

6.3.3 Viewpoint Analysis

The visual assessment considers the likely impact that development would have on the existing landscape character and visual amenity by selecting prominent sites, otherwise referred to as viewpoints. For the purpose of the VIA, nine viewpoints were selected on the basis of where development of the proposal site would be most prominent. This was either based on the degree of exposure or the number of people who are likely to be affected by the development.

Sites were first selected by using topographical maps. This was followed by field inspections to ground truth the visibility and potential for impact from these sites. Further viewpoints were selected by driving and walking around the site area. It is important to note that viewpoints for this study have been taken only from accessible public land however this does include viewpoints that are adjacent to residences potentially affected by the development. As part of the Viewpoint Analysis the Landscape Character and Visual Sensitivity were also assessed from each viewpoint.

The detailed VIA included in Appendix F encompasses the viewpoint description and analysis.

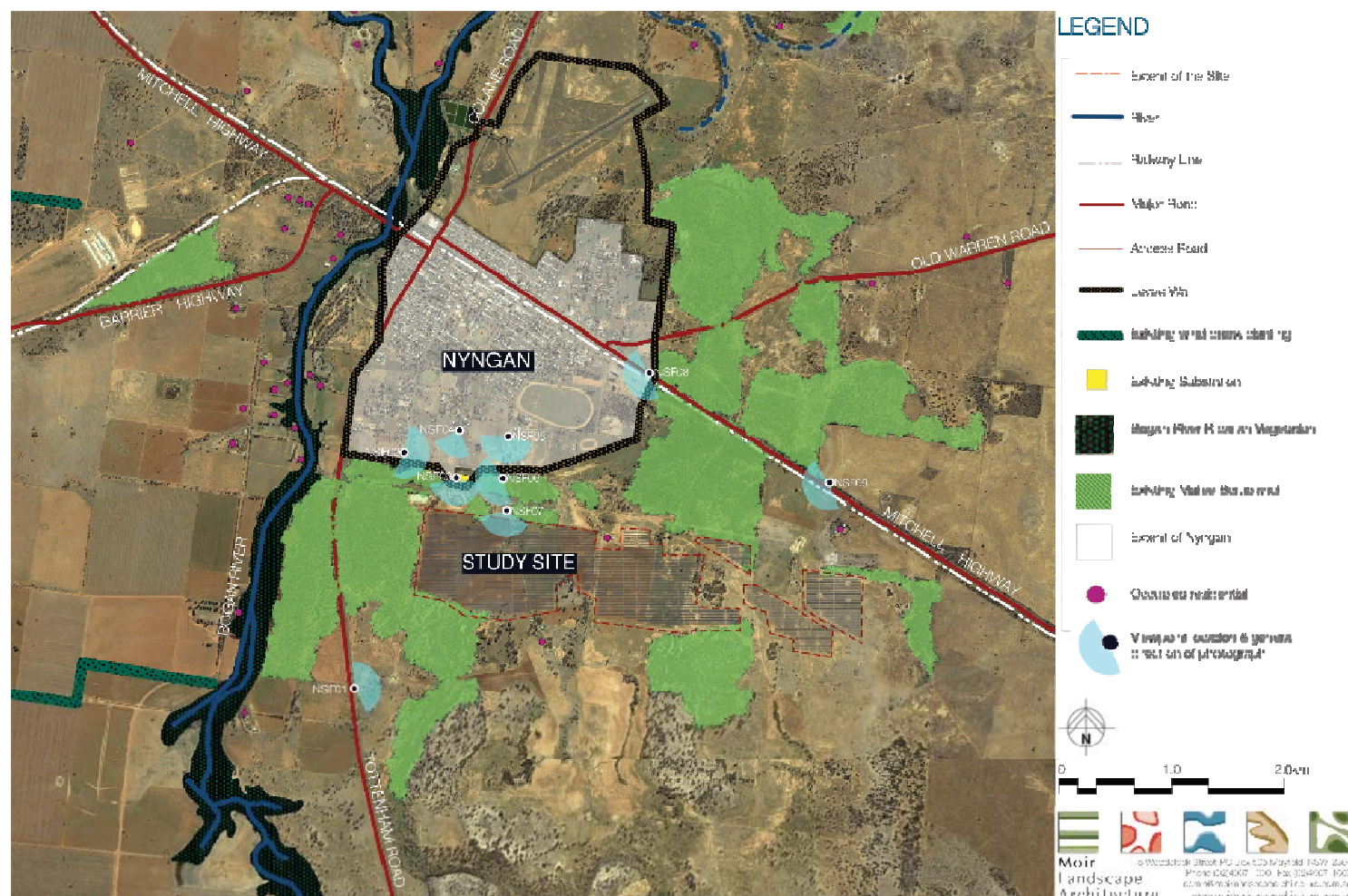


Figure 6-19: Assessment viewpoints

6.3.4 Photomontages

The production of photomontages of the proposed solar farm was to assist in the impact assessment of the proposal, conveying the final visual impact from typical vantage points.

Photomontages are a representation of the solar farm that is superimposed onto a photograph of the site. The process for generation of these images involves computer generation of a wire frame perspective view of the solar farm and the topography from each viewpoint.

A complete collection of the photomontages are included in the detailed Visual Impact Assessment included in Appendix F of this report. The images that the photographic simulations are based on have been captured with a Canon 40D SLR digital camera with 50mm lens which closely represents the central field of vision of the human eye.

It is important to note the photomontages are based on worst case scenario, without the inclusion of mitigation methods. Therefore measures to mitigate the impact of the solar farm would reduce the impact conveyed in the photomontage.



Figure 6-20: Existing view towards the proposed solar farm from the Nyngan flood levee



Figure 6-21: Photomontage of proposed Solar Farm from the Nyngan flood levee



Figure 6-22: Photomontage of proposed Solar Farm from the Nyngan flood levee with screen planting



Figure 6-23: Existing view over proposed solar farm site from East Nyngan Road



Figure 6-24: Photomontage of proposed solar farm from East Nyngan Road

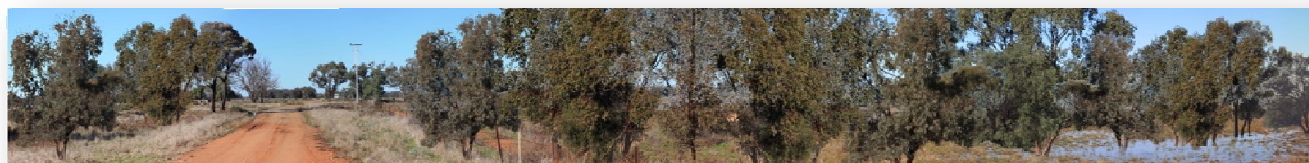


Figure 6-25: Photomontage of proposed Solar Farm from East Nyngan Road with proposed screen planting