High	0m-480m	Full	Permanent	Construction: High / Medium Completion: Medium Year 15: Medium / Low	PRow Footpath ref 'CH60' is located within the site. It runs east to west from Rownall Road and forms the vehicular access track to Newfields Farm and the substation. The proposed vehicular access for the site will branch off north from this track, through the field to the south of site's main field parcels. Users of the footpath experience full views of the site, with some screening provided by mature trees along the route. At construction, views of machinery and workings will be possible from the section of the route south of the site during creation of the vehicular access road and drainage ditches. At completion, acoustic fencing may be visible through gaps in the trees along the route and above the existing field boundary hedgerow. Vehicles will also be visible when accessing the site. At year 15, proposed tree planting south of the main field parcels will have established, softening views of the built form / acoustic fencing. Vehicles accessing the site will remain visible along the route.	Major / Moderate Adverse	Moderate Adverse	Moderate / Minor Adverse
D	Users of PRow Footpath ref 'CH53' VPS 4A, 4B & 4C	High	Medium	High	0m-420m	Full	Permanent	Construction: High / Medium Completion: Medium Year 15: Medium / Low	PRow Footpath ref 'CH53' runs adjacent to the site's northern boundary and along the access track to the agricultural fields and barn from Rownall Road. It connects to PRow Footpath ref 'CH47' at the north western corner of the site. Users of the route experience full views into the site from the field access point off the track and through gaps in the trees and over hedgerows along the route. The adjacent substation and pylons within the site are visible from much of the route. Established trees adjacent to the route and along the field boundaries obscure some parts of the site from view. At construction, partial views of construction machinery and workings will be possible, although limited to sections of the route adjacent to the site. At completion, new fencing will likely be visible from points along the route closest to the site. At year 15, proposed hedgerows, trees and woodland planting along the northern and eastern boundary will have established, softening views of the proposed development and screening the existing substation and pylons.	Major / Moderate Adverse	Moderate Adverse	Moderate / Minor Adverse
E	Users of PRow Footpath ref 'CH47' VPS 2, 3 & 4A	High	Medium	High	0m-120m	Full / Partial	Permanent	Construction: High / Medium Completion: Medium Year 15: Medium / Low	PRow Footpath ref 'CH47' connects to Footpath 'CH60' / the vehicular access track to the south. It runs north to south through the fields south of the site and through the woodland adjacent to the substation. Users of the route experience partial views east into the site from the woodland, and full views north from the agricultural fields through wide gaps in field boundary hedgerows. The substation and pylons to the west and within the site are visible from much of the route, along with the noise they emit. At construction, machinery and workings will be visible from much of the route, in particular with the construction of the access road to the east. There will be some separation from this due to the intervening field and hedgerow. At completion, views north from the route will be more enclosed due to the acoustic fencing. At year 15 the proposed hedgerow and tree planting will have established and assimilated into the existing green infrastructure. Views of the fencing and containers north and east of the route will soften, however views will remain shortened.	Major / Moderate Adverse	Moderate Adverse	Moderate / Minor Adverse

F	Users of PRow ref 'CH58' & 'CH59' VP 6	High	Medium	High	0m-640m	Partial / Glimpse	Permanent	Construction: Medium Completion: Medium / Low Year 15: Low	Public Right of Way Footpath ref 'Cheddleton 58' and 'Cheddleton 59' traverse the agricultural fields to the south of the site. Footpath ref 'CH58' connects to the proposed vehicular access track / PRow Footpath 'FP60'. Views into the main field parcels from along these routes are filtered by vegetation along intervening field boundaries south of the site. Glimpsed views of the site and pylons are possible through gaps in the trees and over intervening hedgerow field boundaries, with views becoming more open from higher ground to the south east. At construction, partial views of machinery and workings will be possible during the creation of the access road off the track / Footpath ref 'CH60' from some points, through gaps in intervening vegetation. From further to the south, distant glimpsed views of machinery within the main field parcels may be possible over and through intervening vegetation. At completion, vehicles accessing the site will be possible from some points. Glimpsed views of the acoustic fencing and internal infrastructure may be visible above the proposed fencing from high points along these routes. At year 15, views will be softened with the establishment of the proposed tree planting.	Moderate Adverse	Moderate / Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse
G	Users of PRow ref 'CH19' VP 9	High	Medium	High	730m-1km	Partial	Permanent	Construction: Medium / Low Completion: Low Year 15: Negligible	PRow Footpath ref 'CH19' runs east to west along the rising landform to the north of the site from Thornyedge Road to Rownall Road. Users of the route experience partial views into the site from the higher ground, above intervening field hedgerow boundaries. Pylons within the site and adjacent fields are visible from much of the route. On lower ground to the east and west, views are obscured by the adjacent woodland and vegetation along field boundaries. At construction, partial views of machinery and workings will likely be possible from the higher ground north of the site. At completion, distant partial views of the acoustic fencing will likely be possible from points on higher ground, along with the internal infrastructure through the security fencing. At year 15, proposed hedgerow planting along the northern boundary and within the site will have established, softening views of proposed built form.	Moderate / Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Negligible
H	Users of PRow ref 'CH42' & 'CH43' VP 5	High	Medium	High	400m-1km	Glimpse / None	Permanent	Construction: Negligible Completion: Negligible Year 15: Negligible	Both PRow Footpaths ref 'CH42' and 'CH43' extend broadly to the east from Rownall Road adjacent to Rownall Hall Farm. The landform falls away to the east from Rownall Road, and views towards the site are not possible from either route beyond the point where they meet the road. From this point, glimpsed views of trees and pylons within the site are possible above the rising landform and intervening hedgerows. At construction, some glimpsed views of machinery may be possible from Rownall Road. At completion, only very minor glimpsed views of acoustic fencing may be possible beyond the intervening vegetation, and at year 15 the proposed woodland planting will have established further softening views of the site.	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
I	Users of PRow ref 'CH49' VP 7	High	Medium	High	630m-1.4km	Glimpse	Permanent	Construction: Negligible Completion: Negligible	PRow Footpath ref 'CH49' runs along a residential access track off Rownall Road and traverses the fields to the far south to join Armshead Road. Distant, glimpsed views of the site are possible through gaps in intervening	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

								Year 15: Negligible	field boundary hedgerows from some points, however the site is largely obscured for most of the route. At construction, some glimpsed views of machinery may be possible from some limited points along the route. At completion, only very minor glimpsed views of acoustic fencing may be possible beyond the intervening vegetation, and at year 15 the proposed hedgerow and tree planting south of the site will have established, further softening views.			
J	Users of Rownall Road VPS 1, 4C & 5	Medium	Medium	Medium	0m-1.5km	Partial / Full	Permanent	Construction: Medium / Low Completion: Low Year 15: Negligible	Rownall Road is a narrow, winding country road which runs broadly north to south from Werrington to meet Thornyedge Road approx. 1.5km north of the site. Views into the site from the majority of the route are obscured by vegetation along the road and intervening field boundaries. The main vehicular access into the site is located along an existing track and Public Right of Way is accessed from the road, adjacent to the junction with Mill Lane. Here there are more open views along the proposed access track. At construction, partial views of machinery and workings may be possible through gaps in the vegetation. At completion and year 15, vehicles accessing the site from along the existing vehicular access track will remain visible from points adjacent to the site boundary. Glimpsed views of the fencing and infrastructure within the main field parcels may be possible from gaps in the vegetation along the road at completion, which will be obscured by the proposed hedgerow, tree and woodland planting along the eastern boundary as it establishes at year 15.	Moderate/ Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Negligible
K	Users of Mill Lane VP 1	Medium	Low	Medium	5m-260m	Glimpse	Permanent	Construction: Low Completion: Negligible Year 15: Negligible	Mill Lane runs east across the falling landform from the junction of the site access track / PRoW Footpath ref 'CH60' off Rownall Road to join Main Street at Wetley Rocks to the east. There are no views of the site from the route until it reaches the higher ground at the junction off Rownall Road, where a view of the access track is possible across the road. There are only glimpsed views of the main field parcels of the site possible from this point. At construction, full views of construction machinery and workings may be possible during the creation of the access road. At completion and year 15, vehicles accessing the site from along the existing vehicular access track will remain visible from the junction. Views towards the proposed facility and new access road will be further obscured by the proposed woodland, hedgerow and tree planting once established at year 15.	Minor Adverse	Negligible	Negligible