Fferm Solar Larnog

Environmental Statement

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6D LANDMAP Aspect Areas Assessment

6.1. Geological Landscapes Aspect Areas (GLAA)

6.1.1 The filtering process described in **Appendix 6B: LANDMAP Filtering Process** identified two Geological Landscapes Aspect Areas (GLAA) that should be carried through to the assessment of effects as follows:

- Penarth (VLFGLGL238); and
- Sully (VLFGLGL955).

6.1.2 The landscape sensitivity of the GLAAs to the Proposed Development is presented in **Appendix 6C: LANDMAP Baseline Description and Sensitivity** in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 6A: LVIA Legislative Frameworks, Policy Context and Methodology**. **Table 6D.1** assesses the magnitude of change which is likely to arise as a consequence of the Proposed Development before determining the level and type of effect and its significance during operation.

Table 6D.1 - Assessment of effect: GLAAs

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
Penarth (VLFGLGL238) – Host	Medium	Low	Minor Adverse and Not Significant	This is a medium to large scale GLAA where the Proposed Development would be located at the western edge and on the boundary of the neighbouring Sully GLAA. The majority of this GLAA continues to the north east which is occupied by the settlement of Penarth and then inland along the south western side of the River Ely. Panels would be contained within the existing mosaic field pattern where they would follow the gently undulating landform, avoid the skyline and would not intrude onto landmark features. The nature of the Proposed Development on geology would be light-touch and excavations would be minimal. Direct alterations would be constrained to within the Site itself and any perceptual influence beyond the Site boundary extremely limited. The Proposed Development would result in a minimal direct change to the GLAA that may be detectable but not readily noticeable (low scale) restricted to the Site with very limited influence over the surrounding area (negligible extent) for a long term, recognising its potential reversibility (high duration). Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be Low (Adverse).
Sully (VLFGLGL955) – Host	Medium	Negligible	Negligible Adverse and Not Significant	This is a small to medium scale GLAA where the corner of the very westernmost field of the Proposed Development would be located at the eastern edge and on the boundary of the neighbouring Penarth GLAA. The majority of this GLAA continues to the west where it is occupied by the settlement of Sully and the Atlantic Trading Estate. Panels would be contained within the existing mosaic field pattern where they would follow the gently undulating landform, avoid the skyline and would not intrude onto landmark features. The nature of the Proposed Development on geology would be light-touch and excavations would be minimal. Direct alterations would be constrained to within the Site itself and any perceptual influence beyond the Site boundary extremely limited. The Proposed Development would result in a minimal direct change to the GLAA that may be detectable but not readily noticeable

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
				(low scale) restricted to a very limited proportion of the Site with very limited influence over the surrounding area (negligible extent) for a long term, recognising its potential reversibility (high duration). Based on these considerations, the magnitude of change would be Negligible (Adverse).

*As set out in **Appendix 6C**.

6.2. Landscape Habitats Aspect Areas (LHAA)

6.2.1 The filtering process described in **Appendix 6B: LANDMAP Filtering Process** identified one Landscape Habitats Aspect Area (LHAA) that should be carried through to the assessment of effects as follows:

- Swanbridge (VLFGLLH376).

6.2.2 The landscape sensitivity of the LHAA to the Proposed Development is presented in **Appendix 6C: LANDMAP Baseline Description and Sensitivity** in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 6A: LVIA Legislative Frameworks, Policy Context and Methodology**. **Table 6D.2** assesses the magnitude of change which is likely to arise as a consequence of the Proposed Development before determining the level and type of effect and its significance during operation.

Table 6D.2 - Assessment of effect: LHAAs

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
Swanbridge (VLFGLLH376) - Host	Medium	Low (Adverse) becoming Low (Beneficial)	Minor Adverse and Not Significant becoming Minor Beneficial and Not Significant over time	This is a small to medium scale LHAA where the Proposed Development would introduce new technical elements across just under 20% of the area. Panels would be contained within the existing field pattern and would require minimal loss of hedgerow due to utlising existing field gates and gaps for internal access tracks and cable routes. The presence of panels would result in the loss of grassland habitat that is suitable for certain species. To mitigate this impact, management of existing hedgerows and new hedge planting is incorporated into the Proposed Development in accordance with the management aims for the LHAA. The grassland below the panels will be maintained by sheep grazing so the current management/use of the land within the Site would continue. The Proposed Development also proposes additional habitat creation within field margins/buffers by improving the existing grass sward to offer tussock grassland and wildflower as well as scrub and hedge planting to benefit bee, invertebrate, bird and bat species. Additional Skylark habitat mitigation is proposed to the east of the main solar site. During construction and the initial stages of operation, there would be some loss of features and suitability of habitat for some species. However, over time during the operational period the Proposed Development would result in direct changes to the features of the LHAA that enhance them and provide additional habitat that would benefit local species, resulting in a beneficial effect. Initially this would have a detectible adverse change (low scale) to the Site (low extent) in the short-to-medium term (low-to-medium duration). But as mitigation matures the beneficial effects would be readily noticeable (medium scale) within the Site (low extent) for a long term (high duration).

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
				Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would initially be Low (Adverse) becoming Low (Beneficial) over time.

*As set out in **Appendix 6C**.

6.3. Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas (VSAA)

6.3.1 The filtering process described in **Appendix 6B: LANDMAP Filtering Process**, identified three Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas (VSAAs) that should be carried through to the assessment of effects as follows:

- Lavernock Hinterland (VLFGLVS787);
- Sully Ridge (VLFGLVS637); and
- Sully Island (VLFGLVS903)

6.3.2 The location of the VSAAs in relation to the Proposed Development illustrated in **Figure 6.6: ZTV with Viewpoint Locations, PRoWs and Recreational Areas** of the ES.

6.3.3 The landscape sensitivity of the VSAAs to the Proposed Development is presented in **Appendix 6C: LANDMAP Baseline Description and Sensitivity** in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 6A: LVIA Legislative Frameworks, Policy Context and Methodology**. **Table 6D.3** assesses the magnitude of change likely to arise as a consequence of the Proposed Development before determining the level and type of effect and its significance.

Table 6D.3 - Assessment of effect: VSAAs

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
Lavernock Hinterland (VLFGLVS787) – Host	Medium	Medium	Moderate Adverse and Significant	This is a small to medium scale VSAA where the Proposed Development would introduce new technical elements across just under 20% of the area. Panels would be contained within the existing random mosaic field pattern where they would follow the current landform, avoid the skyline and would not intrude onto landmark features. Any loss of hedgerow would be minimal and the majority of boundary hedgerows will be retained, protected and strengthened. Intervisibility would be constrained to within the immediate vicinity of the Site so any influence over the perceptual quality of the surrounding VSAA would be minimal. The Proposed Development would result in a direct change to the character of the VSAA that would be readily noticeable (medium scale) locally within the immediate vicinity of the Site with minimal influence over the surrounding area (low extent) for a long term (high duration). Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be Medium (Adverse). This is considered to be significant due to the size of the Proposed Development area that would introduce a technical and uncharacteristic element altering the overall character and experience of the area within the immediate vicinity of the Site.
Sully Ridge (VLFGLVS637)	Medium	Low	Minor Adverse and Not Significant	The Proposed Development would be located within the adjacent VSAA to the south. This VSAA is of a small to medium scale where the ZTV indicates there is potential for intervisibility around its centre from the elevated ridge and where dips in the intervening landform allow. The Proposed Development would be well contained by the combination of intervening landform and vegetation between these two VSAAs. Any intervisibility would be as glimpses of small parts of the Proposed Development at a range of 0.5-1.0 km from the Site. Any effects to this VSAA would be to its perceptual qualities but the overriding rural character with

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
				some suburban/human influences would remain. Therefore, any changes arising from the Proposed Development would not be readily noticeable (low scale) and perceived from a localised area of the VSAA having limited effect on its wider character (negligible extent) for a long term (high duration). Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be Low (Adverse).
Sully Island (VLFGLVS903)	High	Negligible Adverse	Negligible Adverse and Not Significant	The Proposed Development would be located within the nearby VSAA approximately 1 km to the north east. This VSAA is of a small scale where the ZTV indicates there is potential for intervisibility from the elevated eastern end of the island. Where there is intervisibility, it would be of small patches of the Proposed Development in the southernmost fields amongst the mosaic field pattern and boundary hedges in inland views. The Proposed Development would be experienced in the context of The Bay Caravan Park that already presents as a detracting feature influencing the perceptual character of this VSAA and its relationship with nearby mainland VSAAs in this direction. Any effects to this VSAA would be to its perceptual qualities but the overriding character as a wild and exposed island with a sense of separation from some human influences on the mainland would remain. Therefore, any changes arising from the Proposed Development would be barely distinguishable (negligible scale) and perceived from a very small area within the VSAA having limited effect on its wider character (negligible extent) for a long term (high duration). Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be Negligible (Adverse).

*As set out in **Appendix 6C**.

6.4. Historic Landscape Aspect Areas (HLAA)

6.4.1 The filtering process described in **Appendix 6B: LANDMAP Filtering Process**, identified two Historic Landscape Aspect Areas (HLAAs) that should be carried through to the assessment of effects as follows:

- Lavernock (VLFGLHL010); and
- Cosmeston Country Park (VLFGLHL006).

6.4.2 The landscape sensitivity of the HLAAs to the Proposed Development is presented in **Appendix 6C: LANDMAP Baseline Description and Sensitivity** in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 6A: LVIA Legislative Frameworks, Policy Context and Methodology**. **Table 6D.4** assesses the magnitude of change which is likely to arise as a consequence of the Proposed Development before determining the level and type of effect and its significance during operation.

Table 6D.4 - Assessment of effect: HLAAs

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
Lavernock (VLFGLHL010) – Host	Low	Medium	Minor Adverse and Not Significant	The Lavernock HLAA is of a medium scale consisting of the Lavernock Hinterland and Sully Ridge VSAAs, with the Site located within the Lavernock Hinterland portion to the south of Lavernock Road (B4267). This has a slightly smaller and random field pattern within the post-medieval rural landscape of 19th century planned enclosure. Remnants of the nearby medieval settlement around St Lawrences Church to the south east of the Site would not be directly affected. The Proposed Development would introduce new technical elements across approximately 12% of the area contained within the current pattern of fields and hedgerow boundaries which would remain legible within limited physical disturbance to its this historic fabric. The Proposed Development would result in a direct change to the character of the HLAA that would be readily noticeable (medium scale) locally within the immediate vicinity of the Site with minimal influence over the surrounding area (low extent) for a long term, recognising its potential reversibility (high duration). Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be Medium (Adverse).
Cosmeston Country Park (VLFGLHL006)	Medium	No Change	Neutral	The Proposed Development would be located within the adjacent HLAA on the opposite side of Lavernock Road (B4267) to the south. This HLAA is of a small to medium scale containing the recreational Cosmeston Lakes Country Park and Glamorganshire Golf Course. Previous quarry and landfill that has since been flooded and landscaped. It also contains a reconstruction of a medieval village. The HLAA would not be directly affected. The ZTV indicates there is potential for intervisibility however the ZTV appears to follow the same pattern as vegetation so is likely to

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
				be picking up visibility from the tops of trees etc. Field observations established that there is no intervisibility with the site from within this HLAA. Therefore, there would be no indirect effects to the perceptual character of this HLAA. Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be No Change.

*As set out in **Appendix 6C**.

6.5. Cultural Landscape Services Aspect Areas (CLSAA)

6.5.1 The filtering process described in **Appendix 6B: LANDMAP Filtering Process**, identified two Cultural Landscape Services Aspect Area (CLSAAs) that should be carried through to the assessment of effects as follows:

- Lavernock Hinterland (VLFGLCLS050) – Host; and
- Sully Ridge (VLFGLCLS039).

6.5.2 The landscape sensitivity of the CLSAAs to the Proposed Development is presented in **Appendix 6C: LANDMAP Baseline Description and Sensitivity** in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 6A: LVIA Legislative Frameworks, Policy Context and Methodology**. **Table 6D.5** assesses the magnitude of change which is likely to arise as a consequence of the Proposed Development before determining the level of effect and its significance during operation.

Table 6D.5 - Assessment of effect: CLSAAs

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
Lavernock Hinterland (VLFGLCLS050) – Host	Medium	Medium	Moderate Adverse and Significant	This is a small to medium scale CLSAA where the Proposed Development would introduce new technical elements across just under 20% of the area. Panels would be contained within the existing random mosaic field pattern where the majority of boundary hedgerow would be retained and would not intrude onto any landmark features that contribute to the local cultural identity. Any lighting of the Proposed Development would be restricted to during the construction period (short term) and during operation would be limited to within the project substation compound which will be controlled via activation sensors and timers so will be minimal. Where lighting from existing nearby suburban uses already influence radiance levels across 72% (up to 4-8 Nanowatt (nW)/cm^2/Steradian (sr)) of the associated VSAA. Intervisibility would be constrained to within the immediate vicinity of the Site so any influence over the perceptual quality of the surrounding CLSAA would be minimal. The Proposed Development would result in a direct change to the character of the CLSAA that would be readily noticeable (medium scale) locally within the immediate vicinity of the Site with minimal influence over the surrounding area (low extent) for a long term (high duration). Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be Medium (Adverse). This is considered to be significant due to the size of the Proposed Development area that would introduce a technical and uncharacteristic element altering the overall character and experience of the area within the immediate vicinity of the Site.

Receptor	Overall landscape sensitivity*	Magnitude of Change	Level of effect	Rationale
Sully Ridge (VLFGLCLS039)	Medium	Low	Minor Adverse and Not Significant	The Proposed Development would be located within the adjacent CLSAA to the south. This CLSAA is of a small to medium scale where the ZTV indicates there is potential for intervisibility around its centre from the elevated ridge and where dips in the intervening landform allow. The Proposed Development would be well contained by the combination of intervening landform and vegetation between these two CLSAAs. Any lighting of the Proposed Development could potentially be apparent within the northernmost construction compound during the construction period (short term) but during operation lighting within the Project Substation Compound which will be controlled via activation sensors and timers would be obscured by intervening vegetation and landform. Therefore, lighting of the Proposed Development would have no influence over this CLSAA in the long term. Any intervisibility would be as glimpses of small parts of the Proposed Development at a range of 0.5-1.0 km from the Site. Any effects to this CLSAA would be to its perceptual qualities but the overriding rural character with some suburban/human influences would remain. Therefore, any changes arising from the Proposed Development would not be readily noticeable (low scale) and perceived from a localised area of the CLSAA having limited effect on its wider character (negligible extent) for a long term (high duration). Based on these considerations the magnitude of change would be Low (Adverse).

*As set out in **Appendix 6C**