



Mallard Pass

Solar Farm

Mallard Pass Solar Farm

Statement of Commonality

Procedural Deadline A (3rd May 2023)

EN010127

EN010127/APP/8.1

Revision P01

Glossary

The glossary used for the Statement of Commonality and Statement of Common Grounds can be found within the Chapter 0 Glossary of the Environment Statement [EN010127/APP/6.1].

1.0 Introduction

Overview

- 1.1 This Statement of Commonality of Statements of Common Ground has been prepared on behalf of Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited (the 'Applicant'). This document provides the Examining Authority (ExA) with the position on Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) between the Applicant and statutory consultees and Interested Parties in relation to the proposed Mallard Pass Solar Farm. It will be updated throughout the course of the Examination.
- 1.2 The Applicant is seeking development consent for the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) array electricity generating facility with a total capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW) and export connection to the National Grid.
- 1.3 The Proposed Development falls within the definition of a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' (NSIP) under Section 15 of the PA 2008, as the capacity exceeds 50MW and, as such, requires a DCO to proceed.
- 1.4 The PA 2008 prescribes that the SoS is responsible for determining the DCO Applications, with the power to appoint an Examining Authority (ExA) of an appointed person(s) to manage and examine the Application. The ExA, appointed through the Planning Inspectorate, will make procedural decisions and examine the Application. The ExA will make a recommendation to the SoS who will then decide whether to grant a DCO Application. Energy NPSs have an effect on decisions by the SoS on applications for energy developments that are nationally significant under the PA 2008.

Description of Development

- 1.5 The Proposed Development comprises the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) array electricity generating facility with a total capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW) and export connection to the National Grid.
- 1.6 The Mallard Pass DCO Project comprises those parts of the Mallard Pass Project which are to be consented to by a DCO, namely:
 - The Solar PV Site - the area within the Order limits that are being proposed for PV Arrays, Solar Stations and the Onsite Substation.

- Onsite Substation - comprising electrical infrastructure such as the transformers, switchgear and metering equipment required to facilitate the export of electricity from the Proposed Development to the National Grid. The Onsite Substation will convert the electricity to 400kV for onward transmission to the Ryhall Substation via the Grid Connection Cables.
- Mitigation and Enhancement Areas - the area within the Order limits that are being proposed for mitigation and enhancement.
- Highway Works Site - the areas that are being proposed for improvement works to facilitate access to the Solar PV Site
- Grid Connection Corridor - the proposed corridor for the Grid Connection Cables between the Onsite Substation and the National Grid Ryhall Substation.

Structure of the Statement of Commonality

1.7 This Statement of Commonality document is structured as follows:

- Section 2 details the structure of each SoCG document and provides a list of the SoCGs that are being produced;
- Section 3 addresses the status of each SoCG; and
- Section 4 sets out the commonality between SoCGs and a summary of their position.

2.0 Position

Structure of SoCGs

2.1 Each SoCG adopts a standard format to ensure consistency in the approach taken to documenting matters agreed, matters subject to an ongoing discussion, or matters not agreed upon.

2.2 Each of the SoCGs are structured in the following way:

- Section 1 provides an introduction to the SoCG, including a description of the document and the relevant party;
- Section 2 provides a summary of engagement between the Applicant and the relevant party so far; and
- Section 3 provides a schedule of matters raised by the relevant party and the Applicant's responses to these.

List of SoCGs

2.3 The Rule 6 letter identified a number of statutory consultees and interested parties with which SoCGs were to be prepared. Accordingly, SoCGs are being prepared with the following stakeholders, noting the Applicant's comments in the covering letter regarding the preferred position with statutory undertakers, on the basis that protective provisions are agreed:

- Lincolnshire County Council
- Rutland County Council
- South Kesteven District Council
- Environment Agency
- Historic England
- Natural England
- Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- Anglian Water
- Cadent Gas Limited
- National Gas Transmission Limited
- National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc

- Network Rail

2.4 Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter (13th April 2023) identifies the matters to be discussed with these parties. Each SoCG corresponds to these topics where identified to be relevant.

2.5 In addition to the above statutory consultees listed by the Examining Authority in the Rule 6 letter a SoCG has been prepared with National Highways and is being submitted to the ExA at Procedural Deadline A.

3.0 Status of SoCGs

Summary of Current Position

- 3.1 This section confirms the current status of each SoCG as of Deadline A of the Examination on 03 May 2023.
- 3.2 Table 3.1 provides a high-level position on the status of each SoCG and where necessary includes further detail to aid the understanding of the status.
- 3.3 The terms used in Table 3.1 (below) are as follows:
- 3.4 Final SoCG - the final SoCG has been agreed upon by both parties, with no outstanding matters to resolve.
- 3.5 Draft SoCG - the SoCG has mainly been agreed upon between both parties, but there are a number of issues still outstanding, and it is yet to be signed off.
- 3.6 Initial Draft SoCG - the initial SoCG has been drafted by the Applicant (using matters identified from meetings with the party alongside responses to Statutory Consultation, Relevant Representations) and is with the party for review, this has not had feedback by the party and is not signed off.
- 3.7 Not yet submitted – the Applicant is progressing these SoCGs with the intent to submit drafts at subsequent deadlines. Note for Cadent Gas Limited, National Gas Transmission Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission plc, Natural England and Network Rail, the Applicant has made good progress with Protective Provisions and the intent would be not to have a SoCG with these parties in the event that these are agreed, as has been the experience at other Examinations (see covering letter with Procedural Deadline A).

Table 3.1 – Current Status of SoCGs

Document Ref.	Relevant Party	Position at Deadline A
-	Lincolnshire County Council	Not yet submitted
-	Rutland County Council	Not yet submitted
-	South Kesteven District Council	Not yet submitted

8.2	Environment Agency	Initial Draft SoCG
-	Historic England	Not yet submitted
-	Natural England	Not yet submitted
-	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust	Not yet submitted
-	Anglian Water	Not yet submitted
-	Cadent Gas Limited	Not yet submitted
-	National Gas Transmission Limited	Not yet submitted
-	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc	Not yet submitted
-	Network Rail	Not yet submitted
8.3	National Highways	Final SoCG

4.0 Commonality

Summary

4.1 This section provides a summary of the main topics covered by the draft SoCGs submitted at this deadline (Deadline A) and identifies where there is a commonality in the topics between the SoCG parties.

4.2 Table 4.1 has been produced to set out the topics covered across the SoCGs and the status of the matter at this deadline with the relevant party. The Colour coding used within this table has been described further below.

Cell	Status
	Agreed
	Subject to further discussions
	Currently subject to disagreement
	Not applicable

4.3 The colours of each cell correspond to the status table in each individual SoCG.

Table 4.1 – Summary of commonality with relevant stakeholders

DOC REF.	PARTY	TOPICS																					
		Principle of Development	Cumulative impacts	Climate Change	Cultural Heritage / Historic Environment	Health	Land Use / Agriculture	Air Quality	Construction Traffic	Noise	Landscape and Visual	Highways and Transport	Water Quality	Flood Risk	Waste Management	Decommissioning	Land Interest/ CA	Draft DCO	Impact on existing apparatus/infrastructure	Land contamination	Ecology and biodiversity	Economic Impacts	
-	Lincolnshire County Council																						
-	Rutland County Council																						
-	South Kesteven																						

	District Council																					
8.2	Environment Agency																					
-	Historic England																					
-	Natural England																					
-	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust																					
-	Anglian Water																					
-	Cadent Gas Limited																					
-	National Gas Transmission Limited																					

-	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc																					
-	Network Rail																					
8.3	National Highways																					