

**APPENDIX E.6 – VISUAL IMPACT SCHEDULES**

To be read in conjunction with Visual Impact Summary Plan (Figure 13-11) and Photomontages (Appendix E.7)

**Key**

Impact: Sev. – Severe      Maj. – Major      Mod. – Moderate      Min. – Minor  
 Neg. – Negligible      NC. – No Change      NV. – No Views      Adv. – Adverse  
 Ben. – Beneficial

Scale: Major – dominant and immediately apparent      Moderate – visual and recognisable evident  
 Minor – only a minor component may be viewed      Negligible – only very small part discernable – scarcely appreciated  
 Neutral – no part discernable

Length of View: Short – less than 2km      Middle. – between 2km and 5km      Long – More than 5km  
 Con – Construction      Op – Operation      Y1 – Year 1 winter assuming no mitigation planting      Y10 – Year 10 summer with mitigation planting

Notes:

- Surveys undertaken during March to August 2009 and April 2010
- Weather conditions during visual assessment: Daytime - variable: generally good visibility, but on occasions overcast with occasional bright sunshine. Night-time – bright and clear, or bright but with cloud cover.

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
<b>Settlements</b>											

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
1	Aldermaston (Settlement)	High	1.0km (Short)	<p>There are no existing views of the application area as the valley topography and woodland associated with Aldermaston Court screens the site from view. Views of the tallest chimneys in the centre of AWE Aldermaston can be experienced. However, from the properties at the westernmost edge of the village.</p> <p>On a clear night, compared to the unlit streets within the village, there is a very slight sky glow when looking in a southerly direction. It is anticipated that this is partially caused by the well-lit AWE Aldermaston Site as a whole, in addition to the settlement of Tadley further to the south. However, it is noted that the degree that this is perceptible is dependant on atmospheric absorption, so under different conditions this sky glow could be perceived differently. There is a more noticeable sky glow to the east, associated with Reading.</p> <p>The tops of the proposed LPS masts may be visible above the tree canopy in views from properties to the north of Fisherman's Lane and Wasing Lane.</p> <p>It is anticipated that there will be no direct views of the lighting associated with Hydrus due to intervening buildings and vegetation. Whilst the lighting associated with the Proposed Development is downward facing with a limited area of direct influence, the combined upward reflected light of the additional lighting may contribute slightly to the existing sky glow to the south of Aldermaston. The degree of perception of this would depend on atmospheric absorption.</p>	Minor	Permanent	NV	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Neg

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
2	Raghill Farm and nearby properties  (Private properties)	High	0.9km (Short)	<p>No existing views into Hydrus Development Site from principal ground floor levels due to high boundary hedges. Dense woodland screening to west prevents views from adjacent minor road.</p> <p>None of the Hydrus Development Site would be visible from ground floor locations, and it is considered unlikely that there would be any significant views from first floor windows.</p> <p><b>(Refer to Photomontage 1 – Road just past Raghill Farm)</b></p> <p>It is anticipated that there will be no direct views of the lighting associated with Hydrus Development Site, due to intervening topography and vegetation. Whilst the lighting associated with the Hydrus Development Site will be downward facing with a limited area of direct influence, the combined upward reflected light of the additional lighting may contribute slightly to any existing sky glow associated with the AWE Aldermaston Site. The degree of perception of this would depend on atmospheric absorption.</p>	Neutral	N/A	NV	NC	NC	NC	Neg
3	Aldermaston Wharf  (Settlement)	High	2.6km (Middle)	<p>Existing views into the Hydrus Development Site from this settlement are screened by the dense mixed woodland to the north and east of the AWE Aldermaston boundary. Glimpses of the top of the tallest chimney stacks within AWE Aldermaston may be experienced, however these are barely perceptible at this distance.</p> <p>The tops of the LPS masts and the upper parts of the roof of Operations Building may just be visible from properties on the western side of the village where garden vegetation does not block views. Views of the LPS masts etc would be distant and seen in the context of the existing AWE Aldermaston chimneys. They would form a small component in the wider view.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC

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Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
4	Padworth (Village)	High	2.6km (Middle)	<p>Existing views into the application area from this village are screened by the dense mixed woodland to the north and east of the AWE boundary, and by localised vegetation. Glimpses of the top of the tallest chimney stacks within AWE Aldermaston may be experienced from some locations.</p> <p>The tops of the LPS masts and the upper parts of the roof of Operations Building may just be visible, from properties on the western side of the village where garden vegetation does not block views. Views of the LPS masts etc would be distant and seen in the context of the existing AWE Aldermaston chimneys. They would form a small component in the wider view.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
5	Ufton Nervet (Village)	High	4.6km (Middle)	<p>Views towards the AWE Aldermaston Site from public roads within the village centre are largely prevented by roadside vegetation / hedgerows. However, there may be glimpsed private views of the existing AWE Aldermaston chimney stacks from upstairs windows from properties on the western side of the village.</p> <p>The tops of the LPS masts and the upper parts of the roof of Operations Building may just be visible, from properties on the western side of the village where garden vegetation does not block views. Views of the LPS masts etc would be distant and seen in the context of the existing AWE Aldermaston chimneys. They would form a very small component in the wider view.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
6	Sulhamstead (Village)	High	5.3km (Long)	<p>Views towards the AWE Aldermaston Site from public roads within the village centre are largely prevented by roadside vegetation / hedgerows. However, there may be glimpsed private views of the existing AWE Aldermaston chimney stacks from upstairs windows from properties on the western side of the village.</p> <p>Minor changes in topography and vegetation patterns result in more of the Hydrus Development Site potentially being visible in views from this village when compared to other locations nearby. The tops of the LPS masts and the upper parts of the roofs of both the Operations and Support Buildings may be visible from properties on the western side of the village. However, existing garden planting or other small areas of vegetation will easily block or filter long range views. Views of Hydrus would be distant and seen in the context of the existing AWE Aldermaston chimneys. They would form a very small component in the wider view.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC

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Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
7	Theale (Settlement)	High	7.7km (Long)	There are no discernible views of the chimneys or other structures at AWE Aldermaston from publicly accessible locations on the south western edge of Theale, due to intervening bands and blocks of vegetation.  It is anticipated that this vegetation would also block views of the Hydrus Development Site.	Neutral	Permanent	NV	NC	NC	NC	NC
8	Woolhampton (Village)	High	3.3km (Middle)	No existing views of the application area due to screening woodland associated with Aldermaston Court, however, existing tall buildings and chimneys at AWE Aldermaston are visible above the trees from the higher ground at the northern edge of the village.  The tops of the LPS masts and the upper parts of the roof of the Operations Building may be visible from properties to the north of the A4. However, these would form part of the existing views including buildings and structures at AWE Aldermaston.	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
9	Upper Woolhampton (Hamlet)	High	4.1km (Middle)	No existing views of the application area due to screening woodland associated with Aldermaston Court, however, existing tall buildings and chimneys at AWE Aldermaston are visible above the trees in some locations.  The tops of the LPS masts and the upper parts of the roof of the Operations Building may be visible from some properties. However, these would form part of the existing views including buildings and structures at AWE Aldermaston.	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
10	Midgham Green (Hamlet)	High	4.8km (Middle)	There is a view on leaving the settlement travelling south, over woodland to AWE Aldermaston Site stacks above tree line on ridge beyond.  Proposed LPS masts and top of roof line may add minor new elements in this view.	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC

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11	Beenham (Village)	High	4.4km (Middle)	<p>Middle distance views from within the AONB.</p> <p>No existing views of Hydrus Development Site from village on ridgeline due to screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation. However, views of existing tall buildings and chimneys at AWE Aldermaston can be experienced from properties situated on the ridge top and on the southward facing slopes of the ridge.</p> <p>The multiple street lights and lit facades of buildings along the A4 and the well lit Beenham industrial area form noticeable middle ground elements in night time views from parts of Beenham when looking towards the south. On a clear evening there is only a slight sky glow visible above the largely unlit dark ridge of land on the other side of the river valley. There is a more noticeable sky glow from the Reading direction to the left of the view.</p> <p>As a result of the proposals, the LPS masts and the roof of the Operations Building will be visible above the treetops. The roof of the Support Building may also be visible from a limited number of locations. These would form part of the group of existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and structures visible on the skyline.</p> <p><b>(Refer to Photomontage 2 – Beenham Hill)</b></p> <p>It is anticipated that there will be no direct views of the lighting associated with Hydrus Development Site, due to intervening topography and vegetation. The combined upward reflected light of the additional lighting may contribute slightly to the existing sky glow in views to the south of Beenham, but from this location it is unlikely to be perceivable.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC

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12	Brimpton (Village)	High	3.7km (Middle)	<p>No existing views of Hydrus Development Site due to a combination of landform and intervening woodland to the west of AWE Aldermaston. No obvious views found of existing AWE Aldermaston structures and buildings from publicly accessible locations. However, there may be glimpsed private views of the existing AWE Aldermaston chimney stacks from a limited number of properties on the eastern side of the village.</p> <p>The top of the LPS masts and the upper parts of the Operations Building roof may be seen in these private views. These would be seen in the context of existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and structures, and would form a small part of the wider view.</p>	Neutral / Neg	Permanent	NV	NC / Neg	NC / Neg	NC / Neg	NC
13	Southend (Village) and Tutt's Clump (Hamlet)	High	5.9km (Long)	<p>Screened by intervening ridges and vegetation – no views of existing AWE buildings and structures were found.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Hydrus proposals will be similarly screened from view.</p>	Neutral	N/A	NV	NC	NC	NC	NC
14	Englefield (Hamlet)	High	8.0km (Long)	<p>The hamlet of Englefield largely comprises the estate cottages associated with Englefield House and Park. Boundaries to Englefield Park contained by walls, tree belts and woodland copses and this limits most views from the settlement.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Hydrus Development Site will be similarly screened from most views. However, in any limited views from the east of the settlement, the LPS masts and building roofs would form distant minor elements in conjunction with views of the existing AWE Aldermaston chimneys in wider views.</p>	Neutral / Neg	Permanent	NV	NC / Neg	NC / Neg	NC / Neg	NC
15	Crookham (Hamlet)	High	6.0km (Long)	<p>Properties orientated north-south along road which is lined with hedges and trees. No obvious views to AWE Aldermaston Site.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Hydrus Development Site will be similarly screened from view.</p>	Neutral	N/A	NV	NC	NC	NC	NC

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16	Headley (Village)	High	8.2km (Long)	<p>Nearby buildings and intervening vegetation prevent distant views towards the AWE Aldermaston Site from publicly accessible locations within the village. However, there may be distant glimpses from upper floor windows of properties on the eastern side of the village.</p> <p>The top of the LPS masts and the upper parts of the Operations Building roof may be seen in these private views. These would be seen in the context of existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and structures, and would form a very small part of the wider view.</p>	Neutral / Neg	Permanent	NV	NC / Neg	NC / Neg	NC / Neg	NC
17	Hannington (Village)	High	10.5km (Long)	<p>Cottages inward looking to village with vegetation screening views.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Hydrus Development Site will be similarly screened from view. However, if there are any private views, the Hydrus Development Site will be seen in the context of other existing buildings and structures at AWE Aldermaston. At this distance, the buildings would appear as a very small part of a distant view.</p>	Neutral / Neg	Permanent	NV	NC / Neg	NC / Neg	NC / Neg	NC
<b>Recreational Paths</b>											
18	Berkshire Circular Routes	High	2.4km (Middle)	<p>Existing views into the application area from this network of footpaths are screened by the dense mixed woodland to the north and east of the AWE Aldermaston boundary. Glimpses of the top of the tallest chimney stacks within AWE Aldermaston may be experienced, however these are barely perceptible.</p> <p>The tops of the proposed LPS masts and the building roofs may be visible from some locations, but these would be seen in the context of views of existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and structures.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
19	Wayfarers Walk	High	11.4km (Long)	<p>Long distance view from within AONB.</p> <p>Views of existing AWE Aldermaston Site as a whole can be experienced from high points along this path to the south-west of AWE Aldermaston.</p> <p>As a result of the distance of the view, the new buildings and LPS masts would be visible, but would be difficult to distinguish from the existing buildings and chimneys given the length of the view. A negligible visual impact may be experienced on a clear day.</p>	Neg	Permanent	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC



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<b>Other Public Rights of Way (PRoW)</b>											
20	Bridleway east of Raghill	High	1.4km (Short)	Existing views west towards the application area from this bridleway are well screened by the intervening woodland on Red Lane. However, the upper part of the existing AWE Aldermaston Boiler House building and associated chimneys are visible above this woodland.  The tops of the proposed LPS masts may be visible above the tree tops from some locations, but these would be seen in the context of views of existing AWE Aldermaston structures such as the Boiler House chimneys.	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg
21	Footpaths east of Aldermaston	High	0.9km (Short)	Existing views towards the application area from these footpaths are screened by a combination of topography and intervening woodland. There are occasional glimpses of the tallest structures at AWE Aldermaston.  The tops of the LPS masts may be glimpsed from these footpaths where there is no intervening vegetation, including hedgerows. Generally, views of the masts would occur where there are existing views of AWE Aldermaston structures, however, in a few locations, there may be short sections of footpath which have currently no views of vertical structures at AWE Aldermaston, but from where views of the tops of the LPS masts will be seen.	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg to Minor Adverse	Neg to Minor Adverse	Neg to Minor Adverse	Neg
22	Footpath to west of Aldermaston Wharf	High	2.6km (Middle)	There are no existing views towards the application area due to intervening vegetation, including along the tow path.  It is anticipated that the Hydrus Development Site will be similarly screened from view.	Neutral	N/A	NV	NC	NC	NC	NC
23	Footpath adjacent to Silchester Scheduled Ancient Monument	High	4.3km (Middle)	A row of four existing chimneys at AWE Aldermaston can be briefly seen above intervening woodland blocks from a short section of the footpath on the western side of the ancient monument.  The proposed LPS masts may also be briefly visible above the tree line for a short section of this footpath.	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC

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24	Footpaths through Wasing Park	High	1.3 to 2.7km (Short to Middle)	<p>There is a public right of way which crosses through Wasing Park and a (publicly accessible) permissive path which links up with other public rights of way beyond the registered park. There are no existing views of the Hydrus Development Site from these paths due to intervening vegetation to the east. Views of the tallest chimneys on the AWE Aldermaston Site are visible over the tree canopy from some locations. These are seen against a predominantly rural and well-wooded context.</p> <p>On a clear night, there is little appreciable sky glow associated with the existing lighting at AWE Aldermaston and the settlement of Tadley. Intervening vegetation prevents most views of the site wide lighting at AWE Aldermaston. An occasional isolated light may be seen associated with individual properties against the generally dark landscape. During summer months, these glimpses may be restricted by trees in leaf.</p> <p>The top of the LPS masts and, in places, the roof of the Operations Building may also be visible from some locations, seen over the tree canopy. These would be seen in the context of the existing views of the chimneys at AWE Aldermaston.</p> <p>It is anticipated that there will be no direct views of the lighting associated with Hydrus Development Site, due to intervening topography and substantial bands of vegetation.</p>	Minor	Permanent	NV	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Neg
25	Footpath south west of Aldermaston	High	1.3km (Short)	<p>No existing views of application area due to a combination of intervening landform and vegetation which screen AWE Aldermaston from view. Glimpses of the existing AWE Aldermaston chimney stacks can be experienced above the treetops from the northern end of the footpath. Large scale farm buildings and Aldermaston village form elements in the middle ground in some places along the footpath.</p> <p>The proposed LPS masts will be visible above the tree line. This will introduce new vertical elements against the skyline for sections of this footpath where there are no views of the existing AWE Aldermaston structures. However, the large scale farm buildings in the middle ground are more prominent elements in some views.</p>	Minor	Permanent	NV	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Neg

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26	PRoW network south of Baughurst	High	4.6km (Middle)	<p>No existing views of Hydrus Development Site due to a combination of intervening landform, vegetation and properties. However the existing AWE Aldermaston chimneys and tall buildings may be glimpsed from the highest points of the footpath network on Browning Hill.</p> <p>Change in view as a result of the proposals would be limited to glimpses of the LPS masts from Browning Hill.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
27	Footpath between Woolhampton and Brimpton	High	3.5km (Middle)	<p>No existing views of Hydrus Development Site due to a combination of intervening landform and vegetation which largely screen AWE Aldermaston from view.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the intervening landform and vegetation would also screen most views of the Hydrus Hydrus Development Site. However, there may be distant glimpses of the tops of the proposed LPS masts.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
28	Footpath close to King's Farm, Midgham	High	5.7km (Long)	<p>There is a brief but clear view of the existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and structures against the skyline.</p> <p>The Hydrus Hydrus Development Site would appear slightly to the left of the existing AWE Aldermaston structures in this view, but this would have a negligible effect on the overall view from this location.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	NC
29	Footpath to south of Elstree School	High	3.8km (Middle)	<p>No existing views of the application area due to intervening woodland associated with Aldermaston Court. However, existing tall buildings and chimneys at AWE Aldermaston are visible above the trees on the skyline.</p> <p>As a result of the proposals, the LPS masts will be visible above the treetops. Glimpses of the upper parts of the LPS masts and building roofs may also be experienced. These structures would form part of existing views of the AWE Aldermaston complex.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	NC

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30	Footpath to south of Beenham Church and village	High	4.0km (Middle)	<p>Middle distance vista in AONB.</p> <p>There is a brief view of AWE Aldermaston's existing buildings and structures on the distant ridgeline, from the south of the village. The range of AWE Aldermaston buildings visible changes slightly depending on the position of the viewer in relation to the woodland blocks which tightly constrain the vista. The whole of the AWE Aldermaston complex is not visible in any one view from this footpath.</p> <p>The Hydrus Development Site would not be visible from this section of footpath due to the orientation of the vista between woodland blocks.</p> <p><b>(Refer to Photomontage 3 – Beenham Church footpath)</b></p>	Neutral	N/A	NV	NC	NC	NC	NC
31	PRoW network, Beenham	High	2.9km (Middle)	<p>Medium distance views from within the AONB.</p> <p>No existing views of the application area due to intervening woodland associated with Aldermaston Court. However, existing tall buildings and chimneys at AWE Aldermaston are visible above the trees.</p> <p>As a result of the proposals, the tops of the LPS masts and the building roofs will be visible in places above the treetops, seen in the context of the existing buildings and structures of the AWE Aldermaston complex.</p> <p><b>(Refer to Photomontage 4 – Footpath near Hall Place Farm)</b></p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
32	Footpath at Woodgarston Farm	High	9.5km (Long)	<p>Long distance view from within AONB.</p> <p>Views of existing site as a whole, including application area, can be experienced from the high points along this path to the south of AWE Aldermaston.</p> <p>As a result of the proposals, the new buildings and LPS masts would be visible, largely to the rear of existing structures, but would be difficult to distinguish from the existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and chimneys given the length of the view. Therefore only a negligible visual impact would be experienced.</p> <p><b>(Refer to Photomontage 5 – Footpath near Woodgarston Farm)</b></p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC

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33	Bridleways between A339 and Plantation Hill	High	8.8km (Long)	<p>Long distance view from within AONB.</p> <p>Views of existing AWE Aldermaston Site as a whole, including application area, can be experienced from the more elevated and exposed sections of these bridleways to the south-west.</p> <p>As a result of the proposals, the new buildings and LPS masts may be visible on a clear day, but would be difficult to distinguish from the existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and chimneys given the length of the view.</p>	Neg	Permanent	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
34	Footpaths on Cottington's Hill and Stubbington Down	High	10.5km (Long)	<p>Long distance view from within AONB.</p> <p>Views of AWE Aldermaston as a whole, including application area, can be experienced from the high points along this path to the south west.</p> <p>As a result of the proposals, the new buildings and LPS masts may be visible on a clear day, but would be difficult to distinguish from the existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and chimneys given the length of the view. The Operations Building would fractionally increase the apparent width of the AWE Aldermaston Site in the view, but at this distance this would be barely perceptible.</p> <p><b>(Refer to Photomontage 6 – Cottington's Hill)</b></p>	Neg	Permanent	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
35	Footpath on Isle Hill	High	11.9km (Long)	<p>Long distance view from within AONB.</p> <p>Glimpsed views of AWE Aldermaston as a whole, including Hydrus Development Site can be experienced from the higher point along this path to the south west.</p> <p>As a result of the proposals, the new buildings and LPS masts may be visible on a clear day, but would be difficult to distinguish from the existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and chimneys given the length of the view.</p>	Neg	Permanent	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC
36	Footpath adjacent to Golf course on the northern edge of Basingstoke	High	10.0km (Long)	<p>There are distant views of the tops of buildings and structures at AWE Aldermaston, seen above intervening tree lines.</p> <p>The upper parts of the Hydrus Development Site would be seen as part of this existing view, but at this distance this would be barely perceptible.</p>	Neg	Permanent	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC

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<b>Transport Corridors</b>												
37	Red Lane	Medium	0.8km (Short)	<p>There are no views of the existing site due to buildings and bands / blocks of vegetation within the AWE Aldermaston Site.</p> <p>At night the lighting around the perimeter security fencing is clearly visible from the road. In places further security lights across the AWE Aldermaston Site are also visible creating multiple individual light sources in the view.</p> <p>There will be a brief view of the tops of a few of the LPS masts seen from a small gap in existing roadside vegetation adjacent to the AWE Aldermaston Boiler House. This view will be heavily filtered by the double security fencing around the AWE Aldermaston Site, and the masts may, therefore, be difficult to differentiate. Views will be further restricted by leaves on the intervening vegetation during summer months.</p> <p><b>(Refer to Photomontages 10 to 11 – different locations along Red Lane)</b></p> <p>It is anticipated that there will be no direct views of the lighting associated with Hydrus Development Site, due to intervening buildings and vegetation. Whilst the lighting associated with the Hydrus Development Site is downward facing with a limited area of direct influence, the combined upward reflected light of the additional lighting may contribute slightly to the existing perception of a well-lit AWE Aldermaston Site. The degree that any change is perceptible is dependant on atmospheric absorption.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
38	A340 Paices Hill	Medium	0.8km (Short)	<p>There are no existing views of the Hydrus Development Site due to intervening built form and vegetation.</p> <p>The perimeter and other lighting within the AWE Aldermaston Site as a whole form a distinct night time feature for users of the A340 Paices Hill road. Multiple individual light sources are visible.</p> <p>Cranes may be visible on the Hydrus Development Site during construction. Construction traffic would use the existing car parking and compound arrangements for HEFF and NOA, resulting in no change to this part of the baseline situation.</p> <p>On completion, there will be brief dynamic views of the LPS masts when travelling in a north bound direction. The masts will be seen to the rear of the existing AWE Aldermaston access gate area, foreground fencing and sports club, intervening buildings and cluster of stacks and this would be in keeping with the current views.</p> <p>Existing buildings and / or blocks of vegetation across the AWE Aldermaston Site will prevent most if not all views of the proposed luminaires, up to 6m in height, on the Hydrus Development Site. Their downward facing nature will reduce the likelihood of individual light sources being briefly visible from locations along Paices Hill. However, if there are any glimpsed views, they would be seen in the context of the existing multiple light sources in AWE Aldermaston.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg
39	Brimpton to Aldermaston Road	Medium	1.3 to 3.6km (Short to Middle)	<p>There are no existing views into the Development Site from the road due to a combination of topography and intervening woodland and hedgerows. However, glimpsed views of the tallest chimney stacks within AWE Aldermaston can occasionally be experienced above the trees, from the minor road to the west.</p> <p>The LPS masts and the roof of the Operations Building may be similarly glimpsed above the trees in places along this road.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts								
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time	
40	Frouds Lane	Medium	2.0km (Middle)	<p>There are no obvious summer views of the existing buildings and structures at AWE Aldermaston due to intervening vegetation, although there may be filtered views during winter when there are no leaves on the vegetation.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Hydrus Development Site would be similarly screened in summer by the intervening trees, but that glimpses of the tops of the LPS masts may be glimpsed through the vegetation during winter months.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC	
41	A340 Aldermaston Road	Medium	2.1km (Middle)	<p>There are no existing views of the application area as the valley topography and woodland associated with Aldermaston Court screens the site from view. There are occasional glimpses of the tallest structures at AWE Aldermaston, seen above vegetation.</p> <p>At night there are brief views through deciduous trees of the up-lit tower at Aldermaston Court and of lighting in the car park at Portland House. There are no obvious direct views of lighting on the AWE Aldermaston Site due to intervening vegetation and topography.</p> <p>It is anticipated that dynamic views towards the Hydrus Development Site would be similarly restricted to glimpses of the LPS masts, in which they would form a small part of the overall view.</p> <p>It is anticipated that there would be no direct views of lighting associated with the Hydrus Development Site, due to intervening buildings and vegetation. Whilst the lighting associated with the Proposed Development is downward facing with a limited area of direct influence, the combined upward reflected light of the additional lighting may contribute slightly any existing sky glow associated with the AWE Aldermaston Site and Tadley further to the south. The degree that any change is perceptible is dependant on atmospheric absorption.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	



Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts								
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time	
42	A4	Medium	2.7km (Middle)	<p>There are no existing views into the application area from the road due to a combination of topography, built form and intervening woodland and hedgerows. However, glimpsed views of the tallest chimney stacks within AWE Aldermaston can sometimes be experienced above the trees.</p> <p>There may be dynamic glimpsed views of the LPS masts and building roofs from sections of the A4. These would be seen above intervening vegetation and built form, and in the context of existing structures at AWE Aldermaston</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC	
43	Railway line	Medium	2.6km (Middle)	<p>There are no existing views into the application area from the railway line due to a combination of topography and intervening woodland and hedgerows. However, glimpsed views of the tallest chimney stacks within AWE Aldermaston can sometimes be experienced above the trees.</p> <p>There may be dynamic glimpsed views of the LPS masts and building roofs from sections of the line. These would be seen above intervening trees and built form, and in the context of existing structures at AWE Aldermaston.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC	
44	Minor road adjacent to Thatcham railway station	Medium	7.3km (Long)	<p>The tallest structures at AWE Aldermaston can just be seen from the minor road adjacent to the railway station but, they are difficult to perceive at this distance. Intervening vegetation prevents views from the footbridge over the tracks at the station itself, despite the elevated position.</p> <p>The LPS masts and the roof of the Operations Building may be glimpsed from the minor road, but would be similarly difficult to perceive at this distance.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC	
45	Minor roads around Kingsclere Woodlands	Medium	6.8km (Long)	<p>Roadside trees and other vegetation prevent views towards the AWE Aldermaston Site in most locations along this small network of roads. However, there are occasional very brief glimpses of chimneys or other tall structures, seen through small gaps in vegetation cover, including high hedgerows.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the LPS masts may be similarly visible in occasional brief glimpses from these roads.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC	

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
46	A33	Medium	10.9km (Long)	<p>The ZVI of the tallest existing structures on the AWE Aldermaston Site indicates that there may be views from sections of the A33 Reading to Basingstoke Road. However, roadside vegetation along most of the length of this road constrains views. No views were found.</p> <p>It is anticipated that views of the Hydrus Development Site would be similarly constrained.</p>	NC	N/A	NV	NC	NC	NC	NC
47	A339 Newbury to Basingstoke road	Medium	8.0km (Long)	<p>There are occasional oblique views towards the AWE Aldermaston Site from this busy A road. The application site is visible as part of the overall view, but, it is unlikely to be perceived by road users at this distance.</p> <p>The Hydrus Development Site would form part of the AWE Aldermaston Site, but would not be readily distinguishable.</p>	Neg	Permanent	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
48	Minor road leading to Ramsdell	Medium	8.7km (Long)	<p>For a short section of this road, the AWE Aldermaston complex is clearly visible in the distance. In clear weather and lighting conditions, individual buildings can be distinguished.</p> <p>On a clear evening, the group of lights at AWE Aldermaston can be seen in the distance. Other clusters of light sources can also be seen within the wider generally dark view. A noticeable sky glow is apparent from the Reading direction.</p> <p>The Hydrus Development Site would form new elements in this view, largely to the rear of existing AWE Aldermaston buildings and structures. However, given the distances involved a negligible visual impact would be experienced.</p> <p>The luminaires at the Hydrus Development Site will be up to 6m in height and downward facing, with most light sources facing towards the buildings. Given the height of other buildings and vegetation across the AWE Aldermaston Site, it is anticipated that most of the individual light sources would not be visible from the direction of this road to Ramsdell. At this distance and given the overall context of multiple existing light sources at AWE Aldermaston, it is considered that the additional light sources would not be individually appreciable. Similarly any additional contribution to sky glow from the Tadley / AWE Aldermaston area is unlikely to be perceptible.</p>	Neg	Permanent	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
<b>Employment Areas</b>											
49	AWE site	Low	0km (Short)	<p>There are existing views of application area from nearby buildings and AWE Aldermaston roads, with some views filtered or channelled by intervening buildings, mounds and vegetation.</p> <p>Night time security lighting is apparent across large parts of the AWE Aldermaston Site, particularly around the perimeter fencing. Internal site roads, are well lit including luminaires of 5m high (Cwm Road) and 11m high (Griffin Road). The western, more developed, side of the AWE Aldermaston Site has more extensive lighting compared to the eastern side.</p> <p>As a result of the proposals, the new buildings and LPS masts would be partially visible from existing AWE Aldermaston buildings in the vicinity of the proposals and from parts of the wider site, although from other parts of the site there will be no views due to intervening structures and vegetation. The visual impact of the proposals on those buildings which do have views of the existing site would be partially mitigated by the proposed landscape works. The proposed berms and native hedging, which is to be planted at 1.8m high, would have an effect from operational Year 1. By operational Year 10 the tree planting would have developed enough to partially screen views of the proposed buildings. This would have only a limited impact on views of the LPS masts. However, these would be seen in the context of other tall structures across the AWE Aldermaston Site. The new planting would also provide an improved landscape framework in the northern section of the AWE Aldermaston Site in due course.</p> <p>The proposed lighting scheme for the Hydrus Development Site would be seen in the context of an existing well lit AWE Aldermaston Site. The downward facing nature of the luminaires will restrict light spill and will focus illumination on the road and the lower parts of the Operations and Support Buildings.</p>	Minor	Permanent	Neg	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Neg	Neg

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
50	Aldermaston Court (Hotel / Conference Centre and its grounds)	Medium	0.1. to 0.9km (Short)	<p><b>Note:</b> The impact on the settings of the listed building and registered park and garden at Aldermaston Court are considered within <i>Chapter 14: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology</i> of the DEEA. This assessment considers the visual impact on the hotel / conference centre and its grounds.</p> <p><i>Daytime Assessment</i> Access to the hotel from the minor road through Aldermaston village passes the large modern office building of Portland House and its associated car park area to the north of the hotel.</p> <p>Most rooms within the hotel do not have views of the existing Hydrus Development Site due to their orientation. A limited number of south facing rooms within the hotel have glimpses towards the existing AWE Aldermaston Site, but these are constrained by the tall conifers along the boundary of the grounds with Cwm Road, and also by the evergreen hedges and avenue of trees and within the grounds of Aldermaston Court. From some south facing rooms, the tennis courts and / or the small disused building towards the top of the remnant Oak avenue prevent or limit views of the existing Hydrus Development Site. Where views are available, the western part of the Hydrus Development Site may be glimpsed to the rear of the security fencing and gates along Cwm Road.</p> <p>There are existing narrow views south towards the Hydrus Development Site from the end of the remnant Oak avenue which leads towards the southern wing of hotel. These views are constrained by the tall conifers along the boundary of the hotel grounds with the AWE Aldermaston Site, and also by the evergreen hedges and avenue of trees and within the grounds of Aldermaston Court. The western part of the Hydrus Development Site is glimpsed to the rear of the security fencing and gates along Cwm Road. More distant structures within AWE Aldermaston may be glimpsed further south.</p> <p>The centre of the Operations Building and the associated LPS masts have been orientated to align with the centre of the remnant Oak avenue within the grounds of Aldermaston Court. This creates an inter-relationship between the hotel and grounds and the Hydrus Development Site. If the proposed Operations Building had been off-centre then this would create a less positive relationship.</p>	Neutral to Moderate	Permanent	Neg	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Minor Adverse	Neg

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				<p>The orientation of the majority of rooms prevents views of the Hydrus Development Site from most locations within the hotel. However, a limited number of southern facing rooms will have views of the upper parts of some or all of the LPS masts and part of the roof of the Operations Building. The number of LPS masts visible depends on the precise location and the angle of the view.</p> <p>The extensive areas of trees and vegetation within the grounds of the hotel and conference centre prevent or restrict views of the Hydrus Development Site from most locations. However, there will be views of the upper parts of some or all of the LPS masts and part of the roof of the Operations Building from localised areas but these are generally restricted to the southern and more open areas of the grounds. The number of LPS masts visible will depend on the precise location and the angle of the view. Where the LPS masts or the Operations Building are visible, they will represent recognisable new elements in existing views above the existing tree line.</p> <p>During pre-application consultation meetings, West Berkshire District Council (WBDC) requested that photomontages were prepared from three key views from within Aldermaston Court and its grounds: refer to Photomontage 7 – grounds of Aldermaston Court towards the top of the remnant Oak Avenue; Photomontage 8 - Sir John Milne bar / lounge on the ground floor of Aldermaston Court; and Photomontage 9 – Sir Humphrey Forster Suite – a principal bedroom suite on the first floor of Aldermaston Court. The photomontages are set out at Appendix E.7: Figure 13-13.</p> <p>In the specific location from the top of the remnant Oak Avenue (Photomontage 7), a small proportion of the proposed Operations Building roof-scape and sidewalls will be visible in the gaps between the conifers and other trees at the end of the remnant Oak avenue. Six of the eight LPS masts will also be visible, although the view of some of these masts is filtered by trees within the parkland. The new structures and the building would represent recognisable elements in this view along the avenue. However, the existing visual clutter of the existing AWE Aldermaston security measures along Cwm Road and the access road, temper the impact of the proposals.</p>							

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				<p>Ground level activity within the Hydrus Development Site will be largely screened from view by the proposed 2m high berm and high hedge planting on its top. This hedging would be 1.8m high at planting and so would make an immediate contribution to screening. The layering of the separate elements within the Hydrus Development Site (e.g. berm, hedging, building walls, roof, catenaries) helps to break up the perceived mass of the development as a whole. The impact of the Hydrus Development Site on the key view from the top of the remnant Oak avenue is assessed as Moderate Adverse.</p> <p>In the specific view from the ground floor lounge / bar (Photomontage 8), a small proportion of the proposed Operations Building roof-scape and sidewalls will be visible in the gaps between the conifers and other trees at the end of the remnant Oak avenue. Six of the eight LPS masts will also be visible, although the view of some of these masts is filtered by trees within the parkland. However, the tennis courts, the disused building at the north of the Oak avenue, the telegraph poles, the access road and the existing visual clutter of the existing AWE Aldermaston security measures along Cwm Road, limit the impact of the proposals. Ground level activity within the Hydrus Development Site will be largely screened from view by the proposed 2m high berm and high hedge planting on its top. This hedging would be 1.8m high at planting and so would make an immediate contribution to screening. The layering of the separate elements within the Hydrus Development Site (e.g. berm, hedging, building walls, roof, catenaries) helps to break up the perceived mass of the development as a whole. The impact of the Hydrus Development Site on this specific view is assessed as Minor Adverse.</p> <p>In the specific view from the first floor principal bedroom (Photomontage 9), the upper parts of all eight of the LPS masts and a small proportion of the proposed Operations Building roof-scape will be visible. The LPS masts will appear above the existing tree line and will be recognisable new elements in this view. Conifers within the grounds of the hotel and the small disused building at the top of the Oak avenue prevent views of the ground level of the Hydrus Development Site. The impact of the Hydrus Development Site on this specific view is assessed as Moderate Adverse.</p>							

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Ref. No.	Visual Receptor	Sensitivity of Visual Receptor	Approx Distance to Hydrus Site (km)	Description of Existing View and of Change in View resulting from the Proposals	Scale of Change in View	Duration of Change in view	View of existing Hydrus site	Con.	Op Y1	Op Y10	Night time
				<p>On balance, given that most rooms within the hotel will have limited or no views of the Hydrus Development Site, and the limited visibility of the proposals from the the hotel grounds, the overall impact of the proposals is assessed as Minor Adverse.</p> <p><b>(Refer to Photomontages 7, 8 and 9 – views from towards the top of the Oak avenue, and from the ground and first floors within Aldermaston Court)</b></p> <p><i>Night time Assessment</i>  The Portland House car park is well lit at night. The perimeter of this building and parts of its lower floors (e.g. the main entrance area) are also lit at night.</p> <p>The tower and parts of the facades of the hotel buildings are up-lit at night. The car parking areas close to the hotel are lit by bollards and small lighting columns, but the surrounding grounds are generally unlit. Rooms within the hotel where the curtains have not been drawn at night (eg the Sir John Milne bar on the ground floor) are strongly visible from the surrounding dark grounds.</p> <p>At night, from within southern parts of the grounds and also from southern-facing rooms, there are views of the security lighting along the perimeter fence and Cwm Road and other multiple light sources within the main AWE Aldermaston Site. During summer months views of some of these light sources would be prevented or restricted when the intervening deciduous trees are in leaf. The degree to which the existing lighting across the AWE Aldermaston Site creates a sky glow when viewed from Aldermaston Court depends upon atmospheric absorption. On a clear night, individual light sources are the most apparent features. On a less clear night, an orange sky glow over the AWE Aldermaston Site is apparent in views from the grounds of the hotel.</p> <p>The existing lighting columns along Cwm Road are 5m in height, whilst those along Griffin Road through the main AWE site are 11m high. These would be unaltered by the Hydrus Development Site.</p>							



Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
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				<p>Proposed lighting for the Hydrus Development Site consists of 6m high downward facing luminaires around the buildings and along the access road. Light from these luminaires will be visible to approximately 3m up the sides of the Operations Building. At the main entrance to the building, up to 6m of the sides of the Operations Building will be lit. There may also be further light visible from other entrances or windows within the building.</p> <p>Further lighting is provided by bollards and downward facing lighting attached to the southern and eastern faces of the Support Building. The LPS masts would not be lit at night.</p> <p>In night-time views from within the hotel and its grounds, the 2m high berm and 1.8m hedging located on its top will prevent most views of the Operations Building where it is lit up by the light from the proposed luminaires. Whilst the Hornbeam hedge is likely to retain most of its leaves during the winter months, this may not provide as dense a screen compared to summer months, and there may be glimpses of the lower lit sides of the Operations Building seen through the hedging. This would be seen in the context of already well-lit AWE Aldermaston Site perimeter security fencing and lighting along Cwm Road. It is anticipated that the Operations Building will block direct views of most other luminaires across the AWE Aldermaston Site.</p> <p>Any perception of sky glow across the AWE Aldermaston Site is not anticipated to be significantly affected by the proposals.</p> <p>Due to their orientation or location, many parts of the hotel and its grounds, there will experience no change in the night-time character of views available. From other locations there will be a slight change from those currently experienced. On balance for the overall views from the hotel and grounds as a whole, it is considered that impact of the Hydrus Development Site on night-time views would be of Negligible significance, particularly given the context of already well-lit AWE Aldermaston perimeter security fencing and along Cwm Road which would appear in front of views of the Hydrus Development Site.</p>							

Visual Receptor				Visual Impacts							
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51	Portland House, Aldermaston	Low	0.5km (Short)	<p>There are no existing views of the Hydrus Development Site due the dense woodland screen at to the south. Glimpses of the tallest existing AWE Aldermaston chimney stacks may be experienced from the upper windows at the southern end of the building.</p> <p>There may be glimpsed views of the LPS masts and the roof of the Operations Building from upper floors and from parts of the car parking area.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	Neg
52	Beenham Grange Industrial Estate	Low	3.1km (Middle)	<p>No existing views of the application area due to intervening woodland associated with Aldermaston Court. However, AWE Aldermaston's existing tall buildings and chimneys are visible above the trees.</p> <p>As a result of the proposals, the LPS masts will be visible above the treetops, seen within the context of the existing AWE Aldermaston Site structures.</p>	Neg	Permanent	NV	Neg	Neg	Neg	NC