

Appendix 7.F

LDNP Areas of Distinctive Character: Sensitivity Assessment

Lake District Area of Distinctive Character: 21 Ennerdale

Viewpoint Numbers within the ADC: 21, 23, 32

Direct landscape effects: **None**

Indirect landscape effects: **Moorside Site**

Key Characteristics (as defined by the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines)

- J Craggy ridges of Borrowdale Rock form a dramatic backdrop and evoke a sense of enclosure;
- J Outside of the nuclear settlement of Ennerdale Bridge, at the western most edge of the area, there are only a few scattered and isolated dwellings and farmsteads;
- J The only major Lakeland valley with no public road along it and virtually no habitation beyond the western most edge; Due to its location and relative inaccessibility, Ennerdale receives few visitors but is an important recreational resource for the urban communities of west Cumbria;
- J The eastern part of the valley, which is narrower and becomes more enclosed by the high rocky fells and narrower and is dominated by the conifer forests planted in the early part of the last century by the Forestry Commission. The steep rocky slopes of Kirk Fell, Great Gable, Steeple Pillar and Brandreth enclose the valley head. Pillar rock forms an imposing feature in the valley and is regarded as one of the birthplaces of mountaineering;
- J This contrasts with the open pastoral farmland to west end of valley with its rich network of hedgerows and mature trees giving the west end a much gentler feel;
- J The openness and proximity to the coastal plain gives this end of the valley a much lighter and more open feel;
- J To the east of the lake, a small compact valley bottom with fields and wall boundaries;
- J The woodlands in the valley are increasingly diverse with areas of semi-natural ancient oak woodland, mature non-native conifers, areas of clear fell, recent conifer planting and areas open to natural regeneration;
- J There is a very strong sense of enclosure within parts of the forest where the only built features are a small number of bridges (some incongruous in the landscape), the forest roads and the hostels at Gillerthwaite and Black Sail;
- J At the east end of the valley there is a harsh boundary between the grazed fell and the remains of the conifer forest most of which has now been felled. This contrasts with the area to the south of the lake where the Side provides one of the best examples of altitudinal succession in the Lake District;
- J The River Liza is a mobile, high energy river and has seen almost no human intervention along its length. As such it is one of the most geomorphologically important rivers in England;
- J The lake which provides water for the west coast has a stone and concrete revetment around its north-western most part; despite these built features there is a strong sense of tranquillity; and
- J **Predominantly very tranquil due to the lack of roads and other built structures and the relatively small number of visitors.**

*Those characteristics highlighted in **Bold** may be susceptible to change as a result of development within the Moorside Site.

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Landscape Designations | The whole ADC is within the LDNP. | Very High |
| Condition/Quality | Landscape features are generally intact and in good condition. | Very High to High |
| Scenic Quality | Scenic quality is very high with views framed by some of the Lake District's highest summits, including Green Gable, Great Gable, Pillar, Kirk Fell and Steeple, all of which contribute to a very strong recognisable sense of place within the valley and also provide orientation. From the higher land of Bowness Knott and the surrounding High Fells, long-distance views across adjacent landscapes can be gained including across the coastal plain and the Solway Firth to Scotland and the Isle of Man. | Very High |
| Rarity | This ADC forms part of the unique natural landscape of the LDNP. | Very High |
| Conservation Interests | In terms of nature conservation interests, SSSIs exist at Bowness Knot, Ennerdale and Pillar and Ennerdale Fells. A SAC (European designation) covers the Lake District Hill Fells south of the reservoir. A number of scheduled monuments are concentrated within Ennerdale Forest. | Very High |
| Recreation Value | A number of long distance routes pass through this ADC including Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk, Remote Lakeland Walk and St Begas Way whilst the Head to Head Walk passes along part of the southern boundary. Large areas of this ADC are open access land. | Very High |
| Perceptual Aspects | CPRE's tranquillity mapping indicates that a large proportion of this ADC is rated as being most tranquil. | Very High |
| Associations | Grike and Crag Fell and a number of other summits within the ADC are included in Wainwright's Book 7 ' <i>The Western Fells</i> '. | Very High |
| Overall Value | The LDNP designation combined with value ranging from Very High to High indicates a Very High overall value. | Very High |
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility |
| Physical Characteristics: There would be no physical changes to this ADC as a result of development within the Moorside Site | | N/A |
| Visual Characteristics: Views to the surrounding peaks of Great Gable, Steeple and Pillar contribute to recognisable sense of place whilst open long distance views from the higher fells and summits which border the ADC provide high levels of intervisibility with the coastal plain to the west and northwest, beyond the LDNP boundary. A limited degree of light intrusion is likely around Ennerdale Bridge; elsewhere dark night-time skies are present. | | High |
| Perceptual Characteristics: CPRE's tranquillity mapping indicates that this ADC contains large areas which are defined as being the most tranquil. This is reflected in the published description for this ADC which seeks to protect the " <i>strong sense of isolation and tranquillity</i> ". There is some limited visual intrusion from the higher fells which border the northern and southern fringes of this ADC as a result of the distance presence of the tallest stacks within the Sellafield Site and wind turbines around Workington which are small-scale but readily identifiable features in long distance views. | | Very High |
| Overall Susceptibility | The combination of High and Very High visual and perceptual susceptibility indicates Very High overall susceptibility. | Very High |

| Overall Sensitivity | | Susceptibility | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|--------|----------|----------|
| | | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low |
| Value | Very High | Very High | Very High | High | High | Medium |
| | High | Very High | High | High | Medium | Low |
| | Medium | High | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| | Low | High | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low |
| | Very Low | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low | Very Low |

Lake District Area of Distinctive Character: 28 Kinniside Common

Viewpoint Numbers within the ADC: 27, 28, 30, 35

Direct landscape effects: **None**

Indirect landscape effects: **Moorside Site**

Key Characteristics (as defined by the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines)

-) A gradual transition in the form of the landscape from high crags in the east to a smoother profile in the west;
-) **An expansive, wild upland landscape, with very few trees outside of the conifer plantations in the west. Views are unbroken by built features;**
-) The fells are ecologically poor and in places heavily grazed. Nardus dominated grassland with bracken in the valley bottoms;
-) There are virtually no boundaries or enclosures as the whole area is grazed as a common;
-) Worm Gill, with its wide boulder-strewn valley bottom is a highly mobile and dynamic river system and an extremely important geo-morphological feature of the area;
-) Archaeological evidence of previous settlement contrasts with the lack of development in the area today;
-) Blocks of forestry in the western part of the area fit awkwardly with the surrounding landscape; and
-) **Predominantly a very tranquil landscape, due to the openness of the hills, relative absence of dwellings, minimal sources of artificial noise and few signs of human influences.**

*Those characteristics highlighted in **Bold** may be susceptible to change as a result of development within the Moorside Site.

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Landscape Designations | The whole LCT is within the LDNP. | Very High |
| Condition/Quality | Landscape features are generally intact and in good condition. | Very High to High |
| Scenic Quality | The upland areas have visual connections with the surrounding valleys. The high fells dominate views to the east while to the west they are dominated by the coastal plain. The Sellafield Site is a readily identifiable feature in long distance views from elevated summits such as Lank Rigg and Boat How and western flanks of the Fells in clear weather conditions. | Very High to High |
| Rarity | This ADC forms part of the unique natural landscape of the LDNP. | Very High |
| Conservation Interests | The River Calder Section is a small SSSI within the western half of the ADC. A number of SMs are present across the ADC reflecting a long history of settlement in the area, including field systems, abandoned settlements and a small stone circle. | Very High |

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Recreation Value | A large proportion of this ADC is open access land. A number of long distance walking routes pass through the ADC, typically concentrated within its western half and include the Lake District Boundary Walk, St Begas Way, the Head to Head walk and Wainwright's Remote Lakeland and Coast to Coast Walks. | Very High |
| Perceptual Aspects | The openness and perceived naturalness of the landscape, together with the relative absence of dwellings, minimal sources of artificial noise and few signs of human influences (particularly away from the western boundary) creates a strong sense of tranquillity. This is reflected in CPRE's tranquillity mapping which shows the core of this ADC as being most tranquil with tranquillity along the western fringes diminishing slightly to moderately high particularly in proximity to Cleator Moor. | Very High to High |
| Associations | Lank Rigg and Caw Fell are included in Wainwright's Book 7 ' <i>The Western Fells</i> '. | Very High |
| Overall Value | The LDNP designation combined with value ranging from Very High to High indicates a Very High overall value. | Very High |
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility |
| Physical Characteristics: There would be no physical changes to this ADC as a result of development within the Moorside Site | | N/A |
| Visual Characteristics: This is an expansive and open landscape with long distance and scenic views to neighbouring fells and higher summits within the LDNP and along the coastline and across the Irish Sea. As such, this ADC has a strong intervisibility with the surrounding landscape which contains a limited number of visual intrusions including Sellafield and a number of wind turbines. The published description for this ADC seeks to " <i>retain and protect open views to and from the area and the strong sense of openness throughout, particularly from tall vertical or large-scale developments</i> ". A limited degree of light intrusion is likely around the western fringes where the ADC falls close to Cleator Moor; elsewhere dark night-time skies are present. | | High |
| Perceptual Characteristics: CPRE's tranquillity mapping indicates that this ADC contains large areas which are defined as being the most tranquil. This is reflected in the published description for this ADC which seeks to " <i>retain the strong sense of wilderness</i> " and " <i>maintain the strong sense of tranquillity throughout</i> ". There is some limited visual intrusion as a result of Sellafield and wind turbines around Workington which are readily identifiable features in long distance views. | | High |
| Overall Susceptibility | The two characteristics which may be affected by the proposed development (i.e. visual and perceptual characteristics) are both judged to be of high susceptibility resulting in a high overall susceptibility. | High |

| Overall Sensitivity | | Susceptibility | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|------------------|--------|----------|----------|
| | | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low |
| Value | Very High | Very High | Very High | High | High | Medium |
| | High | Very High | High | High | Medium | Low |
| | Medium | High | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| | Low | High | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low |
| | Very Low | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low | Very Low |

Lake District Area of Distinctive Character: 29 Wastwater and Wasdale

Viewpoint Numbers within the ADC: 20, 29, 36, 37

Direct landscape effects: **None**

Indirect landscape effects: **Moorside Site**

Key Characteristics (as defined by the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines)

- J A landscape of contrasts, where England's deepest lake is surrounded by some of the highest summits;
- J Ancient unusual and complex thick ring garth and stone wall system near Wasdale Head is one of the most important and distinctive in Europe;
- J Sheer grey, weathered scree slopes which dominate the southern shores of the lake and hint at the very steep V-shaped profile of this Dale; (it is easy to imagine that they continue under the water, to the deepest depths of the Lake);
- J An over-whelming sense of majesty, drama and foreboding enclosure that the steep slopes provide;
- J The unique and visually stimulating pattern of stone walls, comprising large rounded stones, which divide fields at Wasdale Head and spread high up onto the fell sides;
- J **Strong sense of isolation at the western head of the Lake and strong sense of tranquillity;**
- J Strong links with mountaineering and the sense that many visitor journeys begin here;
- J Major erosion, litter and disturbance impacts from Three Peaks Challenge events;
- J Dramatic backdrop and shadow of Scafell Pike, which is often shrouded in mysterious mists and throws dramatic shadows on the buildings and landscape at its foot;
- J Unique pockets of parkland and grassy knolls within the Nether Wasdale Estate;
- J Contrast between the striking grey colour of the scree slopes and fell sides and lush green and brown vegetation cover at lower altitudes, often reflecting in the grey, blue lake;
- J Scots Pine parkland entering valley from Gosforth junction (old golf course);
- J Medieval deer park;
- J Low Wood at eastern end of the lake;
- J Vendace within the lake; and
- J **Predominantly a very tranquil landscape due to openness and perceived naturalness of the valley.**
- J **There is a relative absence of dwellings, minimal sources of artificial noise and few obvious signs of human influences away from Nether Wasdale.**

*Those characteristics highlighted in **Bold** may be susceptible to change as a result of development within the Moorside Site.

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Landscape Designations | The whole LCT is within the LDNP. | Very High |
| Condition/Quality | Landscape features are generally intact and in good condition. | Very High to High |
| Scenic Quality | Scenic quality is very high with Wast Water flanked by Red Pike, Kirk Fell, Great Gable and Scafell Pike. The Sellafield Site forms a small component of views from a limited number of elevated summits such as Red Pike, Illgill Head and Whin Rigg in clear weather conditions. | Very High |
| Rarity | This ADC forms part of the unique natural landscape of the LDNP. | Very High |

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| Conservation Interests | Wast Water is a SSSI (national nature conservation designation) and SAC (European designations). To the south of the lake lie the Wasdale Screes SSSI/SAC whilst to the west lie the Greendale Mires SSSI/SAC. There are limited cultural heritage designations. | Very High |
| Recreation Value | The valley is popular with climbers and fell walkers and a large proportion of the ADC is classified as open access land. Wainwright's Remote Lakeland walk passes through the ADC close to Nether Wasdale. | Very High |
| Perceptual Aspects | CPRE's tranquillity mapping shows part of this ADC as being most tranquil whilst within the valley bottom levels are slightly lower and likely to be influenced by the presence of Nether Wasdale and small network of minor roads. The published description cites that " <i>The area has a very strong sense of tranquillity due to openness and perceived naturalness of the landscape. There is a relative absence of dwellings, minimal sources of artificial noise away from Nether Wasdale and the minor roads along the northern banks of Wastwater</i> ". | Very High to High |
| Associations | Seatallen, Middle Fell, Yewbarrow and Kirk Fell are all included in Wainwright's Book 7 ' <i>The Western Fells</i> '. Whin Rigg and Ilgill Head on the south side of the lake are in Wainwright's Book 4 ' <i>The Southern Fells</i> '. | Very High |
| Overall Value | The LDNP designation combined with value ranging from Very High to High indicates a Very High overall value. | Very High |
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility |
| Physical Characteristics: There would be no physical changes to this ADC as a result of development within the Moorside Site | | N/A |
| Visual Characteristics: From some of the higher fells within this ADC there are expansive long distance and scenic views to neighbouring fells and higher summits within the LDNP and often framed views of the coastline and across the Irish Sea. This ADC has a strong intervisibility with the surrounding landscape with visual intrusions largely limited to that of the Sellafield Site. The published description for this ADC seeks to " <i>Protect dramatic open views to Scafell Pike and the surrounding High Fells from interruption by tall vertical or large-scale developments</i> ". Reference to the light pollution map for the UK indicates that dark night-time skies are present. | | Very High |
| Perceptual Characteristics: Reference to CPRE's Tranquillity Mapping indicates levels of tranquillity that are typically slightly lower than those considered to be 'Most Tranquil' areas and likely to be influenced by the presence of Nether Wasdale and small network of minor roads. The 'Guidelines for managing landscape change' published as part of the description for this ADC seeks to " <i>Protect very strong sense of isolation and tranquillity throughout the area</i> ". Field surveys indicate that there is some limited visual intrusion as a result of Sellafield from localised areas within the ADC. | | High |
| Overall Susceptibility | The combination of High and Very High visual and perceptual susceptibility indicates Very High overall susceptibility. | Very High |

| Overall Sensitivity | | Susceptibility | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|--------|----------|----------|
| | | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low |
| Value | Very High | Very High | Very High | High | High | Medium |
| | High | Very High | High | High | Medium | Low |
| | Medium | High | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| | Low | High | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low |
| | Very Low | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low | Very Low |

Lake District Area of Distinctive Character: 30 Scafell Massif

Note: this ADC is beyond the 10km Detailed Study Area, but has been included due to requests from consultees.

Viewpoint Numbers within the ADC: 19, 26, 31, 38

Direct landscape effects: **None**

Indirect landscape effects: **Moorside Site**

Key Characteristics (as defined by the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines)

- J The central and highest part of the Lake District contains magnificent, wild, remote and rugged mountain scenery, including England's highest mountain, Scafell Pike;
- J Distinctive rock formations, steep rock faces, screes and the effects of glaciation contribute to its distinctive sense of place, and landmarks within the area include high peaks, tarns and passes. Views from this area are panoramic in all directions, but are not dominated by a single lake;
- J Rocks contribute a craggy, jagged texture to the landscape. The colours, sounds and patterns of the landscape are constantly changing, affected by variation in light, weather and season. The landscape may be observed at a variety of scales, from panoramic views to the detail of a stone;
- J **The remoteness, tranquillity and isolation of the area, combined with the physical challenges it offers, makes it popular with walkers and climbers; and**
- J **Powerful scenery, with relatively few human influences, creates a sense of timelessness.**

*Those characteristics highlighted in **Bold** may be susceptible to change as a result of development within the Moorside Site.

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Landscape Designations | The whole LCT is within the LDNP. | Very High |
| Condition/Quality | Landscape features are generally intact and in good condition. | Very High to High |
| Scenic Quality | Scenic quality is very high with panoramic views over the Lake District and beyond in all directions from the highest points. The Sellafield Site forms a very small component of views from Scafell Pike and only in clear weather conditions. | Very High |
| Rarity | This ADC forms part of the unique natural landscape of the LDNP. | Very High |
| Conservation Interests | The Scafell Pikes SSSI (national nature conservation designation) and SAC (European designation) lie with this ADC. Miterdale Head Wood SSSI also is also present within this area. With regard to cultural heritage designations, a cluster of SMs are found across Eskdale Fell. | Very High |
| Recreation Value | A large part of this ADC is classified as open access land and Wainwright's Remote Lakeland walk passes through the ADC. Scafell Pike is also one of three British peaks climbed as part of the National Three Peaks Challenge and is one of the most popular walking areas in England. | Very High |
| Perceptual Aspects | The openness and perceived naturalness of this ADC give it a very strong sense of remoteness, tranquillity and isolation as reflected in CPRE's tranquillity mapping which defines large areas as being most tranquil. High visitor numbers means frequent human presence on Scafell Pike and the most popular ascent/decent routes. | Very High to High |
| Associations | Slight Side, Scafell Pike, Scafell and Great End are all included in Wainwright's Book 4 'The Southern Fells'. | Very High |
| Overall Value | The LDNP designation combined with value ranging from Very High to High indicates a Very High overall value. | Very High |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| Physical Characteristics: There would be no physical changes to this ADC as a result of development within the Moorside Site | | N/A | | | | |
| Visual Characteristics: Expansive views across the surrounding area to distant lakes and valleys are available from within this ADC as well as to the coastal fringes from the highest summits and fells. Visual intrusions are largely limited to that of the Sellafield Site. The published description for this ADC seeks to “ <i>Retain strong intervisibility with adjacent Areas of Distinctive Character from the edges of this area</i> ”, “ <i>Conserve dramatic panoramic views across adjacent landscapes</i> ” and “ <i>Protect views into and from the area from tall vertical or large-scale developments</i> ”. | | Very High | | | | |
| Perceptual Characteristics: CPRE’s tranquillity mapping indicates that this ADC contains large areas which are defined as being the most tranquil. This is reflected in the ‘Guidelines for managing landscape change’ published as part of the description for this ADC which seek to “ <i>Maintain strong sense of isolation, remoteness and tranquillity throughout</i> ”. Field surveys indicate that there is some limited visual intrusion as a result of the Sellafield Site from localised areas within the ADC. | | High | | | | |
| Overall Susceptibility | The combination of High and Very High visual and perceptual susceptibility indicates Very High overall susceptibility. | Very High | | | | |
| Overall Sensitivity | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| | | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low |
| Value | Very High | Very High | Very High | High | High | Medium |
| | High | Very High | High | High | Medium | Low |
| | Medium | High | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| | Low | High | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low |
| | Very Low | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low | Very Low |

Lake District Area of Distinctive Character: 36 Calder Valley

Viewpoint Numbers within the ADC: 10, 11

Direct landscape effects: **None**

Indirect landscape effects: **Moorside Site**

Key Characteristics (as defined by the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines)

- J Gently meandering narrow course of the River Calder which is fringed by patches of mixed woodland with a few dominant exotic conifers lower down the valley;
- J Predominantly flat valley floor, comprising predominantly pastoral fields, divided by a combination of mature hedgerows and occasional walls;
- J Relatively steep valley sides, which provide views across and along the valley; an irregular patchwork of field boundaries;
- J Many old stone-faced kests (hedgebanks) and redundant hedgelines; significant areas of rough upland grazing with the pattern of old intake boundaries;
- J Ruins of Calder Abbey (built in 1134 for William de Meschines and the order of Savigny) are a landscape feature;
- J Intricate and fairly small-scale field pattern, with fields following the line of the river course;
- J General absence of settlements or farmsteads within the valley, other than Calder Bridge, a small, nucleated village;
- J Very distinctive vernacular style in some buildings using the local red sandstone which is also a feature of wall boundaries;
- J **Dominating presence of Sellafield nuclear plant at the western end of the valley (the river runs through the centre of the plant) can be seen from higher up the valley; and**
- J **Predominantly a tranquil landscape especially to the north east away from Sellafield nuclear site.**
- J **The sense of tranquillity is due to the openness and perceived naturalness of the pastoral landscape.**

*Those characteristics highlighted in Bold may be susceptible to change as a result of development within the Moorside Site.

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Landscape Designations | The whole LCT is within the LDNP. | Very High |
| Condition/Quality | Landscape features are generally intact and in good condition. | High |
| Scenic Quality | This is a small-scale landscape which consists of patchwork pastoral fields. Open views are available across the coastal plain and Irish Sea to the west from increasingly elevated land in which the infrastructure within the Sellafield Site is a moderately prominent visual component. | Very High to Medium |
| Rarity | This ADC forms part of the unique natural landscape of the LDNP. | Very High |
| Conservation Interests | There are no nature conservation designations within the ADC. Cultural heritage assets are limited to two SMs including Calder Abbey. | Medium |
| Recreation Value | A moderate proportion of this ADC is classed as open access land. The Lake District Boundary Walk also passes through the area. | High |

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|----------|
| Perceptual Aspects | CPRE's tranquillity mapping indicates generally high levels of tranquillity across the northern and eastern parts of this ADC as a result of the openness and perceived naturalness of the pastoral landscape together with a relative absence of dwellings and minimal sources of artificial noise. This reduces to more moderate levels along the western fringes close to Calder Bridge, Gosforth, the A595 and the Sellafield Site. | Very High to Medium | | | | |
| Associations | Ponsonby Fell is included in Wainwright's Book <i>'The Outlying Fells of Lakeland'</i> . | High | | | | |
| Overall Value | The LDNP designation combined with value ranging from Very High to Medium indicates a Very High overall value. | Very High | | | | |
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| Physical Characteristics: There would be no physical changes to this ADC as a result of development within the Moorside Site. | | N/A | | | | |
| Visual Characteristics: Views from the upper fells within this ADC are expansive and include Sellafield as a prominent visual component in the landscape. The published description notes <i>"At the western end of the valley the landscape is dominated by the imposing presence of Sellafield nuclear power station, which blocks open views towards the sea"</i> . The light pollution map for the UK indicates moderate levels of light intrusion around Calder Bridge and Gosforth on the western fringes with the high levels of lighting within the Sellafield Site influencing this. Lower levels of light intrusion are present to the north decreasing further to minimal to the east. | | Medium | | | | |
| Perceptual Characteristics: Reference to CPRE's tranquillity mapping indicates moderate levels of tranquillity around the western fringes of this ADC close to Calder Bridge and Gosforth increasing north and west to include some of the most tranquil areas. This is noted in the published description for this ADC which states <i>"In the north and east of the area the sense of tranquillity is strong due to the openness and perceived naturalness of the pastoral landscape. In the south and west the sense of tranquillity is disturbed by the visual dominance of Sellafield nuclear site and traffic noise along the A595"</i> . There are no published 'Guidelines for managing landscape change' which relate to aesthetic and perceptual character. | | Medium | | | | |
| Overall Susceptibility | The visual and perceptual characteristics indicate Medium overall susceptibility. | Medium | | | | |
| Overall Sensitivity | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low | |
| Value | Very High | Very High | Very High | High | High | Medium |
| | High | Very High | High | High | Medium | Low |
| | Medium | High | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| | Low | High | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low |
| | Very Low | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low | Very Low |

Lake District Area of Distinctive Character: 37 Bleng and Irt Valleys

Viewpoint Numbers within the ADC: None

Direct landscape effects: **None**

Indirect landscape effects: **Moorside Site**

Key Characteristics (as defined by the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines)

- J Two valleys which link the lowland plain to the upland fells and are set against the distinctive backdrop of the High Fell Fringe;
- J **Gently undulating, peaceful landscape dominated by pastoral farmland in the west and the large forests of Blengdale and Miterdale to the east where the landscape becomes wilder and more rugged nearer to the High Fells to the east;**
- J **Generally open with views throughout the area framed by irregular clumps of woodland in the west, and views towards the edges of the High Fells to the east;**
- J Fine, large houses of the late 18th and 19th century, built by wealthy shipping owners of West Cumbrian ports, form a distinctive element of the local landscape. Good examples include Irton Hall, Steelfield Hall and Greenlands, all with mature gardens and landscaping;
- J Areas of parkland associated with country houses;
- J **Predominantly a tranquil landscape, especially towards the east away from the busy coast route and towns of Santon Bridge and Gosforth;**
- J The large dark conifer block in Miterdale contrast sharply with the lighter coloured fell sides and natural contours. The conifer fringe on the eastern edge of Whin Rigg is intrusive from many vantage points;
- J **Distinctive Irton 'Pike' at the western end of Whin Rigg, whose top cleared of conifers provides views along the coastal plain, including the intimate Ravenglass Estuary;**
- J Blengdale forest includes some of the largest and tallest conifers in Cumbria; and
- J Historic Native Woodland, late medieval settlement and veteran trees in Miterdale.

*Those characteristics highlighted in **Bold** may be susceptible to change as a result of development within the Moorside Site.

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Landscape Designations | The whole LCT is within the LDNP. | Very High |
| Condition/Quality | Landscape features are generally intact and in good condition. | Very High to High |
| Scenic Quality | The undulating topography allows open views across adjacent predominantly pastoral, farmland landscape, which are framed by small, mainly irregular, clumps of woodland (both deciduous and coniferous). The Sellafeld Site is a recognisable feature in views along the coastal plain to the north from elevated areas such as around Irton Pike and the north-western flanks of Muncaster Fell. | High |
| Rarity | This ADC forms part of the unique natural landscape of the LDNP. | Very High |
| Conservation Interests | There are no national/European nature conservation designations within this ADC. Three SMs are present within the area. | Medium |
| Recreation Value | Two long distance recreational routes pass through this ADC: Wainwright's Remote Lakeland and the Lake District Boundary Walk. Some small pockets of open access land can be found throughout the area with a higher concentration present along Muncaster Fell and the western end of Whin Rigg. Part of the Ravenglass to Eskdale Steam Railway line passes through the ADC and is a popular tourist attraction. | High |

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
| Perceptual Aspects | Reference to CPRE's tranquillity mapping indicates that tranquillity levels are high in the northern part of this ADC around Blengdale Forest reducing to moderately high to moderate levels along the western fringes as a result of the proximity to Gosforth and the A595 as well as the minor road network which extends toward Santon Bridge and Nether Wasdale. | High to Medium | | | |
| Associations | Irton Pike is a summit included in Wainwright's Book ' <i>The Outlying Fells of Lakeland</i> '. | High | | | |
| Overall Value | The LDNP designation combined with value ranging from Very High to Medium indicates a Very High overall value. | Very High | | | |
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility | | | |
| Physical Characteristics: There would be no physical changes to this ADC as a result of development within the Moorside Site | | N/A | | | |
| Visual Characteristics: The undulating topography allows open views across adjacent predominantly pastoral, farmland landscape, which are framed by small, mainly irregular, clumps of woodland. From elevated locations such as Irton Fell and the western flank of Muncaster Fell, expansive views across the coastal plain are available with visual intrusions limited to Sellafield. Amongst the landscape sensitivities cited in the published document is the " <i>openness across the landscape which is vulnerable to interruption by large scale or tall vertical elements</i> ". The light pollution map for the UK indicates low levels of light intrusion around Santon Bridge and Eskdale Green with light sources in Gosforth also exerting an influence across a moderate proportion of this ADC. | | High | | | |
| Perceptual Characteristics: CPRE's tranquillity mapping indicates that this ADC contains large areas which are defined as being the most tranquil. This is reflected in the 'Guidelines for managing landscape change' published as part of the description for this ADC which seek to " <i>Retain general strong sense of openness and tranquillity throughout the area</i> ". Tranquillity levels are typically lower across the western edge of the ADC as a result of the proximity to Gosforth and the A595. | | High | | | |
| Overall Susceptibility | The visual and perceptual characteristics indicate High overall susceptibility. | High | | | |
| Overall Sensitivity | Susceptibility | | | | |
| | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low |
| Value | Very High | Very High | High | High | Medium |
| High | Very High | High | High | Medium | Low |
| Medium | High | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| Low | High | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low |
| Very Low | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low | Very Low |

Lake District Area of Distinctive Character: 44 Eskdale

Viewpoint Numbers within the ADC: 17

Direct landscape effects: **None**

Indirect landscape effects: **Moorside Site**

Key Characteristics (as defined by the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines)

- J Long valley of contrasts, moving west to east from the broad coastal plain at the western edge, to the soft, verdant, green landscape surrounding the river, with cascading becks in the middle section, to the rugged, craggy and bleaker mountain character at the eastern end of the valley;
- J Strong enclosure pattern of pink granite stone walls criss-crossing the dale sides, which are clad in heather moorland and rough grass at higher altitudes;
- J Use of local pink granite, as boulders, river cobbles or quarried stone has created the most distinctive and recognisable building character in the Lake District. Also the use of St. Bees red sandstone in the 19th century for stone dressings, adds to the identity and sense of place;
- J Large patches of woodland, broadleaved, mixed and coniferous give a well wooded feel apart from at the eastern end of the valley;
- J Steep and dramatic twisting path of Hardknott Pass leads visitors into and out of the valley at the eastern end;
- J Muncaster Castle, with its extensive gardens and woodland is a striking landscape feature perched on a high shelf above the floor of the valley at its western end;
- J Meandering River Esk, which often cascades and tumbles down the valley and is lined with patches of linear woodland, provides the central focus of the area;
- J **Accessible and popular landscape;**
- J Series of tarns perched above the valley sides (including Blea Tarn and Stony Tarn); and
- J **Predominantly a tranquil valley especially at the foot of the High Fells in the east. The strong sense of tranquillity is due to the openness and perceived naturalness of the valley in addition to the relative absence of settlements and night time light pollution.**

*Those characteristics highlighted in **Bold** may be susceptible to change as a result of development within the Moorside Site.

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Landscape Designations | The whole LCT is within the LDNP. | Very High |
| Condition/Quality | Landscape features are generally intact and in good condition. | High |
| Scenic Quality | Scenic quality is generally high with the surrounding High Fells contributing to a strong sense of enclosure on the valley floor. In more open views along the Cumbrian coastal plain from elevated summits and fells, the Sellafield Site is a recognisable and relatively small-scale visual intrusion. | Very High to High |
| Rarity | This ADC forms part of the unique natural landscape of the LDNP. | Very High |
| Conservation Interests | Nature Conservation interest is focussed on a number of nationally designated SSSIs including Cropple How Mire, Milkingstead Wood and Water Crag. Part of the Drigg Coast SSSI/SAC also extends into the western fringes of this ADC. In terms of cultural heritage assets, Muncaster Castle Registered Park and Garden lies within this ADC and a number of SMs are also present throughout the area. | Very High |
| Recreation Value | Part of the Ravenglass to Eskdale Steam Railway line passes through the ADC and is a popular tourist attraction along with Muncaster Castle and its gardens. The ADC also contains a moderate proportion of open access land and part of the Lake District Boundary Walk. | High |

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
| Perceptual Aspects | CPRE's tranquillity map indicates generally high levels of tranquillity which are reduced to more moderate levels through the valley as a result of the minor road which runs the length of the valley. | Very High to Medium | | | | |
| Associations | Hooker Crag on Muncaster Fell is a summit included in Wainwright's Book ' <i>The Outlying Fells of Lakeland</i> '. | High | | | | |
| Overall Value | The LDNP designation combined with value ranging from Very High to High with the exception of one Medium indicates a Very High overall value. | Very High | | | | |
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| Physical Characteristics: There would be no physical changes to this ADC as a result of development within the Moorside Site | | N/A | | | | |
| Visual Characteristics: Views are generally contained within the valley with more expansive views across the coastal plain restricted to the upper reaches of Muncaster Fell and the far western flanks of Birker Fell either side of the valley. Within these more elevated views, visual intrusion is likely to be limited to Sellafield. Amongst the landscape sensitivities cited in the published document is the " <i>openness across the landscape which is vulnerable to interruption by large scale or tall vertical elements</i> ". The light pollution map for the UK indicates that light intrusion is limited to very low levels on the periphery of this ADC around Eskdale Green and Waberthwaite; elsewhere dark skies are present. | | High | | | | |
| Perceptual Characteristics: CPRE's tranquillity mapping indicates that this ADC contains large areas which are defined as possessing high levels of tranquillity which is slightly disturbed by the minor road that runs the length of the valley especially in the peak of the tourist season when the road becomes busy. This is reflected in the 'Guidelines for managing landscape change' published as part of the description for this ADC which seek to " <i>Maintain strong sense of isolation, tranquillity and sense of place throughout</i> ". | | High | | | | |
| Overall Susceptibility | The visual and perceptual characteristics indicate High overall susceptibility. | High | | | | |
| Overall Sensitivity | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| | | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low |
| Value | Very High | Very High | Very High | High | High | Medium |
| | High | Very High | High | High | Medium | Low |
| | Medium | High | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| | Low | High | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low |
| | Very Low | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low | Very Low |

Lake District Area of Distinctive Character: 45 Ulpha and Corney Fell

Note: this ADC is beyond the 10km Detailed Study Area, but has been included due to requests from consultees.

Viewpoint Numbers within the ADC: 25, 39, 43

Direct landscape effects: **None**

Indirect landscape effects: **Moorside Site**

Key Characteristics (as defined by the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines)

-) **Often elevated, open and expansive with dramatic views of the coast and estuary to the west and the Scafell range to the east from many areas including from narrow fell roads;**
-) A rich archaeology of settlement and working of the land, which contrasts with the present apparently empty and natural landscape;
-) The lack of tall vegetation and development mean that the changing effects of light, weather and season are particularly important to the appearance and atmosphere of the landscape;
-) Extensive tracts of degraded peatland habitat;
-) Distinctive features in the area include Devoke water, discreet areas of improved pasture carved out of the fell associated with sheilings and consolidated as farms;
-) Single-track, unenclosed fell roads across an elevated landscape; and
-) **Predominantly a tranquil area especially on the fells where there is a strong sense of openness and perception of naturalness.**

*Those characteristics highlighted in **Bold** may be susceptible to change as a result of development within the Moorside Site.

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Landscape Designations | The whole LCT is within the LDNP. | Very High |
| Condition/Quality | Landscape features are generally intact and in good condition. | Very High to High |
| Scenic Quality | To the north and east are views of the adjacent high fells and the Scafell range, which create a strong sense of enclosure. By contrast to the west, there is a sense of openness, with panoramic views towards the coastline. The published Character Assessment notes the Sellafield Site as an “ <i>industrial feature within several views north-westwards from this area</i> ”. | Very High to High |
| Rarity | This ADC forms part of the unique natural landscape of the LDNP. | Very High |
| Conservation Interests | Nature conservation designations are limited to small areas of SSSI at Water Crag and Buckbarrow Beck. The area is rich in terms of cultural heritage assets with a high number of SMs present across the fells relating to prehistoric cairns, field systems and enclosures, medieval settlement and later industrial archaeology associated with mining on the fells. | Very High |
| Recreation Value | A high proportion of this ADC is classed as open access land. Wainwright’s Remote Lakeland Walk also passes through the area. | High |
| Perceptual Aspects | This ADC has a strong sense of tranquillity due to the strong sense of openness and perception of naturalness, enhanced by the relative absence of dwellings, settlements and busy roads. There is a sense of wildness and isolation on the hills devoid from general signs of overt human impact and noise. This is reflected in CPREs tranquillity mapping which indicates that large areas of this ADC are included as being of the highest levels of tranquillity. | Very High |

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
| Associations | Whitfell, Stainton Pike, Hesk Fell, White Pike, Yoadcastle, Great Worm Crag, Rough Crag and Water Crag are all summits included in Wainwright's Book 'The Outlying Fells of Lakeland'. Long Crag is including in Wainwright's Book 4 'The Southern Fells'. | Very High | | | | |
| Overall Value | The LDNP designation combined with value ranging from Very High to High indicates a Very High overall value. | Very High | | | | |
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| Physical Characteristics: There would be no physical changes to this ADC as a result of development within the Moorside Site | | N/A | | | | |
| Visual Characteristics: This is an elevated and open landscape which facilitates expansive and panoramic views towards the coastline and along the coastal plain to the west/northwest. To the north and east, a strong sense of enclosure is provided by the landscape of adjacent high fells, including the Scafell range. The description of this ADC cites that " <i>Sellafield power station is also a dominant industrial feature within several views north-westwards from this area</i> ". The 'Guidelines for managing landscape change' published as part of the description for this ADC seek to " <i>Retain strong sense of openness, which is vulnerable to interruption from tall vertical or large scale developments</i> " and " <i>Protect open and panoramic views westwards towards the coastline and seascape</i> ". The light pollution map for the UK indicates dark skies are present. | | High | | | | |
| Perceptual Characteristics: CPREs tranquillity mapping indicates that large areas of this ADC are included as being of the highest levels of tranquillity. This is reflected in the description for the ADC which notes that the " <i>Sense of tranquillity is relatively strong throughout this area, other than at shift change times at nearby Sellafield power station, when for a short time, the roads become a rat-run for fast-moving cars</i> ". The 'Guidelines for managing landscape change' published as part of the description seeks to " <i>Maintain strong sense of tranquillity throughout</i> ". | | High | | | | |
| Overall Susceptibility | The visual and perceptual characteristics indicate High overall susceptibility. | High | | | | |
| Overall Sensitivity | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| | | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low |
| Value | Very High | Very High | Very High | High | High | Medium |
| | High | Very High | High | High | Medium | Low |
| | Medium | High | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| | Low | High | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low |
| | Very Low | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low | Very Low |

Lake District Area of Distinctive Character: 52 Ravenglass and Bootle

Viewpoint Numbers within the ADC: 15, 24, 41, 42

Direct landscape effects: **None**

Indirect landscape effects: **Moorside Site**

Key Characteristics (as defined by the Lake District National Park Landscape Character Assessment and Guidelines)

- J Ravenglass, the only coastal settlement in the Lake District, has a very special character, at the estuary of the Rivers Esk, Mite and Irt;
- J The village was formerly a busy port and market centre. Its continuous frontage of mainly rendered buildings of the 18th and 19th centuries, facing a broad main street, fossilises the medieval street layout. Viewed from the shore, the village grows out of the granite and red sandstone robust sea wall
- J An open coastline with sand and shingle, sandy beaches and dunes, with the underlying geology occasionally showing in the form of low sandstone cliffs;
- J The Ravenglass estuary with intertidal mudflats and saltmarsh framed by extensive sand dunes;
- J Flat to gently undulating and sloping coastal landscape, which falls from east to west towards the sea;
- J Predominantly pastoral farmland where the generally regular fields are divided by a mixture of hedgerows, dry stone walls, kests and wire fences;
- J Kests (stone and turf walls) built using rounded river cobbles embedded in alternating layers of turf;
- J Rising High Fells (including Black Combe and the wooded side of Muncaster Fell) to the east, provide a dramatic backdrop and contribute to a strong sense of place and enclosure;
- J **Predominantly open landscape, with open views northwards along the coastline, landmark features include Sellafield power station (to the north) and the windfarm (south of Silecroft) and Eskmeals firing range;**
- J Several narrow, single-track lanes connect the area with beaches to the west;
- J Vast, expansive seascape to the west;
- J **Sense of tranquillity within the area varies, dependent on proximity to the hustle and bustle of Ravenglass and the Sellafield power station; and**
- J **Predominantly a tranquil area away from the A595 due to the openness and perception of naturalness of the coast along with the relative absence of dwellings and settlements and sources of artificial noise.**

*Those characteristics highlighted in **Bold** may be susceptible to change as a result of development within the Moorside Site.

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Landscape Designations | The whole LCT is within the LDNP. | Very High |
| Condition/Quality | Landscape features are generally intact and in good condition. | Very High to High |
| Scenic Quality | The flat to gently undulating topography within this ADC means that long distance views in all directions are common. There are extensive long-distance sea views westwards to an uncluttered horizon whilst in views eastwards, the backdrop of the Black Combe to the south and adjacent high fells to the north, provides a strong sense of containment. The Sellafield Site is noted within the published Character Assessment as being “ <i>a distinctive landmark in views to the north</i> ” whilst the 132kV line which passes south to north through much of this ADC is locally prominent. | High |
| Rarity | This ADC forms part of the unique natural landscape of the LDNP. | Very High |

| Value Criteria | Commentary | Value |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Conservation Interests | A large part of this ADC is covered by the Drigg Coast SSSI (National nature conservation designation) and SAC (European Designation) with part of the coast also lying within the Cumbria Coast MCZ. A local nature reserve (Drigg Dunes and Gullery) is present to the west of Ravenglass whilst a second reserve (Eskmeals Dunes) lies to the south. With regard to cultural heritage assets, part of Muncaster Castle Registered Park and Garden extends into this ADC whilst part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Hadrian's Wall) WHS also lies just south of Ravenglass. | Very High |
| Recreation Value | The ADC is crossed by a number of long distance recreational routes including the Lake District Boundary Walk, Wainwright's Remote Lakeland and the Cumbrian Coastal Path although this route is no longer being promoted by Cumbria County Council. The Whitehaven to Silecroft stretch of the England Coast Path was approved by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in September 2015 with new access rights along the route expected by late 2016/early 2017. A small part of Sustrans National Cycle Route 72 also passes through the ADC and pockets of land are classed as open access land. The Ravenglass to Eskdale Steam Railway starts from Ravenglass and is a popular tourist attraction. | Very High |
| Perceptual Aspects | This is a large-scale landscape with generally high levels of tranquillity indicated by CPRE's tranquillity mapping. The area of ADC across the dune system has a strong sense of remoteness and seclusion with a perception of naturalness of the coast. The absence of noise (with the exception of the sea and birdsong) and human influence leads to a strong sense of tranquillity. Field-observations noted that elsewhere within the ADC levels of tranquillity, together with the feeling of remoteness are locally disturbed by the periodic sound and movement of trains along West Coast line and around the A595 due to traffic noise. | Very High to High |
| Associations | There are no known literary or artistic associations but a high presence of heritage designations. | High |
| Overall Value | The LDNP designation combined with value ranging from Very High to High indicates a Very High overall value. | Very High |
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility |
| Physical Characteristics: There would be no physical changes to this ADC as a result of development within the Moorside Site | | N/A |
| Visual Characteristics: This is a large-scale landscape with large open skies. Long distance and often scenic views are available inland to the fells and north along the coastal fringes in which Sellafield is already a small-scale industrial component. The published description for this ADC seeks to <i>"Retain open uncluttered views towards rising High Fells (Black Combe) which provide a dramatic backdrop, and open uncluttered views across a vast, expansive seascape to the west"</i> . Reference to the light pollution map indicates that light intrusion is minimal across much of the ADC, with a low degrees concentrated around Ravenglass, Waberthwaite and the Eskmeals Range. | | High |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
| Susceptibility Commentary (to development within the Moorside Site) | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| <p>Perceptual Characteristics: Reference to CPRE’s Tranquillity Mapping indicates a moderate to high level of tranquillity and remoteness, reduced by the periodic sound and movement of trains along the adjacent line and intervisibility with Ravenglass. The ADC displays only limited examples of visual intrusion including the distant presence of Sellafield and a 132kV overhead line. The qualities of naturalness (largely undeveloped area) are vulnerable to intrusion from large-scale infrastructure in adjacent landscapes.</p> | | High | | | | |
| Overall Susceptibility | The visual and perceptual characteristics indicate High overall susceptibility. | High | | | | |
| Overall Sensitivity | | Susceptibility | | | | |
| | | Very High | High | Medium | Low | Very Low |
| Value | Very High | Very High | Very High | High | High | Medium |
| | High | Very High | High | High | Medium | Low |
| | Medium | High | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| | Low | High | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low |
| | Very Low | Medium | Low | Low | Very Low | Very Low |