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## 13. Socio-economics

### 13.1 Introduction

13.1.1 This chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES) addresses the potential effects of the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the proposed WBC gas fired generating station on the site of the West Burton Power Station (the Proposed Development) on socio-economics. The assessment considers:

- the present-day and future baseline socio-economic conditions during construction and at opening;
- the effects of construction and operation of the Proposed Development on socio-economics, including employment opportunities and the wider implications of the associated demand on local services; and
- the potential effects of the eventual decommissioning of the Proposed Development.

13.1.2 The cumulative effects associated with the Proposed Development and other committed developments in the vicinity on socio-economics are described in **Chapter 16: Cumulative and Combined Effects**.

13.1.3 This chapter is supported by **Appendix 13A: Human Health** (ES Volume II).

### 13.2 Legislation, Planning Policy and Guidance

#### National Planning Policy Context

#### *National Policy Statements for Energy Infrastructure*

13.2.1 The Overarching National Policy Statement (NPS) for Energy (EN-1) (Ref 13-1) requires the decision maker to take into account of the proposed developments '*potential benefits including its contribution to meeting the need for energy infrastructure, job creation and any long-term or wider benefits*'. (paragraph 4.1.3)

13.2.2 **Table 13-1** provides a summary of relevant NPS advice and signposting to where matters are considered within this chapter.

**Table 13-1: Summary of relevant NPS advice regarding socio-economics**

Summary of NPS	Consideration within the Chapter
<b>NPS EN-1</b>	
Paragraph 4.1.3 requires the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) to take into account of the proposed developments' ' <i>potential benefits</i>	Addressed in <b>Section 13.6</b>

Summary of NPS	Consideration within the Chapter
<p><i>including its contribution to meeting the need for energy infrastructure, job creation and any long-term or wider benefits’.</i></p>	
<p>Paragraph 5.12.2 states <i>‘Where the project is likely to have socio-economic impacts at local or regional levels, the applicant should undertake and include in their application an assessment of these impacts as part of the ES’.</i></p>	<p>Addressed in <b>Section 13.6</b></p>
<p>Paragraph 5.12.3 states: <i>“This assessment should consider all relevant socio-economic impacts, which may include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The creation of jobs and training opportunities;</i></li> <li>• <i>The provision of additional local services and improvements to local infrastructure, including the provision of educational and visitor facilities;</i></li> <li>• <i>Effects on tourism;</i></li> <li>• <i>The impact of a changing influx of workers during the different construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the energy infrastructure. This could change the local population dynamics and could alter the demand for services and facilities in the settlements nearest to the construction work (including community facilities and physical infrastructure such as energy, water, transport and waste). There could also be effects on social cohesion depending on how populations and service provision change as a result of the development; and</i></li> <li>• <i>Cumulative effects – if development consent were to be granted to for a number of projects within a region and these were developed in a similar timeframe; there could be some short-term negative effects, for example a potential shortage of construction workers to meet the needs of other industries and major projects within the region.”</i></li> </ul>	<p>Addressed in <b>Section 13.6</b></p> <p>Cumulative effects addressed in <b>Chapter 16: Cumulative and Combined Effects</b></p>
<p>Paragraph 5.12.4 states that <i>‘Applicants should describe the existing socio-economic conditions in the areas surrounding the proposed development and should also refer to how the development’s socio-economic impacts</i></p>	<p>Addressed in <b>Section 13.2 and 13.4</b></p>

Summary of NPS	Consideration within the Chapter
<i>correlate with local planning policies’.</i>	
Paragraph 5.12.5 states that ‘ <i>Socio-economic impacts may be linked to other impacts, for example the visual impact of a development is considered in Section 5.9 but may also have an impact on tourism and local businesses’.</i>	Inter-relationships between effects (in this ES termed ‘combined effects’) are described in <b>Chapter 16: Cumulative and Combined Effects</b>

13.2.3 The revised National Planning Policy Framework (Ref 13-2) was published in February 2019, replacing earlier versions published in July 2018 and March 2012. The NPPF requires local authorities to set out a clear economic vision and strategy for their area which encourages sustainable economic growth. It states that planning policies should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt.

13.2.4 The NPPF states that:

*“Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development.”* (paragraph 80)

13.2.5 The NPPF indicates that this approach will allow areas to build on their strengths especially in areas of high productivity. Paragraph 82 of the NPPF also advises that planning policies should *“recognise and address the specific locational requirements of different sectors.”*

### Local Development Plan Policy

13.2.6 Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) Core Strategy (Ref 13-3) has strategic objectives linked to economic development, including:

- strategic objective 2 – to provide a range and choice of employment sites in Worksop, Retford, Harworth Bircotes (including the A1 corridor), Carlton-in-Lindrick/Langold and Tuxford;
- strategic objective 4 – to enhance and protect the vitality and viability of the centres of Worksop, Retford, Harworth Bircotes and Tuxford, through environmental improvements and provision of increased town centre retail, employment and leisure development; and
- strategic objective 5 – to ensure the continued viability of Bassetlaw’s rural settlements through the protection, and enhancement in the levels of local services and facilities and support for enterprises requiring a rural location.

13.2.7 The Core Strategy states that particular support will be given to economic development proposals that:

*“Guarantee employment programmes for local residents that provide opportunities for training and development and will contribute to raised workforce skills levels within the District”;*

*“Deliver, or contribute to, opportunities for the growth of indigenous businesses”;*

*“Bring significant, good quality inward investment opportunities to the District”*  
(Policy DM7)

13.2.8 BDC is currently in the early stages of preparing a new Local Plan for the District and began consulting on a Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan (Ref 13-4) in January 2019. The following strategic objectives are linked to economic development:

- strategic objective 4: facilitating development opportunities that will enhance Bassetlaw’s economy through the delivery of new and the expansion of existing enterprises, providing jobs across urban and rural Bassetlaw; and
- strategic objective 6: promote rural Bassetlaw as a living and working landscape, where new development responds to local needs and opportunities, and protects the intrinsic character of the countryside.

### ***Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (D2N2) Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Strategic Economic Plan.***

13.2.9 The D2N2 LEP (Ref 13-5) states that:

*“To achieve our ambitions, D2N2 needs an economic infrastructure which can enable and accommodate significant employment and population growth”.*  
(Economic Infrastructure Constraints, page 43)

13.2.10 Employment and skills are a strategic theme and a ‘cornerstone’ of the Strategic Economic Plan. D2N2 LEP is committed to increasing the number of jobs within the economy and ensuring that our businesses can access the skilled workers they need, both now and in the future.

### ***Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan***

13.2.11 The Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan (Policy 1) (Ref 13-6) states that:

*“Development [proposals] will be supported at a scale and in locations that accord with policies set out in the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan where it can be shown that such development would support the continued sustainability and viability of the Plan area.”* (Policy 1, paragraph 2)

## **13.3 Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria**

### **Consultation**

13.3.1 The consultation undertaken with statutory consultees to inform this chapter, including a summary of comments raised *via* the formal Scoping Opinion

(**Appendix 1B** (ES Volume II)) and in response to the statutory consultation is summarised in **Table 13-2**.

**Table 13-2: Consultation summary table**

Consultee or organisation	Date and nature of consultation	Summary of Response	How comments have been addressed in this Chapter
West Lindsey District Council	June 2017 (Scoping Opinion)	The approach in section 5.10 of the Scoping Report appears to be acceptable.	Comment only, no response required.
Planning Inspectorate	June 2017 (Scoping Opinion)	The Secretary of State recommends that the scope of the socio-economic assessment addresses the matters set out in NPS-EN1 Section 5.12, where appropriate.	Noted in <b>Section 13.2</b> .
		Types of jobs generated should be considered in the context of the available workforce in the area, this applies equally to the construction and operational stages.	Construction and operational jobs considered in <b>Section 13.6</b> and structure of workforce considered in <b>Section 13.4</b> .
		The Secretary of State recommends that the detailed assessment criteria are agreed with BDC.	Assessment undertaken using relevant national standards described in <b>Section 13.3</b> . BDC has been consulted at during formal consultation and through subsequent

Consultee or organisation	Date and nature of consultation	Summary of Response	How comments have been addressed in this Chapter
			engagement in November 2017. To date, no comment on the criteria applied in this chapter has been received.
		The Secretary of State recommends that the Applicant carries out consultation with local, sub-regional and, if necessary, regional stakeholders to gain the most up to date and accurate baseline information, as referred to in paragraph 5.10.7.	Baseline data ( <b>Section 13.4</b> ) collected using most recent data from recognised data sources. Consultation undertaken on Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report with a range of local and regional stakeholders. All comments received taken into account in the ES.
		Scoping Report paragraph 5.10.9 references use of professional judgement in the assessment of significant effects. The Applicant is advised that any assessments based on professional judgement should be fully evidenced.	Noted.
		The socioeconomic	Decommissioning is considered in

Consultee or organisation	Date and nature of consultation	Summary of Response	How comments have been addressed in this Chapter
		<p>effects arising from decommissioning should be considered and described in the ES.</p>	<p><b>Section 13.6.</b></p>
		<p>The Applicant is advised that BIS no longer exists as an entity and that its functions and responsibilities now largely rest with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Local Resident – Response number 1</p>	<p>October 2017 (statutory consultation response to PEI report)</p>	<p>Respondent noted: <i>“I hope it helps keep the mechanically and electrical interests of both Retford and Gainsborough alive as most of heavy engineering has closed in both towns”.</i></p>	<p>The Proposed Development will generate employment during the construction phase and once operational. The Proposed Development is expected to remain operational until it is decommissioned (currently anticipated to commence after 2063) and therefore represents a long-term industrial development in</p>



Consultee or organisation	Date and nature of consultation	Summary of Response	How comments have been addressed in this Chapter
			the Retford and Gainsborough area.
Local Resident – Response number 2	October 2017 (statutory consultation response to PEI Report).	Respondent remarked that job numbers were small, <i>“taken with the potential for the closure of West Burton A and Cottam”</i> .	The Proposed Development will generate employment during the construction phase and during operation. In practice the Proposed Development could result in contributing to sustainability of employment of current workers at the West Burton and/or Cottam Power Station sites (as noted in <b>Section 13.6</b> ).
Local Resident – Response number 19	October 2017 (statutory consultation response to PEI Report).	The respondent noted that <i>“Anything that will bring jobs to the area can only be good”</i> and that disruption to the community should be considered in order to minimise any negative impacts.	Positive impacts on employment noted and considered in <b>Section 13.6</b> . This ES assesses adverse impacts on the community in the relevant chapters and includes impact avoidance and, where necessary, mitigation measures to reduce impacts so that they are not significant.

Consultee or organisation	Date and nature of consultation	Summary of Response	How comments have been addressed in this Chapter
Local Resident – Response number 20	October 2017 (statutory consultation response to PEI Report).	Respondent mentioned a desire to see the Applicant use “ <i>as much local employment as possible and maybe continue to give our young employees the chance of a good apprenticeship</i> ”.	The Proposed Development will generate employment during the construction phase and during operation. Employment impacts of the Proposed Development are considered in <b>Section 13.6</b> .
Bassetlaw District Council Lincolnshire County Council Nottinghamshire County Council West Lindsey District Council	March/April 2019	Provision of copies of final draft chapter and offer of pre-application meeting to each consultee to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• discuss final proposals and assessments;</li> <li>• obtain feedback prior to submission of Application; and</li> <li>• agree an approach to drafting of Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) prior to submission of the Application.</li> </ul> Further details on consultation undertaken can be found in the Consultation Report ( <b>Application Document Ref. 7.1</b> ).	

### Summary of Key Changes to Chapter 13 since Publication of the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report

- 13.3.2 The PEI Report was published for statutory consultation in September 2017, allowing consultees the opportunity to provide informed comment on the Proposed Development, the assessment process and preliminary findings.
- 13.3.3 The key changes since the PEI Report was published are summarised in **Table 13-3**.

**Table 13-3: Summary of key changes to Chapter 13 since publication of the PEI Report**

Summary of change since PEI Report	Reason for change	Summary of change to chapter text in the ES
Socio-economics chapter amended to reference inter-relationships between socio-economics and other disciplines.	ES requires the identification of inter-relationships (e.g. landscape and visual, noise, transport (disruption) and air quality matters).	The assessment has considered the potential inter-relationships between socio-economic impacts and disciplines including landscape and visual amenity, noise and vibration, traffic and transport and air quality.
Construction phase assessment year updated for road traffic related emissions.	To reflect updated indicative construction programme.	No change to chapter text required.

### Assessment Methods

- 13.3.4 This assessment considers the role of the Proposed Development in the generation of direct and indirect employment opportunities at the local and regional level during its construction and operation, as well as the potential effect on local services.
- 13.3.5 The assessment has been carried out using a number of recognised data series from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2011) Census 2011 (Ref 13-7). ONS statistical geographies have been used to define the study area.
- 13.3.6 Where possible, the socio-economic impacts of the Proposed Development have been appraised against relevant national standards; such as those provided by HM Treasury, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (now the Department for Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)), and the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) (Ref 13-8; Ref 13-9; Ref 13-10; Ref 13-11). Where relevant standards do not exist professional experience and judgement have been applied.

### Study Area

- 13.3.7 ONS statistical geographies (Ref 13-12, Ref 13-13) have been used to define the study area for the socio-economics assessment presented herein.
- 13.3.8 The Proposed Development falls within the 'Sturton Ward', defined as the Direct Impact Area. The socio-economics assessment also makes comparisons to

Bassetlaw, the East Midlands and the whole of England. Key indicators include: population and labour force; skills and unemployment; industry and the economy.

13.3.9 In considering the socio-economic impacts on employment, this chapter takes into account the principal labour market catchment area of the travel to work area (TTWA). TTWAs contain at least 75% of the area’s workforce that both live and work in the area. TTWAs have populations of at least 3,500 people. The Proposed Development falls within the Worksop and Retford TTWA.

### Significance Criteria

13.3.10 The socio-economic impact assessment presented within this chapter determines the:

- sensitivity of socio-economics receptors;
- magnitude of impacts; and
- the consequent classification of effects associated with construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development, including whether or not effects are significant.

### Assessment of Value (Sensitivity)

13.3.11 The sensitivity of socio-economic receptors is assessed as high, medium, low or very low based on the criteria and definitions presented in **Table 13-4**.

**Table 13-4: Criteria for assessing socio-economic receptor sensitivity**

Level of Sensitivity	Description
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are limited/no comparable and accessible alternatives that exist within the relevant catchment area; and/or</li> <li>• receptors have limited ability to absorb the change; and/or</li> <li>• receptors are generally travelling from greater distances (nationally) to use the facility; and/or</li> <li>• there are higher numbers utilising the facility; and/or</li> <li>• identified as a high priority in published policy and strategy.</li> </ul>
Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are limited comparable and accessible alternatives within the relevant catchment area; and/or</li> <li>• receptors have limited ability to absorb the change; and/or</li> <li>• receptors are generally travelling from relatively far distances (regionally) to use the facility; and/or</li> </ul>

Level of Sensitivity	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there are moderate numbers utilising the facility; and/or</li> <li>• identified at a sub-regional and/or local level as policy/strategy priorities.</li> </ul>
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receptors are able to relatively easily absorb the change; and/or</li> <li>• there are some comparable and accessible alternatives that exist within the relevant catchment area; and/or</li> <li>• receptors are mainly travelling from nearby (local/within the study area) to use the facility; and/or</li> <li>• there are low numbers utilising the facility; and/or</li> <li>• referenced in policy and strategy but do not accord a high priority.</li> </ul>
Very Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receptors are able to relatively easily absorb the change; and/or</li> <li>• there are many comparable and accessible alternatives that exist within the relevant catchment area; and/or</li> <li>• receptors are travelling from nearby (local/within the study area) to use the facility; and/or</li> <li>• there are low numbers utilising the facility.</li> </ul>

### Assessment of Magnitude

13.3.12 Socio-economics impact magnitude is assessed as high, medium, low or very low as per **Table 13-5**. For each grading, a list of characteristics is provided by which to determine the magnitude of the impact.

**Table 13-5: Criteria for assessing impact magnitude**

Magnitude	Description
High	A major adverse/beneficial impact on employment creation or the well-being of receptors and/or constitutes a long-term change to baseline conditions (i.e. it would be likely to continue and effectively be permanent and irreversible).
Medium	A moderate adverse/beneficial impact on employment creation or the well-being of receptors and/or constitutes a medium-term change to baseline conditions.
Low	A minor adverse/beneficial impact on employment creation or the well-being of receptors constitutes a short-term change to baseline conditions.
Very Low	A slight or no adverse/beneficial impact on employment creation and/or constitutes a very short-term/temporary change to baseline

	conditions.
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### Assessment of Significance

13.3.13 The scale, permanence and significance of identified effects has been assessed relative to the baseline scenario. The assessment covers relevant direct, indirect and induced impacts of the construction and operation of the Proposed Development.

13.3.14 The socio-economic effects of the Proposed Development are defined as either:

- beneficial: an advantageous or beneficial effect on an impact area;
- neutral: imperceptible effects on an impact area; or
- adverse: a disadvantageous or negative effect on an impact area.

13.3.15 The magnitude of the impact and the value (sensitivity) of the receptor are used in order to determine the significance of effects (beneficial or adverse), in accordance with **Table 13-6**.

**Table 13-6: Criteria for assessing significance**

Magnitude of impact	Sensitivity/importance of receptor			
	High	Medium	Low	Very low
High	Major	Major	Moderate	Minor
Medium	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Low	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	Negligible
Very low	Minor	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

13.3.16 For the purposes of this assessment, only moderate and major impacts are considered to be significant.

13.3.17 If mitigation is proposed, the residual effect following mitigation is categorised using the same method in order to identify whether residual effects are significant.

### Rochdale Envelope

13.3.18 The Rochdale Envelope (i.e. the maximum or relevant minimum parameters for the Proposed Development and in particular its main buildings and structures) does not affect this assessment because technological changes in the design of the Proposed Development and variations in building size or layout within the defined parameters set out in **Chapter 4: The Proposed Development** are not likely to change socio-economic impacts. The variations maintained within the project design do not affect the number or type of jobs and benefits generated by the Proposed Development.

## 13.4 Baseline Conditions

### Population Age Structure

13.4.1 The population in Sturton Ward (within which the Proposed Development is located) is 2,289 (Ref 13-7). The ward has an older than average population, with 16 to 24 year olds comprising just 8.4% of the population compared to the East Midlands (12.1%) and England (11.9%) (**Table 13-7**). This trend towards an older population in Sturton Ward is in evidence at the 45 to 64 age band, which registers 31.8% of the population, compared to the regional level in the East Midlands (26.4%) and England (25.4%). Sturton Ward also has a large population of over 64s, at 20.2% of the population, compared to the East Midlands (17%) and England (16.4%). The Sturton Ward features a lower than average central age band of 25 to 44 years (22% of residents), lower than Bassetlaw (24.4%), East Midlands (25.9%) and England (27.5%).

**Table 13-7: Age structure of the population**

Age band	Sturton Ward	Bassetlaw	East Midlands	England
0 to 15	17.5	17.8	18.4	18.9
16 to 24	8.4	10.3	12.1	11.9
25 to 44	22.0	24.4	25.9	27.5
45 to 64	31.8	28.8	26.4	25.4
Over 64	20.2	18.5	17.0	16.4

Source: Census, ONS (2011) (Ref 13-7)

### Qualification Levels

13.4.2 Residents of Sturton Ward are better qualified at the highest level compared to the regional and national levels. People with the highest qualification level, National Vocational Qualification 4 and above (NVQ4+), represent 43.1% in the Ward compared with Bassetlaw (3.5%), East Midlands (31.3%) and England (37.9%) (refer to **Table 13-8**).

13.4.3 Fewer Sturton Ward residents are qualified to the NVQ3 level compared to the regional and national levels. The same trend is observed at NVQ2 level. There are more NVQ1-qualified residents in Sturton Ward (17.1%) compared to the East Midlands (12.7%) and England (10.9%) levels.

**Table 13-8: Qualification level of residents**

Qualification	Sturton Ward	Bassetlaw	East Midlands	England

Qualification	Sturton Ward	Bassetlaw	East Midlands	England
NVQ4+	43.1%	31.5%	32.1%	38.3%
NVQ3	14.1%	13.8%	19.9%	18.8%
NVQ2	11.9%	20.5%	18.9%	17.5%
NVQ1	17.1%	14.6%	12.7%	10.9%
Other qualifications	Not available	5.8%	8.2	6.9
No qualifications		13.8%	8.2	7.6

Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS (2017) (Ref 13-14). \*Breakdown of other and no qualifications is not available for Sturton Ward since the group sample size is disclosive.

## Employment Levels

- 13.4.4 In Sturton Ward, the largest employment sector is mining, quarrying and utilities, accounting for 44.4% of employment (Ref 13-12). The mining, quarrying and utilities sector is significantly larger than at the wider regional and national levels, which account for 1.8% and 1.2% of employment in the East Midlands and England respectively (refer to **Table 13-9**). The industry that accounts for the greatest proportion of employment in England is health (12.8%), but this only accounts for 5.0% of employment in Sturton Ward. This is also much lower than for Bassetlaw, where the health industry makes up 16.3% of employment.
- 13.4.5 The second largest industry for employment in Sturton Ward is the construction sector (13.9%). This proportion is also much larger than Bassetlaw (4.1%), the East Midlands (4.3%) and England (4.8%), indicating the importance of the construction industry to Sturton Ward. The next highest employment industry is in the transport & storage industry, accounting for 8.3% in Sturton Ward. This proportion is larger than Bassetlaw (7.1%), the East Midlands (5.5%) and England (4.8%).

**Table 13-9: Employment of residents by industry**

Industry (% of employment)	Sturton Ward	Bassetlaw	Worksop & Retford TTWA	East Midlands	England
1: Agriculture, forestry	0.0	1.4	0.3	1.0	0.6



Industry (% of employment)	Sturton Ward	Bassetlaw	Worksop & Retford TTWA	East Midlands	England
& fishing					
2: Mining, quarrying & utilities	44.4	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.2
3: Manufacturing	5.0	18.4	18.8	13.7	8.1
4: Construction	13.9	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.8
5: Motor trades	0.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.7
6: Wholesale	1.0	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.0
7: Retail	0.6	12.2	12.5	9.3	9.5
8: Transport & storage (including postal)	8.3	7.1	7.3	5.5	4.8
9: Accommodation & food services	2.2	6.1	6.2	6.8	7.4
10: Information & communication	2.2	1.6	1.7	2.8	4.5
11: Financial & insurance	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.7	3.5
12: Property	0.0	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.7
13: Professional, scientific & technical	5.0	5.1	5.2	6.3	8.7
14: Business administration & support services	2.2	6.1	5.2	9.8	9.3
15: Public administration & defence	0.0	2.6	2.6	3.6	3.9
16: Education	5.6	7.1	7.3	8.7	9.0
17: Health	5.0	16.3	16.7	13.5	12.8
18: Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	2.8	3.1	3.1	3.5	4.5
<b>Total</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Industry (% of employment)	Sturton Ward	Bassetlaw	Worksop & Retford TTWA	East Midlands	England
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Source: Business Register and Employment Survey, ONS (2017) (Ref 13-12)

## Occupation

13.4.6 Sturton Ward features a large number of residents in the most senior occupation category; managers, directors and senior officials (refer to **Table 13-10**). This stands at 14.0% compared to Bassetlaw (10.5%), the East Midlands (10.6%) and England (10.9%). The most common occupations in Sturton Ward fall into the professional category, representing 16.3% of the workforce. This is greater than the percentage for Bassetlaw and East Midlands.

13.4.7 There are fewer individuals within the lower-level occupations in Sturton Ward than most of the wider areas. The least common category is sales and customer services occupations, which is significantly below East Midlands and England (both 8.4%). The percentage of residents in elementary occupations is lower in Sturton Ward (7.9%) than the comparator areas.

**Table 13-10: Occupations of residents**

Occupation (%)	Sturton Ward	Bassetlaw	East Midlands	England
1: Managers, directors and senior officials	14.0	10.5	10.6	10.9
2: Professional occupations	16.3	12.8	15.2	17.5
3: Associate professional and technical occupations	10.0	9.6	11.3	12.8
4: Administrative and secretarial occupations	12.3	9.8	10.9	11.5
5: Skilled trades occupations	16.7	13.2	12.1	11.4
6: Caring, leisure and other service occupations	10.0	10.7	9.5	9.3
7: Sales and customer service occupations	5.4	8.0	8.4	8.4
8: Process, plant and machine operatives	7.4	11.3	9.3	7.2

Occupation (%)	Sturton Ward	Bassetlaw	East Midlands	England
9: Elementary occupations	7.9	14.0	12.7	11.1

Source: Census (2011) – Occupation by sex (Ref 13-7)

### Economic Activity

13.4.8 There are approximately 2,289 economically active residents of Sturton Ward (refer to **Table 13-11**). Sturton Ward features a greater level of economic activity than at a local, regional and national level. The Ward's 82.7% economy activity rate is larger than the East Midland's (78.1%) and England's (78.1% rate). Sturton Ward's economic activity rate is also greater than Bassetlaw district's (75.9%).

**Table 13-11: Economic activity rates**

Economic Activity	Sturton Ward	Bassetlaw	East Midlands	England
Percentage	82.7%	75.9%	78.1%	78.1%
Number	2,289	52,300	2,282,500	26,975,800

Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS (2016) – Economic activity rate aged 16-64. (Ref 13-13).

13.4.9 The 49MW Battery Storage Facility which commenced operation in 2018 within the WBB Power Station site, is not expected to result in any significant changes to the existing baseline reported above.

### Future Baseline

13.4.10 It is anticipated that WBA Power Station would close by 2025 under current legislation. Given the uncertainty regarding the future closure plans of WBA Power Station, no assessment has been made of the potential effect of any future closure of WBA Power Station. However, effects would be considered as part of any decommissioning proposals for the coal fired power station.

## 13.5 Development Design and Impact Avoidance

13.5.1 No socio-economics impact avoidance measures have been included in the Proposed Development design. However, its construction, operation and decommissioning activities would be supportive of the local economy, through the creation of jobs.

## 13.6 Likely Impacts and Effects

- 13.6.1 The socio-economics assessment is based upon assumptions on the likely design of the Proposed Development, and the way it is likely to be constructed, operated and decommissioned.
- 13.6.2 This section analyses the scale, permanence (short, medium, long-term) and significance of socio-economic effects relative to the baseline established in **Section 13.4**.

### Construction Employment

- 13.6.3 The Proposed Development would represent an opportunity to create a range of jobs during the construction phase, both directly and indirectly, and across a wide range of sectors and skills.
- 13.6.4 Construction of the Proposed Development could (subject to the necessary consents being granted and an investment decision being made) potentially start as early as Quarter 3 (Q3) 2020. Construction activities are expected to be completed within four years although a more likely construction programme would be within three years from commencement. Based on experience of similar projects, the Proposed Development is anticipated to create an average of approximately 95 temporary construction jobs during the construction phase, with an assumed peak of circa 200 workers per day. Although these jobs would be temporary, they represent a positive economic impact that can be estimated as a function of the scale and type of construction. The direct expenditure involved in the construction phase would lead to increased output generated in the Worksop and Retford TTWA economy.
- 13.6.5 There are a number of other factors that also have an influence on this figure to give net construction employment numbers. These factors are considered in this assessment and provide an estimate of the net impact of the Proposed Development, in terms of temporary construction jobs, on the local economy.

### Leakage

- 13.6.6 Leakage effects refer to the proportion of jobs that are filled by residents living outside the Worksop and Retford TTWA. Overall, the majority of the employment generated could theoretically be taken by people living within the Worksop and Retford TTWA. Leakage has been set at 30.4% in line with the proportion of jobs taken by non-residents of the Worksop and Retford TTWA. A 30.4% discount is, therefore, applied to the 95 gross jobs created and as such, it is estimated that approximately 29 people from outside the Worksop and Retford TTWA and approximately 66 people from within the TTWA could theoretically benefit from working at the Proposed Development during the construction phase. However, it is recognised that in practice, the appointed contractor(s) may require specialist support or support from their wider supply chain that necessitates additional personnel to be employed from outside the Worksop and Retford TTWA.

Therefore, the above number represents a theoretical calculation of potential local employment opportunities, in order to benchmark this against workforce availability in the area.

### **Displacement**

- 13.6.7 Displacement measures the extent to which the benefits of a project are offset by reductions of output or employment elsewhere. Any additional demand for labour cannot simply be treated as a net benefit, as it can remove workers from other posts and the net benefit is, therefore, reduced to the extent that this occurs.
- 13.6.8 Overall, it is assumed that due to the flexibility of a typical construction workforce (i.e. they quickly move from project to project) displacement effects are considered to be low. The HCA Additionality Guide (Ref 13-11) suggests 25% as a 'ready reckoner' for low levels of displacement (i.e. there are expected to be some displacement effects, although only to a limited extent). Applying this level of displacement to total gross direct employment in the Worksop and Retford TTWA results in a net direct employment potential of approximately 72.

### **Multiplier Effect**

- 13.6.9 In addition to the direct construction employment generated by the Proposed Development itself, there would be an increase in local employment arising from indirect and induced effects of the construction activity. Employment growth would arise locally through manufacturing services and suppliers to the construction process (indirect or supply linkage multipliers). Additionally, part of the income of the construction workers and suppliers would be spent in the Worksop and Retford TTWA, generating further employment (induced or income multipliers).
- 13.6.10 The impact of the multiplier effect depends on the size of the geographical area that is being considered, the local supply linkages and income leakage from the area. The HCA Additionality Guide (Ref 13-11) provides 'ready reckoners' of composite multipliers – the combined effect of indirect and induced multipliers. It has been assumed that the Worksop and Retford TTWA has 'average' supply linkages, based on the scale of its economy. Therefore, a multiplier of 1.3 is determined using the HCA guidance. Applying this multiplier generates the potential for an additional 15 indirect and induced jobs in the Worksop and Retford TTWA.

### **Net Construction Employment**

- 13.6.11 Based on the 95 gross construction worker requirements in the construction schedule, it is anticipated that 23 roles would be taken through displacement, resulting in a net direct employment of 72. A further 21 roles are expected to be generated indirectly (through multiplier effects) resulting in a net direct employment of approximately 93 (72 + 21), of which approximately 65 could theoretically be from the Worksop and Retford TTWA.

13.6.12 **Table 13-12** presents the theoretical short-term employment created by the Proposed Development, taking leakage, displacement and multiplier effects into account.

**Table 13-12: Theoretical net construction employment in Worksop and Retford TTWA (average No. of workers on-site per year)<sup>1</sup>**

	Worksop and Retford TTWA	Outside Worksop and Retford TTWA	Total
Gross direct employment	66	29	<b>95</b>
Displacement	16	7	<b>23</b>
Net direct employment	50	22	<b>72</b>
Indirect & induced employment	15	6	<b>21</b>
Total net employment	65	28	<b>93</b>

13.6.13 The magnitude of impact associated with the creation of short-term employment is considered to be low, as employment relating to the Proposed Development could represent less than 1% of the TTWA’s construction workforce (2,618 in 2015) (Ref 13-12). The value/sensitivity of receptors is assessed as medium, based on the economic profile of the region being less robust than the national averages. As such, it would be expected that receptors within the TTWA would be sensitive to changes in employment and unemployment. The direct, indirect and induced employment created by the construction phase of the Proposed Development is therefore likely to have a minor short-term beneficial effect, which would be not significant in terms of the Worksop and Retford TTWA’s economy.

### Amenity

13.6.14 The construction of the Proposed Development would generate short-term disruption to the amenity of receptors in close proximity to the Site. Impacts on amenity are likely to include disruption to landscape and visual amenity (**Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual Amenity**), temporary noise effects (**Chapter 8: Noise and Vibration**), disruption through increased traffic movements (**Chapter 7: Traffic and Transport**) and construction dust (**Chapter 6: Air Quality**).

13.6.15 The receptors likely to be susceptible to short-term impacts on amenity during construction include local businesses (G Bartle & Son Dairy Farm, W E Proudley & Sons and Heald T & Son), local residents (such as at Mill House and Middle Farm), and users of the public right of way (PRoW) close to the Site.

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not equal due to rounding.

- 13.6.16 Detailed assessments of the impacts on landscape and visual amenity, noise and vibration, traffic and transport and air quality (dust) during construction of the Proposed Development have been carried out as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and are reported in **Chapters 6, 7, 8 and 10** of this ES. With the avoidance measures and mitigation set out in each chapter, no significant residual construction effects are predicted to occur.
- 13.6.17 As described in **Chapter 12: Flood Risk, Hydrology and Water Resources**, no recreational clubs using the watercourses for recreational purposes in the area surrounding the West Burton Power Station site have been identified; fishing in the adjacent ponds to the east of the Site is private and under the control of the Applicant.
- 13.6.18 The additional traffic due to Proposed Development construction activities would result in small, temporary increases of traffic flows, including HGVs, on the roads leading to the West Burton Power Station site. In line with the significance criteria presented in the Transport Assessment (**Appendix 7A** (ES Volume II)), the effects of construction traffic on all road sections and junctions are considered to be negligible and thus not significant. Notwithstanding, a number of traffic management measures would be implemented during the Proposed Development construction phase to minimise traffic impacts upon the local road network. Refer to the Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) (**Application Document Ref. 7.6**) and the Framework Construction Worker Travel Plan (CWTP) (**Application Document Ref. 7.7**) for details.
- 13.6.19 A single significant adverse effect has been identified as resulting from the Proposed Development (Viewpoint 4: Junction of footpaths Bole FP3B and FP4, Bole) during construction. Due to the scale of the Proposed Development, and open and elevated nature of the view, the Proposed Development would increase the proportion of large scale power related development within the scene. Since it is considered that mitigation measures would not be effective in reducing this visibility, none are proposed. Visual effects resulting from the Proposed Development are seen in the context of WBB Power Station and WBA Power Station to the right of the Site. As such, these significant adverse residual effects would remain.

### Opening/Operation

- 13.6.20 The opening of the Proposed Development is not anticipated to have a socio-economic impact.

### Operational Employment

- 13.6.21 During the operational phase, employment would be generated in operative, management and maintenance roles in relation to the electricity generating element of the Proposed Development and its maintenance.

13.6.22 Operation of the power station is anticipated to create up to 15 operational roles, which may be new jobs or integrated with other on-site operations. Temporary and contractor employees associated with maintenance activities would also be employed as required.

### *Leakage*

13.6.23 As with the construction employment impact, leakage has been set at 30.4% in line with the proportion of jobs potentially taken by non-residents of the Worksop and Retford TTWA. A 30.4% discount is, therefore, applied to the up to 15 operational roles created if they were new jobs, and as such it is estimated that up to approximately five people from outside the Worksop and Retford TTWA and up to approximately 10 people from within the TTWA could potentially benefit from working at the Proposed Development, once operational. Notwithstanding, in practice the Proposed Development could result in contributing to sustainability of employment of current workers at the West Burton and Cottam Power Station sites.

### *Displacement*

13.6.24 Depending on the degree of integration with the existing power stations, the operational roles may be new jobs or roles undertaken by personnel from the existing power stations. Taking this into account, displacement levels are set to low.

### *Multiplier*

13.6.25 Again, it has been assumed that the Worksop and Retford TTWA has 'average' supply linkages based on the scale of its economy. Therefore, a multiplier of 1.3 is determined from the HCA guidance (Ref 13-11). Applying this multiplier generates the theoretical potential for an additional one indirect and induced job in the Worksop and Retford TTWA.

### *Net Operational Employment*

13.6.26 Based on the operational worker requirements and the additionality factors outlined above, up to 15 operational roles could be generated, of which some are expected to be undertaken by current workers at the West Burton and Cottam Power Station sites.

13.6.27 The magnitude of impacts is considered to be very low, due to the small amount of net employment to be generated within the TTWA once the power station is operational. The value/sensitivity of receptors is assessed as medium based on the economic profile of the region compared to national averages. As such, the operational effect is anticipated to be negligible (not significant).



## Amenity

- 13.6.28 Impacts on amenity in relation to air quality, noise and vibration and landscape and visual amenity have been fully assessed as part of the EIA process and are discussed in ES **Chapters 6, 8 and 10** respectively. With the avoidance measures and stated mitigation in place, no significant residual effects on air quality or noise and vibration are anticipated to occur.
- 13.6.29 No effects on amenity in relation to the use of the private fishing ponds to the east of the Site during operation of the Proposed Development are anticipated.
- 13.6.30 A single significant adverse residual effect on visual amenity has been identified as resulting from the Proposed Development (Viewpoint 4: Junction of footpaths Bole FP3B and FP4, Bole) during operation. As mitigation measures would not be effective in reducing visibility of the Proposed Development from Viewpoint 4, none are proposed. As such, this significant adverse effect would remain.
- 13.6.31 The generation of traffic during operation would be minimal when compared to the construction phase. Therefore, the operational phase traffic effects are also anticipated to be negligible and thus not significant.

## Decommissioning

- 13.6.32 The workforce employed to decommission the Proposed Development would have a positive effect on the economy by spending their wages, in the same way as those employed during construction and operation. It is envisaged that the Proposed Development would have an operational life of up to circa 40 years, therefore decommissioning activities are currently anticipated to commence after 2063. At this stage the significance of the employment effects is uncertain due to limited information available regarding decommissioning methods, timescales and associated staffing requirements.

## 13.7 Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

- 13.7.1 Given that no adverse socio-economic effects have been identified, no specific mitigation measures are considered necessary.

## 13.8 Limitations or Difficulties

- 13.8.1 This socio-economic impact assessment is based on data available at the time of writing, with secondary data having a time lag and therefore potentially not being wholly representative of current conditions.
- 13.8.2 The assessment is based on an indicative construction programme and operational details as available at the time of writing. Decommissioning phase effects are uncertain given uncertainties regarding the decommissioning methods, timescales and associated staffing requirements.

## 13.9 Summary of Likely Significant Residual Effects

13.9.1 This chapter has analysed the potential socio-economic impacts of the Proposed Development, compared to baseline conditions. In summary, it is assessed that the Proposed Development would have an overall positive impact on the economy in the study area, through the provision of employment and through associated multiplier effects. However, in light of the scale of these impacts and the prevailing economic conditions within the study area, these positive effects are not deemed to be significant.

## 13.10 References

- Ref 13-1 Department of Energy and Climate Change (2011), *Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)*.
- Ref 13-2 Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2019) *National Planning Policy Framework*.
- Ref 13-3 The Bassetlaw District Council (2011) *Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document for Bassetlaw*.
- Ref 13-4 The Bassetlaw District Council (2019) *Draft Local Plan*.
- Ref 13-5 Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (D2N2) (2014) *Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Strategic Economic Plan*.
- Ref 13-6 Sturton Ward Planning Group (2015) *The Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan 2015-2030*.
- Ref 13-7 Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2011) *Census 2011*.
- Ref 13-8 HM Treasury (2011) *The Green Book – Appraisal and Evaluation in Central Government*.
- Ref 13-9 HM Treasury (2011) *The Magenta Book – Guidance for Evaluation*.
- Ref 13-10 Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) (2009) *Research to Improve the Assessment of Additionality*.
- Ref 13-11 Homes & Communities Agency (HCA) (2014) *Additionality Guide (4th Edition)*.
- Ref 13-12 Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2017) *Business Register for Employment and Skills 2017*.
- Ref 13-13 Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2016) *Annual Population Survey*.
- Ref 13-14 Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2017) *Annual Population Survey*.