

Appendix 6E – Visual Assessment

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Introduction

1.1.1 This appendix sets out the visual assessment for the LVIA. It is to be read in conjunction with the Baseline Descriptions and Sensitivity Assessment in **Appendix 6C**.

1.2 Visual Assessment

1.2.1 The Viewpoint / Visual Receptor assessments are set out in **Table 6E-1** below:

Table 6E-1 – Visual Assessment

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 1 – Junction of Footpaths MAE/13/4 and MAE/15/2 (upper slopes)	High	<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>The proposed western OHL route passes in the vicinity of the junction of Footpaths MAE/13/4 and MAE/15/2. During construction phase, the Project will have a temporary adverse effect on users of the two public rights of way.</p> <p>From the junction, there will be views of construction machinery and vehicle movements as the overhead line poles are erected. There will be a diversion required for a period during the construction phase for users of Footpath MAE/13/4(details of diversion routes would be confirmed at construction stage). As the junction is located only 175m to the south of the proposed overhead line route, users of the footpaths will be within very close proximity to the construction activities and their enjoyment of the views will be significantly impacted.</p>	<p>Major and Significant (Short term, direct and negative)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>The magnitude of change for users of the footpaths during construction would be High (western OHL).</p>	
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>The view from this location is orientated towards northeast where the proposed western OHL would be visible against the upper slopes of Foel y Dyffryn. Users of the footpaths will experience near distance views of the OHL because of its proximity to the route, where the overhead lines will appear prominently in the view due to the openness of the landscape. Despite its tall height, the materiality of the wooden poles and the uniformity created from the repetition of poles on the route will allow it to blend in with the landscape, reducing its visual effects.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for users of the footpaths during operation would be Medium (western OHL).</p>	<p>Major to Moderate and Significant (Long term, direct and negative)</p>

Cumulative Assessment – Viewpoint 1

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
<p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project</u></p> <p>Foel Trawsnant Grid Connection (overhead line and underground cable route) will be situated immediately west of the Project. This would result in high intervisibility, although the western OHL will be viewed as a continuation of the application development in views towards west. This would result in a Low magnitude of change for this viewpoint location.</p> <p>Additional Magnitude (PD Only) - Medium Additional Effect (PD Only) – Major to Moderate and Significant (western OHL) Combined Magnitude (Application Sites and PD) – Medium Combined Effect (Application Sites and PD) – Major to Moderate and Significant (Foel Trawsnant Grid Connection).</p> <p>The nature of these effects would be permanent, cumulative, direct and negative.</p>			

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 2 – Foel y Dyffryn (summit)	High	<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>From this viewpoint, visitors to the area of Open Access Land on Foel y Dyffryn’s summit will experience views of the proposed western OHL in views looking towards southeast south of the summit on the upper slopes just below. The OHL will occupy a signification portion of the view frame’s middle ground, especially to the right side where higher elevated slopes will contribute to its visibility.</p> <p>During construction, visual receptors will be able to experience short distance views of construction machinery and vehicle movement across the middle ground. Although these will be viewed in context with the urban settlement of Maesteg in the background, these elements will appear prominently in the frame and the views experienced will from a short distance, therefore they will be seen as a large uncharacteristic element in the view contrasting with the mostly rural character of the surrounding landscape. These will have an effect on the high levels of tranquillity experienced within this view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for visitors to the OAL during construction would be High.</p>	<p>Major and significant (western OHL) (Short term, direct and negative)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>At operation, all construction activity will have ceased and shall have no effect on the views experienced.</p>	<p>Major to Moderate and significant</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>In this view, the OHL would be backclothed by the upper slopes of Foel y Dyffryn, located just southeast of the viewpoint, and the coniferous forest plantations on Rhiw Tor Cymry, which will introduce darker shades of green to the view frame. Against these elements in the background, the materiality of the wooden poles of the proposed OHL enable it to blend in with the forested background, slightly reducing its effect on the view. Nonetheless, the taller heights of the poles make them readily noticeable in the view frame when compared with other elements in the frame, which are smaller in scale.</p> <p>From the centre of the view frame and towards the left, the proposed OHL begins to decrease and then disappears entirely as the route traverses downslope of Foel y Dyffryn, eventually being covered entirely by the intervening landform in the foreground.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for this viewpoint and visitors to the OAL during operation is assessed to be Medium (western OHL).</p>	<p>(Long term, direct and negative)</p>

Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 2 – Foel y Dyffryn (summit)

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
<p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project</u></p> <p>The Y Bryn application Wind Farm (Application for up to 18 No. wind turbines) will be located just south of this location, on the slopes of Rhiw Tor Cymry. A portion of the application wind farm would be visible in the middle ground of views experienced from VP 2, resulting in low intervisibility with the Project. The wind turbines would be visible just behind the proposed western OHL in views towards southeast to visitors of the OAL and Foel y Dyffryn summit. Although the wind turbines will be a new element introduced to views from this location, it would be seen in conjunction with built development from the valley settlements below and would only take up a small portion of the view. This would result in a Low magnitude of change.</p> <p>Additional Magnitude (PD Only) - Medium Additional Effect (PD Only) – Major to Moderate and Significant (western OHL) Combined Magnitude (Application Sites and PD) – Medium Combined Effect (Application Sites and PD) – Major to Moderate and Significant (Y Bryn Wind Farm).</p> <p>The nature of these effects would be permanent, cumulative, direct and negative.</p>			

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 3 – A4063	High	<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>During construction, there would be views of construction machinery and vehicle movement experienced by residents, road users and pedestrians during the construction of the proposed western UGC.</p> <p>Although the location already has low levels of tranquillity at baseline as it is a major road in Maesteg and experiences high levels of vehicle movement, construction activities would nonetheless still introduce a temporary adverse effect on tranquillity during the construction period.</p> <p>Excavation and trenching activities related to the construction of the underground route would be highly disruptive and affect the visual amenity for receptors of this location, particularly as these would be experienced within very close proximity and in a contained location due to the narrow width of the A4063.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for users of the footpaths and residents during construction would be High (western UGC).</p>	<p>Major and Significant (residents), Major to Moderate and Significant (road users) (Short term, direct and negative)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>At Operation, all construction activity will have ceased and shall have no effect on the landscape character.</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (all receptors) (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>As the route will be underground from this location, there will be no changes to views compared to the baseline situation.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for residents, road users and pedestrians during operation is assessed to be Negligible (western UGC).</p>	
Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 3 – A4063			
Cumulative assessment	<p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project</u></p> <p>From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.</p> <p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project</u></p> <p>From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.</p>		

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 4 – Junction of Footpath MAE/1/2 and Byway MAE/12/1 / 23/37/5		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>Despite the proximity of this viewpoint to the location of the western UGC, it would not be visible as it will be hidden from view by the houses and vegetation in the middle ground.</p> <p>From this location, there are clear views towards east of Mynydd Caerau, where there will be long distance views of a section of the proposed eastern OHL in the background as it traverses the hillside. Construction activities and vehicle movement in that location will introduce a minor temporary adverse effect to the view experienced from this location. Buildings from the settlement of Caerau which appear in the middle ground will appear more prominently within the view frame. As the construction activities will appear in the background of the view frame, the effect on visual receptors is very limited.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for users of the footpath/bridleway during construction would be Negligible (eastern OHL).</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (Short term, direct and neutral)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>At Operation, sections of the proposed eastern OHL will be visible in the background of the view, backclothed by landform as it traverses upslope of Mynydd Caerau, and eventually forming part of the skyline in the centre left position of this view. To the right of the proposed</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>eastern OHL and towards centre of this view frame, wind turbines from the Upper Ogmere Wind Farm will appear more prominently visible, as they are dispersed throughout the skyline, and as they are of a larger scale.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for users of the footpath during operation would be Negligible (eastern OHL).</p>	

Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 4 – Junction of Footpath MAE/1/2 and Byway MAE/12/1 / 23/37/5

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 5 – Rathbone Terrace / Protheroe Street		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>During the construction of the proposed western UGC, there would be partial views of a construction machinery and vehicle movement experienced by residents, road users and pedestrians. Excavation and trenching activities related to the construction of the underground route would be highly disruptive for the visual receptors. However, views of the construction activities will be experienced from a medium distance and would be framed by residential development on both sides of Protheroe Street, greatly reducing the effect of activities for visual receptors at this location. For road users and pedestrians, the construction would be viewed in combination with traffic along the A4063 and effects on tranquillity would be negligible.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for visual receptors during construction would be Low (western UGC).</p>	<p>Moderate to Minor (residents) and Minor (road users) (Short term, direct and neutral)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>All construction activity will have ceased and shall have no effect on the landscape character during operations.</p> <p>As the route will be underground from this location, there will be no changes to views compared to the baseline situation.</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (residents) and Negligible (road users) (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		The magnitude of change for residents, road users and pedestrians during operation is assessed to be Negligible (western UGC) .	
Cumulative Assessment - Viewpoint 5 – Rathbone Terrace / Protheroe Street			
<p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project</u> From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.</p> <p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project</u> From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.</p>			

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 6 – Footpath MAE/9/1		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>The construction phase for the proposed eastern OHL will have a temporary adverse effect on users of Footpath MAE/9/1 as it lies just 150m north of this public right of way. Construction activities will introduce vehicle movements along a track located towards north of the footpath. There will be some minor visual intrusion coming from the activities will also be experienced as the overhead lines are erected.</p> <p>From this location, views of the construction activities will be experienced in the background of views, occupying a small portion of the view frame. These would be viewed with similar elements such as the communications mast and overhead lines from the Caerau Substation which also appear in the background. These reduce the effect that the construction activities would have for visual receptors.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for users of the footpath during construction is therefore assessed to be Low (eastern OHL).</p>	<p>Minor (eastern OHL) (Short term, direct and negative)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>During its operations, there will be partial views of the eastern OHL of the Project in views towards north of the footpath. Views will be experienced from a lower elevation, with the proposed OHL appearing</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>in the background at the same elevation as the existing overhead line poles. The eastern OHL would have intervisibility with the Caerau Substation in the background, resulting in these elements being viewed as one group. Its wooden poles would allow it to blend in with the vegetation on the hillside, reducing its effects. The communications mast and overhead lines from the substation behind would also be more noticeable as they are in a higher elevation compared to the route and will appear more prominently in the skyline.</p> <p>The magnitude of change for users of the footpath during operation would be Negligible (eastern OHL).</p>	

Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 6 – Footpath MAE/9/1

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 7 – Croeserw Social Club carpark		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>From this location, views of construction vehicles and machinery during the construction of the proposed eastern OHL will be experienced as glimpses views as the route will be heavily screened by the fencing and dense vegetation cover of trees and shrubbery in the foreground. Despite the proposed eastern OHL being located only 50m away from the viewpoint location, it will be at a lower elevation, therefore it would be obscured by elements in the foreground as many features of the route will appear below the line of sight.</p> <p>The magnitude of change is judged to be Low (eastern OHL).</p>	<p>Moderate to Minor (Residents), Minor (road users and recreational users) (Short term, direct and neutral)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>The visual receptors would experience views of the proposed eastern OHL in views to the south. The OHL would occupy a little portion of the view and would hardly be noticeable as it will be screened by the fencing and dense vegetation in the foreground. As the OHL will be positioned at a lower elevation, only its upper half would be visible from this location. These would be seen in combination with the communications mast at the Caerau Substation towards the right side, which will be much more noticeable as it will not be obscured by vegetation because of its taller height.</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (residents and road users) and Negligible (recreational users) (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		Given that there are limited views of the proposed OHL from this location, the magnitude of change during operation would be Negligible (eastern OHL) .	

Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 7 – Croeserw Social Club carpark

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 8 – Footpath MAE/3/2		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>From this viewpoint location, there will be fragmented long-distance views in the left side of the view frame of construction vehicles and machinery during the construction of the western section of the proposed eastern OHL just below Croeserw. From this distance, vehicle movement and machinery introduced by construction activities would appear to be similar to those in the Croeserw, specifically along Bryheulog Road, and so the effect would be negligible in that location.</p> <p>Towards centre and to the right side of the view frame, the location of the OHL will be closer to the visual receptor and therefore the scale of change and effect from the construction activities will be greater. There would be disruption for receptors as the construction activities will introduce vehicle movement to the area and will require the use of the footpath. However, the location where the poles will be erected will be partially obscured by vegetation and hidden from view by the intervening landform in the foreground, reducing the effect on receptors.</p> <p>The magnitude of change is judged to be Medium (eastern OHL).</p>	<p>Major to Moderate and significant (Short term, direct and negative)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>The visual receptors would experience views of the western section of the proposed eastern OHL in views to the northwest. Towards left of</p>	<p>Moderate to Minor (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>the view frame, there will be long-distance views of the OHL would be backclothed by the hillside below Croeserw. In these views, the OHL would be viewed as part of the area of urban development in Croeserw.</p> <p>As the OHL progresses further east, views will turn into short distance glimpsed views, where the OHL will occupy a small horizontal portion of the view as it will be screened by vegetation in the foreground. The wooden poles of the overhead lines will not be readily noticeable as its materiality and colour will help it to blend in with the forest setting.</p> <p>The magnitude of change during operation would be Low (eastern OHL).</p>	
<p>Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 8 – Footpath MAE/3/2</p>			
<p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project</u> From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.</p> <p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project</u> From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.</p>			

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 9 – Bridleway 23/19/1 (Tarren Rhiw-Ilech)		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>From this location, there will be long distance views of construction vehicles and machinery in the upper slopes of Mynydd Caerau which appears in the left side of the view frame during the construction of the proposed eastern OHL. In that location, the OHL will appear as a new element that is uncharacteristic of the landscape, but they would appear small in scale and will occupy a small portion of the view as the OHL is located at a distance, being approximately 1.1km to the south of the viewpoint. In addition, the effects of the construction activities will be greatly reduced as they will not be noticeable considering that there are many other elements visible because of the wide nature of views experienced in this location.</p> <p>The magnitude of change is judged to be Low (eastern OHL).</p>	<p>Moderate to Minor (Short term, direct and neutral)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>During operations, there will be long-distance views experienced of a section of the proposed eastern OHL as it travels eastward through the slopes of Mynydd Caerau. This section of the Project would result in a slight but detectable impact to views as it will occupy a small portion of the view because of the distance and will be viewed in conjunction with the wind turbines in Upper Ogmored Wind Farm which appears in the skyline behind. As the eastern OHL will originate from a location in the village of Croeserw, the route will appear to be a</p>	<p>Moderate to Minor (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>continuation of the urban development, further decreasing the visual effect for receptors.</p> <p>The magnitude of change during operation would be Low (eastern OHL).</p>	
<p>Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 9 – Bridleway 23/19/1 (Tarren Rhiw-Ilech)</p>			
<p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project</u> From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.</p> <p><u>Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project</u> From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.</p>			

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 10 – Footpath GWV/63/1 (Werfa)		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>At this location, users of the footpath will experience views of construction activities for two sections of the proposed route – the eastern OHL and eastern UGC. The high levels of tranquillity experienced in the area would also be adversely affected by the introduction of construction activities.</p> <p>There will be visibility of vehicles and machinery during the construction of the proposed eastern OHL, however its effects will be greatly reduced as these will be viewed from a distance. Construction vehicles would also be utilising the existing track within the Upper Ogmore Wind Farm, and so it would not introduce a significant change to its current usage.</p> <p>In comparison, as the proposed eastern UGC will be located right at the footpath, excavation and trenching activities related to the construction of the underground route would be highly disruptive for users of the footpath and construction activities will have a significant impact on these visual receptors as effects would be experienced from a very short distance.</p> <p>The magnitude of change is judged to be Low (eastern OHL) and High (eastern UGC).</p>	<p>Minor (eastern OHL) (Short term, direct and neutral) and Major to Moderate and significant (eastern UGC)</p> <p>(Short term, direct and negative)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>At Operation all construction activity will have ceased and shall have no effect on the landscape character.</p> <p>While the eastern OHL will introduce a new element to the landscape, it will occupy a small portion of the view frame because of the angle of the view from this location. Additionally, its effects would be reduced because of other existing elements in the landscape that are similar – the track inside the Upper Ogmores Wind Farm which will run parallel to the OHL and the fencing located on the boundary which is made of timber and wire, materials similar to that of the OHL. Wind turbines would also be seen in the skyline as they are a larger scale and would therefore more visibly prominent.</p> <p>As the eastern UGC will be underground, it will have a negligible effect on visual receptors for this view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change during operation would be Negligible (eastern OHL and eastern UGC).</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (eastern OHL and eastern UGC) (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 10 – Footpath GWV/63/1 (Werfa)

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 11 – Footpath GWV/103/4 (Mynydd Llangeinwyr – Werfa)		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>Views of construction activity along limited sections of both the proposed eastern OHL and proposed eastern UGC will be visible in the distance, just above the centre of the view frame. Due to their scale and remote positioning, these elements will occupy only a small portion of the view and will be hardly distinguishable as it will be viewed in conjunction with the wind turbines in the skyline. The surrounding landform provides a natural backdrop and will help to obscure the construction activities, making them hardly noticeable from long-range views. The construction activities will not draw immediate attention from footpath users and impact on tranquillity will be minor.</p> <p>The magnitude of change is judged to be Low (eastern OHL and eastern UGC).</p>	<p>Moderate to Minor (eastern OHL and eastern UGC) (Short term, direct and neutral)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>The proposed eastern overhead line will be visible in the long distance, but it will be hardly noticeable because it will occupy a small portion of the view frame, blending in with the coniferous plantations to its foreground and wind turbines to the background. The wooden poles of the overhead line will camouflage with the colours and tones of the hillside in the background. The proposed underground route will not be visible at all as it is underground and so its effects would be negligible.</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (eastern OHL and eastern UGC) (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>The proposed eastern UGC, as it will be entirely underground, will remain hidden from view and will have a negligible visual impact.</p> <p>The magnitude of change during operation would be Negligible (eastern OHL and UGC).</p>	

Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 11 – Footpath GWV/103/4 (Mynydd Llangeinwyr – Werfa)

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project
 From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project
 From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 12 – Footpath MAE/4/3		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>From this view point, users of Footpath MAE/4/3 will experience long-distance views of construction activity associated with the proposed eastern OHL. The Project will be experienced in the background of views, resulting in minimal visual impact. The movement of construction vehicles at the site will resemble existing traffic movement along the A4063 and Brynheulog Road, therefore its effects on tranquillity is assessed to be negligible. The intervening hills in the foreground take up a significant portion of the view and will help to obscure the construction activities in views experienced.</p> <p>The magnitude of change is judged to be Negligible (eastern OHL).</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (Short term, direct and neutral)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>Views experienced of the proposed eastern OHL will be long-distance views, where its presence will be subtly integrated into the landscape. At such distances, the proposed OHL is barely distinguishable from other elements of urban development in areas like Maesteg and Croeserw, blending seamlessly with the built environment in those areas.</p> <p>Additionally, elements such as wind turbines and communication masts also appear in the view and are much more noticeable because</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>they appear more frequently or are of a larger scale than the features of the proposed eastern OHL.</p> <p>The magnitude of change during operation would be Negligible (eastern OHL).</p>	

Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 12 – Footpath MAE/4/3

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project

While the location of the Adventure Resort application development is within the view frame, there will be no visibility of the site as it will be hidden from view by intervening landforms. Therefore, from this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. It is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 13 – Footpath MAE/3A/2 (Darren Y Bannau)		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>From this viewpoint, there will be intermittent glimpses of vehicles and machinery appearing in the background during the construction phase of the proposed eastern OHL. However, visibility of these activities will be significantly restricted and largely screened by the dense coniferous vegetation in the foreground. Occasional gaps within the vegetation will allow fleeting views, but due to their infrequency and the overall density of the vegetation, construction activities will be barely distinguishable and may appear as part of the urban development in the village of Croeserw, which is adjacent.</p> <p>The magnitude of change is judged to be Negligible (eastern OHL).</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (Short term, direct and neutral)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>Visual receptors at this location will experience intermittent long-distance views of the proposed eastern OHL, primarily through gaps in the foreground vegetation. The visible portion of the proposed eastern OHL will be backclothed by the adjacent hillside, where its wooden poles appear to blend in with the natural landform because of similarities in hue and material, therefore reducing its visual prominence. Given the distance, the overhead line will occupy only a minor segment of the overall view in the background, and its components will be difficult to discern against the landscape. Additionally, there is a presence of other existing modern</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>infrastructure, such as wind turbines visible on the distant skyline, and so the presence of the proposed OHL would not introduce an uncharacteristic feature to the established landscape character.</p> <p>The magnitude of change during operation would be Negligible (eastern OHL).</p>	

Cumulative assessment - Viewpoint 13 – Footpath MAE/3A/2 (Darren Y Bannau)

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
Viewpoint 14 – Mynydd Pwll-yr-lwrch (off Footpath MAE/59/1)		<p><u>Proposed view During Construction</u></p> <p>During the construction phase, receptors at this viewpoint, located approximately 1.7 kilometres south of the proposed eastern OHL, will experience distant views of construction vehicles and machinery. These elements will be visible through a wide gap in the coniferous vegetation and contained by the landforms on either side of the view, forming a natural frame to the view. Although the construction activities will be fully visible within this corridor, they will occupy only a minor proportion of the overall composition and, given the substantial viewing distance, will hardly be noticeable in the view.</p> <p>The frequent movement of construction vehicles is anticipated to be consistent with existing traffic patterns observable along the A4063 and Brynheulog Road, which can also be visible from this location. The magnitude of visual change introduced by construction activity is therefore assessed to be Low (eastern OHL).</p>	<p>Moderate to Minor (Short term, direct and neutral)</p>
		<p><u>Proposed view During Operation</u></p> <p>At this viewpoint location, visual receptors will experience long-distance views of the westernmost section of the proposed eastern OHL, which is visible in full as it extends through the middle ground of the composition. Coniferous plantations situated on either side of the foreground act as a natural frame, directing focus towards the proposed OHL which appears in the centre.</p>	<p>Minor to Negligible (Long term, direct and neutral)</p>

Receptor & Representative Viewpoints	Sensitivity Rating (as defined in Appendix 6C)	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect
		<p>The route is observed crossing the hillside below Croeserw, where it will appear to blend in with other existing infrastructure, such as the overhead lines and communications mast located at the Caerau Substation. Wind turbines present along the distant skyline contribute to the urban elements of the baseline landscape. Given the viewing distance, the proposed eastern OHL is seen to integrate with these existing elements and appears to be a component of the urban development at Croeserw, therefore resulting in very limited effects brought by the Project for receptors at this location.</p> <p>The magnitude of change during operation would be Negligible (eastern OHL).</p>	

Viewpoint 14 – Mynydd Pwll-yr-lwrch (off Footpath MAE/59/1)

Cumulative assessment

Cumulative Assessment: Consented Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.

Cumulative Assessment: Application Sites + Project

From this viewpoint, there will be no intervisibility with consented sites and applications. Therefore, it is assessed that there would be no cumulative effects with consented sites and the Project.