

Landscape Receptor	Sensitivity	Development Phase	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect (residual)	Assessment Rationale
Trees and Hedgerows	Hedgerows: Medium Trees: High	Construction (short-term)	Low (hedgerows) Negligible (trees)	Hedgerows: Minor adverse (not significant) Trees: Negligible (not significant)	The Proposed Development would be offset from the existing boundary vegetation hedgerows and hedgerow trees to provide a clear maintenance and access route, prevent any conflicts with the construction or operation of the development and also ensure that all Root Protection Zone and canopies are protected. The hedgerows and trees at the perimeter of the site would be protected during the construction phase and removal of a single poor quality ash tree (T2) and a poor quality hawthorn hedge (H1). These removals would be required to facilitate the development as set out in the separate Arboricultural Implications Assessment by SLR. A new species rich hedgerow would be planted along the northern site boundary and notable areas of new woodland planting would be planted as illustrated on the Landscape Strategy Plan. The method for laying underground services with trenching is not anticipated to cause any adverse impact upon existing hedgerows or trees. As part of the Proposed Development, the hedgerow along Ashton Road to the eastern site boundary would be allowed to grow up to a similar height to the hedge on the opposite of Ashton Road. A new woodland belt would be planted behind the existing hedgerow to enhance the screening potential of this planting. Native woodland upon low level earth mounding to the southern and eastern boundary of the Site would provide beneficial green infrastructure in addition to reducing the visibility of the proposed built structures. This planting
		Operation Year 1 (medium-term)	Low (hedgerows) Negligible (trees)	Hedgerows: Minor adverse (not significant) Trees: Negligible (not significant)	
		Operation Year 15 (medium-term)	Negligible (hedgerows) Low (trees)	Hedgerows: Negligible (not significant) Trees: Moderate Beneficial (not significant)	
		Decommissioning (short-term)	As Operation Year 15	As Operation Year 15	

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					would be in keeping with the pattern and species composition of local planting.
Crops/ grassland	Low	Construction (short-term)	Medium	Minor Adverse (not significant)	The existing agricultural ground is intensively managed vegetation that is replaced annually. From a landscape perspective the sensitivity of the landcover is considered to be low. The crop would be removed during the construction phase, noting that it comprises a small part of the overall agricultural land in the locality. Following the completion of the construction stage, areas surrounding the buildings, hardstanding and perimeter screen planting would be sown with a suitable species-rich grassland mixes to benefit biodiversity as illustrated on the Landscape Strategy Plan.
		Operation Year 1 (medium-term)	Low	Minor Beneficial (not significant)	
		Operation Year 15 (medium-term)	Low	Minor Beneficial (not significant)	
		Decommissioning (short-term)	Low	Minor Beneficial (not significant)	
Topography	Medium	Construction (short-term)	High	Major Adverse (not significant)	The design of the Proposed Development, is cut into the slope, however the prevailing topography of the wider landform would be retained, noting that the landform acts as an important background to the development and restricts views to the proposed development from the Cotswold Water Park to the west. The would be notable excavation of the Site to form development platforms and utilisation of some of the excavated material to
		Operation Year 1 (medium-term)	Medium	Moderate Adverse (not significant)	

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The Site within the LCA 3A: South Cerney and Ashton Keynes Settled Wetlands		Operation Year 15 (medium-term)	Medium	Moderate Adverse (not significant)	form low level earthmounds around the perimeter of the Site. These earthworks would have gentle outer slopes and would be planted with woodland as illustrated in the landscape strategy plan and photomontages.
		Decommissioning (short-term)	Medium	Moderate Adverse (not significant)	During Decommissioning, the buildings and other structures would be removed, although it is likely that the perimeter low level earth mounding and associated planting would remain.
	Medium	Construction (short-term)	High	Major Adverse (significant)	The Construction Phase , would cause a notable change within the Site, with construction activity and vehicle movements, temporary structures, and storage of materials. Key character-defining elements present on the boundaries of the Site comprising mature hedgerows with trees would be protected during the construction phase. Temporary construction lighting would be restricted in location and operation period and would comply with an Environmental Management Plan designed to minimise light spill (a planning condition to any consent).
		Operation Year 1 (medium-term)	High	Major Adverse (significant)	During the Operation Year 1 , the activity of the construction phase would be replaced by the completed buildings and structures at their maximum size. Regular vehicle movements associated with the AD Facility operation would occur, representing a high magnitude of change at a Site level.

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		Operation Year 15 (medium-term)	High	Major Adverse (significant)	By Operation Year 15 , the planting proposals implemented as part of the construction phase would have grown. Over time, the proposed woodland in particular would help to enhance the landscape structure and reinforce the local landscape character, however the character of the Site, whilst not publicly accessible, would continue to be defined by large-scale agricultural buildings and associated infrastructure, representing a high magnitude of change.
		Decommissioning (short-term)	Medium	Moderate Adverse (not significant)	The Decommissioning Phase , would take place once the proposed planting brought forward as part of the Proposed Development has matured significantly, as a result, whilst the activities taking place on the site could not be experienced because there is no public access, due to the retainment of the mature perimeter planting the influence of the decommissioning activities across the wider landscape would be reduced (as reflected in the assessment of the effects upon the immediate context and wider landscape below).
The immediate context* of the Site within LCA 3A: South Cerney and Ashton Keynes Settled Wetlands	Medium	Construction (short-term)	High	Major Adverse (significant)	The short-term localised construction and decommissioning period and the temporary operational period would cause a High Magnitude of Change to the defining characteristics of the LCA, immediately adjacent to the Site. The indirect changes to landscape character would be confined to partially restricted perception of changes to the north, south and west of the Site available from the PRoW network and a short stretch of the Ashton Road to the east of the Site (also associated with the site access). In terms of landscape pattern, the Proposed Development would introduce a new
		Operation Year 1 (medium-term)	Medium	Moderate Adverse (not significant)	
		Operation Year 15 (medium-term)	Low	Minor adverse Adverse (not significant)	

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*within 250m of the Site boundary		Decommissioning (short-term)	Low	Minor Adverse adverse (not significant)	type of development, however the landscape character is considered robust enough to withstand such a localised change, given the other types of development in the locality including major mineral works to the west, the Aggregate Industries site to the southeast and industrial estates on the southern edge of the South Cerney to the east. The screening from the proposed low-level earth mounding and new woodland and hedgerow planting would assist in reducing the visibility of the new built development and any adverse change to the character of the local landscape would be very localised and limited in once planting has established as illustrated in the photomontages. The underlying agricultural character of the local landscape would be retained, despite the physical presence of the proposed AD plant, noting these would be perceived as large-scale modern agricultural buildings that are intrinsically linked to the generation of renewable energy from the surrounding landscape i.e., they are not 'footloose' built development. In terms of sensory and perceptual qualities of the Site, there would be an adverse effect from the safety requirement for external lighting and a lighting scheme that would comply with the baseline Environmental Lighting Zone of the area.

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The wider LCA 3A: South Cerney and Ashton Keynes Settled Wetlands within the Study Area beyond the Site and it's immediate context	Medium	Construction (short-term)	Negligible	Negligible (not significant)	The short-term localised construction and decommissioning period and the temporary operational period would cause a Negligible Magnitude of Change to the defining characteristics of the LCA beyond the Site and immediate context given the limited publicly accessible locations at this range where indirect changes to the landscape could be perceived (see SZTV). At the Operational Phase, comparing the scale of the Proposed Development and changes to the landscape features within the wider LCA, it is considered that the proposals would have a Negligible magnitude of change upon the LCA beyond the Site and its immediate context. In conclusion, the key characteristics of the LCA would remain and prevail in the wider context.
		Operation Year 1 (medium-term)	Negligible	Negligible (not significant)	
		Operation Year 15 (medium-term)	Negligible	Negligible (not significant)	

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