Document Ref. 11.5
PINS Ref: EN010088

West Burton C (Gas Fired Generating Station)

The West Burton C (Generating Station) Order

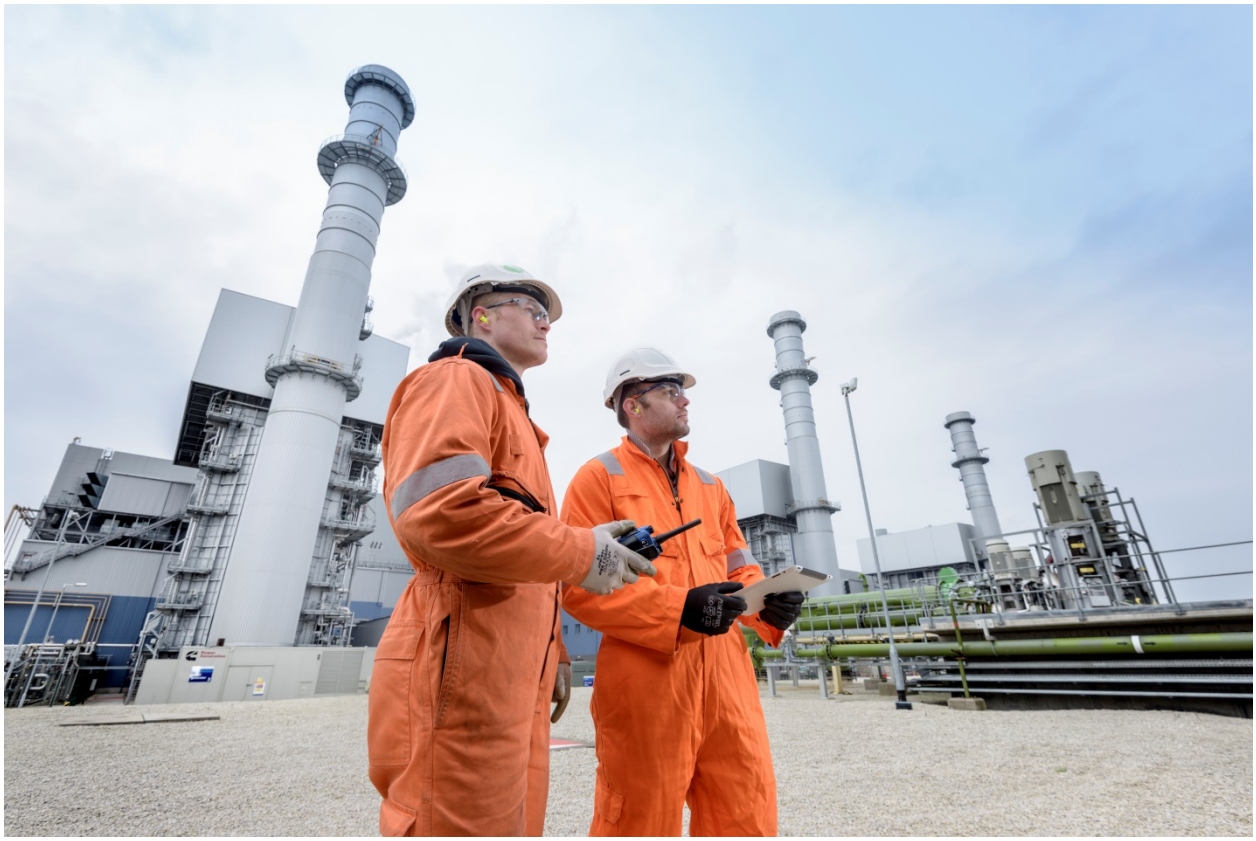
Land to the north of the West Burton B Power Station Nottinghamshire

Statement of Common Ground

Between

(1) EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Limited

(2) Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust



Dated 30 January 2020

Signed	
Name	Richard Lowe, Director AECOM pp Carly Vince
Position	Chief Planning Officer
For	EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Limited
Date	30th January 2020
Signed	
Name	Janice Bradley
Position	Head of Conservation
For	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
Date	30/1/2020

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Overview

1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared in relation to an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) (the Application) submitted by EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Limited (the Applicant) to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (2008 Act).

1.2 The Application seeks consent to construct, operate (including maintenance) and decommission a gas fired generating station of up to 299 megawatts (MW) of electrical generation capacity (the Proposed Development) at the existing West Burton Power Station site near Gainsborough, Nottinghamshire.

Purpose of this SoCG

1.3 This SoCG has been prepared jointly by the Applicant and the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust (NWT), jointly referred to as 'the Parties'. It has been informed by a series of discussions between the Parties.

1.4 This SoCG sets out agreed factual information about the Application and matters on which the Parties are agreed, to reflect the statutory duty and other topics of interest to the NWT.

1.5 This SoCG is intended to provide a clear position on the extent of agreement between the Parties to facilitate an efficient examination process.

Parties to the SoCG

1.6 The NWT is an independent charity focussed on nature conservation within the county. Their role includes the management of nature reserves, engaging communities to enjoy and care for wildlife as well as campaigning on behalf of the environment. NWT's role in the DCO process derives from Section 42(1)(a) of the Planning Act 2008 as a prescribed body.

The Application

1.7 The Application was submitted on 30th April 2019 and accepted for examination on 23rd May 2019. The Application was accompanied by an Environmental Statement (ES) (**Application Document Ref. 5.1** and **5.2**) associated reports (**Section 4**), additional information (**Section 6**) and other documents (**Section 7**) which are referenced within the ES.

The Site

1.8 The Proposed Development site (the Site) is located within the boundary of the existing West Burton Power Station site, near Gainsborough, Nottinghamshire. The existing Power Station site encompasses two power stations, West Burton A (WBA) and West Burton B (WBB), owned and operated by the Applicant. The

Proposed Development would be located north of the existing WBB Power Station.

1.9 The Site covers an area of approximately 32.8 hectares (ha) and falls within the administrative area of Bassetlaw District Council (BDC), close to the border of West Lindsey District Council (WLDC).

The Proposed Development

1.10 The Proposed Development comprises the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of a gas fired generating station with a gross electrical output of up to 299MW and associated buildings, structures and plant, together with associated development.

2.0 CONSULTATION WITH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

2.1 The consultation that has taken place with NWT prior to submission of the Application is presented in **Table 2.1**. The Applicant engaged with NWT on the development proposals during the pre-application process, both through non-statutory engagement and statutory consultation carried out pursuant to Section 42 of the 2008 Act.

Table 2.1: Consultation with the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust

Date	Details
September – October 2017	NWT was consulted as part of the statutory consultation process. NWT responded to the statutory consultation period, providing comments on the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report. A copy of the NWT's response is provided in **Appendix 2.1**.
March - April 2019	The project was temporarily put on hold in 2018 and then remobilised in January 2019. The Applicant subsequently wrote to NWT on 25 April 2019 to notify them of the Applicant's intention to submit the Application and requested engagement. Copies of the draft DCO and Application documents were provided for comment. A written response was not received.
April 2019	The Application was submitted in April 2019 and accompanied by the Consultation Report (**Application Document Ref. 4.1**), which explained how the Applicant sought to address previous comments from the NWT.

3.0 MATTERS AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES

3.1 The Parties are agreed on the following matters set out in **Table 3.1**.

Table 3.1: Matters Agreed between the Applicant and Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust

Topic	Matters Agreed
Consultation	A summary of pre-application consultation is contained in the Consultation Report (**Application Document Ref. 4.1**), **Chapter 9**: Ecology of ES Volume I (**Application Document Ref. 5.2**) and in Section 2 of this SoCG. It is agreed that the consultation summary provides an accurate record of consultation with NWT on matters to date.
Approach to Assessment	It is agreed that the EcIA was undertaken in accordance with best practice guidance issued by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM); the 2016 version of the *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater and Coastal, second Edition,* was the current and recognised guidance at the time the EcIA was being prepared. The September 2018 version of the guidelines was reviewed prior to submission of the Application to identify any significant changes and it was confirmed that none of the changes in the 2018 version would affect the methodology, approach or the outcome of the EcIA.
Ecological Surveys	It is agreed that the general approach taken by the Applicant to assess the effects of the Proposed Development on ecology set out in **Chapter 9**: Ecology, **Appendix 9A-9I** and **Figure 9.1** of ES Volumes I-III (**Application Document Ref. 5.2**), is appropriate (including methodology, data collection methods, baseline data, approach to surveys taking into account seasonal constraints and requirements and health and safety, assessment and presentation of results). Taking into account the additional information in Appendix 2.3 provided by the Applicant, it is agreed that the scope of species surveyed is appropriate. It is further agreed that where access restrictions prevented surveys of ponds for great crested newt, appropriate use has been made of

	additional baseline survey data for great crested newts to determine the likely population size and value. It is further agreed that **Appendix 9C-9I** supplemented by the additional information in Appendix 2.3, present adequate details of the baseline ecological surveys undertaken on-Site, including for the riparian mammals otter and water vole, to inform the assessment presented in **Chapter 9**: Ecology and Nature Conservation. It is agreed that the Applicant has provided an appropriate rationale in Section 5.3 of **Appendix 9C**: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal as well as additional information in Appendix 2.3 as part of engagement on this SoCG, to explain why overwintering bird surveys were scoped out of the assessment. It is agreed that the Phase 1 Habitat survey, which would be updated prior to commencement of construction, would include a walkover survey by an ornithologist to determine the need for wintering bird surveys, in addition to the breeding bird surveys already proposed. The Parties agree that confidential Appendix 9D and supplementary confidential information provided to the Trust on badger by the Applicant provides a framework for the proposed mitigation for badger. The pre-construction surveys for this species will be secured by Requirement 14 of the draft DCO (APP-004 - Document 2.1) and are required due the legislative protection afforded to this species. The potential need for a Natural England licence to interfere with setts for development purposes (badger) was acknowledged in the Application (including paragraph 9.5.9 of APP-038 (Chapter 9: Ecology) and paragraph 5.1.3 of Confidential Appendix 9D: Badger Survey Report, but the need for this consent was inadvertently omitted from APP-026 (Document 4.2). This has now been rectified in REP2-005 and REP2-006 submitted at Deadline 2 by the Applicant. The Parties agree that the value of the bat population, based upon the information submitted with the Application (including further information provided in Appendix 2.3 on *Nathusius pipistrelle* at the site), meets Local Wildlife Site (LWS) selection criteria and is therefore of County value. This value was used in the final ES (**Application Document Ref. 5.2**). It is further agreed by the Parties that activity surveys (transects and static detector

	surveys) will be updated prior to construction commencing to confirm the nature conservation value of the bat species assemblages associated with the Site. The Parties agree that pre-construction surveys for bats will be suitably secured by Requirement 14 of the draft DCO (APP-004 - Document 2.1A and 2.1B) and are required due the legislative protection afforded to this species group. The option to discharge surface water run-off to the River Trent that was previously described in the PEI Report was discounted from the Proposed Development and the Order Limits for the Application were revised to not impact directly on the River Trent. Instead, it is proposed that depending on the drainage option selected, surface water from an attenuation pond or surface water storage tank would be directed via new drainage infrastructure, into the existing WBA purge line and be discharged through the existing outfall. Only uncontaminated surface water would be discharged in this way and no contaminated wastewater would be discharged via the WBA purge line. It is therefore agreed that there would be no changes to the existing quality or temperature of the River Trent as a result of water discharges from the Proposed Development and therefore that no surface water discharges could impact on fish in the River Trent.
Relationship between the Proposed Development and West Burton B Mitigation and Enhancement Areas (species rich grassland)	The Parties agree that the updated **Application Document Ref. 7.5:** Landscape and Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan including V2.0 Metric, provides quantified information on the habitat to be lost and replacement or enhancement of habitat proposed as a consequence of the Proposed Development. It is agreed that paragraph 5.2.6 of **Application Document Ref. 7.5:** Landscape and Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan, and the additional information provided by the Applicant in Appendix 2.3, explains the relationship between the habitat enhancements proposed for the current development, and those provided as part of the WBB Landscape and Creative Conservation Plan (LaCCP) required under the Section 36 consent.

	It is agreed that the botanical enhancement and management of existing seeded grassland areas in Area 5 of the proposed landscaping and biodiversity management and enhancement plan (**Application Document Ref. 7.5** - Figure 2) would supplement and further enhance what was achieved under the 2012 WBB LaCCP and that this covered a period of five years after establishment, ending in 2017. It is noted that NWT considers that the habitat creation required under the 2012 WBB LaCCP may not have been adequately undertaken and the Parties agree that the biodiversity net gain calculations for the Proposed Development should assume a future baseline, based on the assumption that the condition of habitats present reflects the objectives of the 2012 WBB LaCC plan. This has now been undertaken and submitted at Deadline 3. The Applicant is committed to delivering a net gain in grassland quality when compensating for this habitat loss. It is agreed that the revised Landscaping and Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan (**Application Document Ref. 7.5**) provides an appropriate description of the proposals designed to compensate for the loss of habitat to the Proposed Development, in order to ensure no net loss of biodiversity occurs.
Biodiversity Offsetting and updated Biodiversity Net Gain calculations	With regards to the proposals for habitat restoration and enhancement set out in the Landscaping and Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan (**Application Document Ref. 7.5**), both Parties are agreed that there should be no net loss of biodiversity as a result of the Proposed Development and that net gain should be achieved. The Parties agree that the Biodiversity Net Gain calculations updated using the Natural England Metric v2.0 which are provided in **Appendix 2.2**, demonstrate that the Proposed Development will generate a net gain in biodiversity units, relative to the baseline. This assessment is based on the assumption that the condition of habitats present reflects the objectives of the 2012 WBB LaCC plan.
Habitats and species within West Burton Reedbed LWS	The Proposed Development requires a new surface water drainage system including connecting into the existing drainage systems on the West Burton Power Station site. Three potential drainage options are being considered and have been assessed within the EIA – a northern or

	southern drainage connection corridor or a connection into the existing WBB Power Station drainage system. Only one of the drainage connections would be required for the Proposed Development. As considered in the EIA, construction of either the northern or southern drainage connection corridor, if required, would result in the temporary loss of up to 0.5ha of peripheral habitat within West Burton Power Station LWS. This would mostly comprise dense scrub, and also small areas of reedbed, wet woodland; a short section of drainage ditch may also be affected. It is agreed that paragraphs 9.6.5 -9.6.10 of **Chapter 9**: Ecology (**Application Document Ref. 5.2**) together with the additional information provided in Appendix 2.3, adequately describe impacts on West Burton LWS and demonstrate that should either of the drainage connection corridors be required, the Applicant is committed to ensuring that working areas would be minimised, as far as is reasonably practicable, to avoid and/or minimise impacts on West Burton Power Station LWS. The Parties agree that the measures set out in section 9.5 of Chapter 9: Ecology and in Table 5 of the Framework CEMP (Document 7.3) to *'avoid, as far as reasonably practicable, areas of high quality habitat such as mature trees and woodland/wetland habitats associated with the LWS'* would minimise impacts on the LWS during construction. Furthermore, the Parties agree that the commitment in paragraph 9.5.15 to reinstate habitats on a like-for-like basis at the same location following construction where practical, using well-established plant-stock/suitable sized specimens in the planting, is appropriate to restore any habitats disturbed to their pre-construction condition. A number of design and impact avoidance measures required for legal compliance are proposed to avoid disturbance during construction to protected bird species which may use the LWS. These measures are described in **Section 9.5** (paragraph 9.5.11) and also in the Landscape and Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan (**APP-139** - **Document 7.5**), in the Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan (**APP-137 – Document 7.3**) and in the Commitments Register presented in **APP-135** (**Document 7.1**) and include:

	• a pre-construction survey to check for breeding birds including Cetti's warbler would be undertaken in advance of construction works; and • if the proposed southern drainage connection corridor (Option A) is chosen, or should it be necessary to undertake works associated with the third drainage option (Option C) adjacent to West Burton Reedbed LWS, construction works that would cause disturbance to Cetti's warbler or other protected birds within the nearby West Burton Reedbed LWS and other adjacent habitats would be timed to be outside the bird breeding season (March to August inclusive). The Parties agree that these measures will be secured through Requirement 14 of the draft DCO (**APP-004**).
Mitigation for great crested newt	The works undertaken under EPSM licence for great crested newt mitigation in relation to the WBB Power Station project did not adversely affect the great crested newt population and the favourable conservation status of the species was maintained. Based upon the information provided, including the additional survey data in Appendix 2.3[1], the Parties agree that the overall assessment of population size class has remained consistent (medium) over the last three survey periods where relatively comparable data is available. The Parties agree that any temporary and permanent loss of the terrestrial habitat within the footprint of the Proposed Power Plant Site that was created as part of the WBB LaCCP for the benefit of great crested newt and other species needs to be suitably compensated by the restoration and enhancement of other nearby habitat for great crested newts. The Applicant agrees that the area of compensation should be greater than the area lost. The habitat calculations undertaken for the licence application[2] indicate that there will be a permanent loss of approximately 3.8ha of habitat suitable for supporting

[1] *Further commentary to support GCN population class size of medium is provided in Appendix 2.3, based upon historical and more recent survey data, particularly in relation to ponds where access couldn't be obtained during surveys reported in Appendix 9E: Great Crested Newt Survey Report due to H&S constraints*

[2] *A draft European Protected Species Mitigation licence application for great crested newt was submitted by the Applicant to Natural England for review using the Pre-Submission Screening Service. A letter of no impediment (LONI) was issued by Natural England dated 27th November 2019 in response to the draft licence application.*

	great crested newt and approximately 3.2ha temporary loss of habitat. An area of approximately 21ha will be restored/ enhanced/re-instated for great crested newt, including the enhancement of grassland, provision of scrub and creation of hibernacula. It is therefore agreed that the Landscaping and Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan (**Application Document Ref. 7.5**) provides an appropriate habitat replacement to compensate for the loss of great crested newt habitat to the Proposed Development.
Air Quality Effects on Habitats and Species	The Parties agree that the NO_x modelling presented in **Chapter 6**: Air Quality and accompanying **Appendix 6A**: Air Quality (**Application Document Ref. 5.2**) demonstrates that the Proposed Development will not result in significant impacts relating to nitrogen deposition on Lea Marsh Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), as the process contribution is below 1% of the critical load published for the most sensitive habitat type present in the SSSI. Therefore, the effect of nutrient nitrogen and acid deposition from the Proposed Development at this designated site would be negligible adverse (not significant) The Parties agree that the effect on nitrogen deposition at the LWS has been appropriately assessed **Chapter 6**: Air Quality and accompanying **Appendix 6A**: Air Quality and the result are summarised in **Chapter 9**: Ecology (paragraphs 9.6.51 – 9.6.55). The assessment has considered the effects of nutrient nitrogen and acid deposition on the statutory sites, for which published Critical Load data is available, and has shown that the maximum change in annual deposition rate from the Proposed Development contribution at these sites would be imperceptible (<1% of the relevant Critical Loads) and therefore the effect would be not significant. The maximum predicted nutrient nitrogen deposition rate on the LWS in the vicinity of the Proposed Development is less than 1% of the Critical Load for the vegetation type identified in that location. Therefore it is indicated that the predicted maximum effect from nutrient nitrogen deposition on the LWS would be not significant.

	The acid deposition Critical Load at the LWS is predicted to be less than 0.2% of the Critical Load as a result of the contribution from the Proposed Development and therefore represent an insignificant effect at the LWS. The uncertainty inherent in dispersion modelling has been assessed and the worst-case impacts predicted by the model at any of the habitat sites, and with the alternative design scenarios considered, has been reported. Therefore, given the conservative assumptions in the dispersion modelling as described within ES Chapter 6 and Appendix 6A, and the vegetation types present within the LWSs, it is agreed that operational emissions to air from the Proposed Development would not result in an adverse effect on the structure or function of habitats associated with LWS of county value and the predicted effect on all LWS assessed would be neutral and not significant.

3.2 The Parties confirm that engagement that has taken place in respect of a number of matters in Table 3.1 is summarised in **Appendix 2.3** 'Agreed Actions following Meeting 13/11/2019' and Table 3.2: GCN survey result summaries.

4.0 MATTERS NOT YET AGREED

4.1 The parties confirm that there are no areas outstanding and all matters are agreed.

Appendix 2.1: Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust Formal Consultation Response

Nottinghamshire
Wildlife Trust

The Old Ragged School, Brook Street,
Nottingham, NG1 1EA. Tel: 0115 958 8242
Email: jbradley@nottswt.co.uk Web: www.nottinghamshirewildlife.org.

EDF Energy
By e-mail

15th October 2017
Our ref: JMB/Energy/West Burton C

Dear Sir or Madam

Re: Proposed Construction and Operation of West Burton C Power Station - Preliminary Environmental Information Consultation

Thank you for consulting the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust (NWT) on the above. I note that the proposed development lies within the existing power station complex, within an area previously secured for habitat creation and management to mitigate for the impacts of the construction and operation of West Burton B (WBB).

Planning Principles

NWT have grave concerns that the habitats secured for mitigation for the adverse impacts of WBB should now be proposed to be lost in order to accommodate West Burton C. This undermines both the commitments made in, and conditions imposed on, the previous permission and would lead to an overall loss and degradation of the current habitat resource of the site on which key species depend. It also appears that habitat works proposed as compensation within the Bole Ings area as ecological enhancement, may at least already partially have been required under the consent for the Bole Ings ash disposal permission.

It is essential that quantified information on the habitat to be lost; those habitats proposed; and what actual extra areas or quality there may be over that already secured by existing permissions, is shown in a clear and transparent form***. Such a table does not appear to be present in the document, so it is difficult to ascertain what additional mitigation is proposed over what is already required under current planning conditions.***

As proposed, the development would have a number of impacts:

Habitats

The proposed development would result in loss of habitat in the West Burton Power Station LWS. There is a presumption in the NPPF and the MLP against permitting development that would damage a LWS and/or BAP/S41 Habitats of Principal Interest. The proposed routing of the northern or southern outfalls would both result in damage to the LWS. The consultants assert that "*All habitats subject to temporary impacts during construction, such as those within the construction 9.5.13 laydown area, electricity connection route and northern/southern outfall options, would be reinstated on at least a like-for-like basis at the same location following construction".* Clearly there is a difference between the use of

"temporary" regarding the period of construction, and the proposed loss of habitat, which would not be temporary, but would, in fact, be long lasting. Later the report recognises that it might take 5-10 years to replace such habitats, but in reality the complexity and maturity of LWS habitat cannot be replaced within this period. In addition, no account appears to have been taken of the increased fragmentation of the remaining LWS that would result from these habitat losses, and which would be sustained for at least 10 years***. NWT therefore expect greater recognition of the loss of the value of this habitat and much improved proposals for its mitigation or compensation , if the loss cannot be avoided, as required in the mitigation hierarchy***.

Whist NWT recognise that the loss of habitat within the mitigation areas for WBB, may be more easily and quickly compensated by the creation of habitat elsewhere (given the immaturity of the habitat), the proposals do not clearly show how the area lost would be adequately compensated, given the extant mitigation requirements for other permissions already in place We note the proposal to manage habitats in the ecological enhancement areas, ***but reiterate that there is no clear quantification of what was secured by other permissions than that for WBB.***

NWT agree that the NOx modelling, if correct, would indicate that there would be no significant impacts of N deposition on the on the Lea Marshes SSSI, as the PC is below 1% of the critical threshold. However, it is unclear what the PC would be for the LWS and what degree of change in N deposition these habitats would therefore experience. This should be clearly elucidated in the Ecology chapter in a transparent manner and not rely on referencing to other technical reports. Increased N deposition causes loss of species diversity in plant assemblages and can have irreversible impacts on those assemblages and their associated invertebrate species.

NWT note that the report states that a "*Landscaping and Biodiversity Strategy will be included as part of the documents accompanying the application for development consent. The Strategy will detail the measures to be implemented by Requirement of the Development Consent Order (DCO)."* ***Such a document is to be welcomed, and must be based on good evidence and rigorous proposals supported by proper resources to manage any mitigation and compensation habitats in perpetuity.***

Species

Even given the lack of completeness of some of the surveys, the report acknowledges a number of BAP/S41 and protected species present on the proposed development site, these include great crested newts, grass snakes, foraging bats, and a number of breeding red and amber listed Bird of Conservation Concern, including a WLCA Schedule 1 species. The Report concludes no significant impacts on any of these species, despite the loss of mature habitat features and habitat mosaics upon which they rely. It cannot be asserted that habitats lost can be instantly replaced for these species, for example scrub used by Cetti's warbler would not be replaced in even a simplistic form for at least 10 years, as it requires colonisation by suitable invertebrate prey and a diverse structure, not just the planting of trees and shrubs.

The Report asserts that the loss of the current habitat used by GCN could be readily replaced, but provides no evidence (as required by BS42020) of whether this has been achieved in a short timetable elsewhere or indeed whether the existing mitigation for impacts on GCN on this site for the construction of WBB has been successful. In order to enable a robust EcIA, this information should be provided. The opportunity cost that would result from the loss of habitat already provided in mitigation for other development impacts on the same site requires proper evaluation.

It is unclear what riparian mammal surveys were actually undertaken, as the report acknowledges the presence of suitable otter habitat, but does not mention water voles, which were certainly present formerly in the ditches on this site. The survey is noted as "partially compete" in the Report, therefore NWT would

expect the full survey to be undertaken and the results interpreted accordingly. There appears to be no overwintering bird survey and non is proposed in the table in the Report, yet this is a group that is of significant importance in the Trent Valley.. These surveys should be completed.

No fish surveys have been completed to date to inform this report, yet it asserts merely that "*the section of the River Trent coinciding with the Site is likely to support an assemblage of fish typical of the wider upstream and downstream sections of the river*. " Basic information, such as the *proven* presence of salmon and eels in the Trent, has not been included in the assessment. In the latter case, this has particular relevance to the construction of any outfall structures, which would have to comply with the Eel Regulations. Better assessment of any predicted changes in water quality or temperature as a result of discharges, are required to assess the potential impacts on species such as eel and salmon.

The assessment of the value of the species present is inaccurate in some cases, for example the report states that the bat population is of "local" value (9.4.24). Yet the "***Guidelines for the selection of Local Wildlife Sites in Nottinghamshire***" Published 2014 State in Criterion 2: that a LWS should be designated *for "Any contiguous area of a semi-natural habitat used by foraging bats that scores a combined total of 7 points,…"* The bats recorded by the consultants on this site score 7 points, even if *Nathusius pipistrelle* is excluded, and in fact they have included it, which would give a score of 12. Thus, by definition, the value of the proposed site and its environs for bats is at least County level and therefore the potential impact has been underestimated.

Thus, in general, the approach taken to the assessment of impacts on some species may be based on an underestimation of their ecological value, is overly simplistic, does not take full account of the potential direct and indirect impacts, and makes assertions about the adequacy of the proposed mitigation, but provides no evidence to support it.

This is not a comprehensive review of the deficiencies of detail in the report, it is the responsibility of the applicant to provide the necessary level of detail and rigorous impact assessment to inform a planning decision.

In summary, NWT have substantive concerns about this proposal as presented in this preliminary report, and consider it likely that significant impacts on Sn41 habitats and species would result from the proposed development, contrary to the requirements of the NERC Act and the NPPF. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any of the above.

Yours faithfully,

Janice Bradley C.Env. MCIEEM

Head of Conservation

c.c. Nick Crouch, NCC

Appendix 2.2: Updated Biodiversity Metric V2.0 [sent electronically and updated to include revised future baseline considering WBB Landscape and Creative Conservation Plan objectives]

The Biodiversity Metric 2.0 - Calculation Tool
Start page

Project details

Planning authority:	**Secretary of State (DCO) /Bassetlaw District Council host authority**
Project name:	**West Burton C Generating Station**
Applicant:	**EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Limited**
Application type:	**Development Consent Order**
Planning application reference:	**PINS Ref: EN010088**
Assessor:	**Dr Joseph Franklin (AECOM) CEnv MCIEEM**
Reviewer:	**Lyndsey Spawforth (AECOM) MCIEEM**
Revision:	**V1**
Assessment date:	**12/12/2019**
Planning authority reviewer:	

Cell style conventions

	Enter data
	Automatic lookup
	Result

Instructions

Main menu

Results

View all

Reset view

The Biodiversity Metric 2.0 - Calculation Tool
Main menu

Street tree helper		
Tree size	Tree number	Area
Small		0.0000
Medium		0.0000
Large		0.0000
Total	0.00	0.0000

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On-site baseline

- A-1 On-site habitat
- B-1 On-site hedge
- C-1 On-Site river baseline

On-site post development

- A-2 Habitat creation
- A-3 Habitat enhancement
- A-4 Habitat accelerated succession
- B-2 Hedgerow creation
- B-3 Hedgerow enhancement
- C-2 River creation
- C-3 River enhancement

Off-site baseline

- D-1 Off-site habitat
- E-1 Off-site hedge baseline
- F-1 Off-site river baseline

Off-Site post development

- D-2 Habitat creation
- D-3 Habitat enhancement
- D-4 Habitat accelerated succession
- E-2 Hedgerow creation
- E-3 Hedgerow enhancement
- F-2 River creation
- F-3 River enhancement

The Biodiversity Metric 2.0 - Calculation Tool

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Headline results

Detailed results

Habitat trading summary

Headline Results

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On-site baseline	Habitat units	270.86
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	River units	0.00
On-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation, enhancement & succession)	Habitat units	358.90
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	River units	0.00
Off-site baseline	Habitat units	0.00
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	River units	0.00
Off-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation, enhancement & succession)	Habitat units	0.00
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	River units	0.00
Total net unit change (including all on-site & off-site habitat retention/creation)	Habitat units	88.04
	Hedgerow units	0.00
	River units	0.00
Total net % change (including all on-site & off-site habitat creation + retained habitats)	Habitat units	32.51%
	Hedgerow units	0.00%
	River units	0.00%

A-1 Site Habitat Baseline

Condense / Show Columns | Condense / Show Rows | Main Menu | Instructions

	Habitats and areas			Habitat distinctiveness		Habitat condition		Ecological connectivity			Strategic significance			Suggested action to address habitat losses	Ecological baseline
Ref	Broad Habitat	Habitat type	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Ecological connectivity	Connectivity	Connectivity multiplier	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic position multiplier		Total habitat units
1	Urban	Urban - Vacant/derelict land/ bareground	1.68	Low	2	Poor	1	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required	3.70
2	Woodland and forest	Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved	2.65	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required	34.98
3	Woodland and forest	Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved	1.07	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required	14.12
4	Urban	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	1.39	V.Low	0	N/A - Other	0	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Compensation Not Required	0.00
5	Urban	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	9.64	V.Low	0	N/A - Other	0	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Compensation Not Required	0.00
6	Grassland	Grassland - Other neutral grassland	11.91	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required	157.21
7	Sparsely vegetated land	Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral	1.45	Low	2	Poor	1	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required	3.19
8	Grassland	Grassland - Modified grassland	0.12	Low	2	Poor	1	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required	0.26
9	Heathland and shrub	Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	6.04	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required	53.15
10	Heathland and shrub	Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	0.11	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required	0.97
11	Lakes	Lakes - Ponds (Priority Habitat)	0.002	High	6	Good	3	Medium	Moderately connected habitat	1.1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same habitat required	0.04
12	Wetland	Wetland - Reedbeds	0.13	High	6	Good	3	Medium	Moderately connected habitat	1.1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same habitat required	2.83
13	Lakes	Lakes - Ditches	0.03	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required	0.40
14															
15															
16															
		Total site area ha	36.22											Total Site baseline	270.86

Retention category biodiversity value								Bespoke compensation agreed for unacceptable losses	Comments	
Area retained	Area enhanced	Area succession	Baseline units retained	Baseline units enhanced	Baseline units succession	Area lost	Units lost		Assessor comments	Reviewer comments
1.68			3.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
2.11			27.85	0.00	0.00	0.54	7.13			
0.92			12.14	0.00	0.00	0.15	1.98			
1.39			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
9.64			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
3.11		2.89	41.05	0.00	38.15	5.91	78.01			
0	1.45		0.00	3.19	0.00	0.00	0.00			
0.12			0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
1.02	3.95		8.98	34.76	0.00	1.07	9.42			
0.11			0.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
0.002			0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
0.05			1.09	0.00	0.00	0.08	1.74			
			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.40			
20.15	5.40	2.89	96.08	37.95	38.15	7.78	98.67			

A-2 Site Habitat Creation

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Post development/ post intervention habitats																			
						Ecological connectivity			Strategic significance			Temporal multiplier		Difficulty multipliers			Comments		
Proposed habitat	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Ecological connectivity	Connectivity	Connectivity multiplier	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic position multiplier	Time to target condition/years	Time to target multiplier	Difficulty of creation category	Difficulty of creation multiplier	Habitat units delivered	Assessor comments	Reviewer comments	
Grassland - Other neutral grassland	1.91	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	15	0.586	Low	1	14.77			
Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	0.64	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	7	0.779	Low	1	6.58			
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved	0.15	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	32+	0.320	Medium	0.67	0.42			
Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	5.05	V.Low	0	N/A - Other	0	N/A	Assessment not appropriate	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	0	1.000	Low	1	0.00			
Lakes - Ditches	0.03	Medium	4	Good	3	Medium	Moderately connected habitat	1.1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	10	0.700	Low	1	0.31			
Totals	7.78														Total Units	22.09			

A-3 Site Habitat Enhancement

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	Baseline habitats												
Baseline ref	Baseline habitat	Total habitat area	Baseline distinctiveness band	Baseline distinctiveness score	Baseline condition category	Baseline condition score	Baseline ecological connectivity	Baseline connectivity	Baseline connectivity score	Baseline strategic significance category	Baseline strategic significance score	Baseline habitat units	Suggested action to address habitat losses
7	Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral	1.45	Low	2	Poor	1	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Medium strategic significance	1.1	3.19	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required
9	Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	6.04	Medium	4	Moderate	2	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Medium strategic significance	1.1	53.152	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required

Post development/ post intervention habitats													
Change in distinctiveness and condition			Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Ecological connectivity			Strategic significance		
Proposed habitat (Pre-populated but can be overridden)	Distinctiveness change	Condition change						Ecological connectivity score	Connectivity	Connectivity multiplier	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic position multiplier
Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral	Low - Low	Poor - Moderate	1.45	Low	2	Moderate	2	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1
Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	Medium - Medium	Moderate - Good	3.95	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1
		Total site area	5.40										

Temporal multiplier		Difficulty multipliers		Habitat units delivered	Comments	
Time to target condition/years	Time to target multiplier	Difficulty of enhancement category	Difficulty of enhancement multiplier		Assessor comments	Reviewer comments
2	0.931	Medium	0.67	5.18		
3	0.899	Low	1	50.38		
		Enhancement total		55.56		

A-4 Site Habitat Succession

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	Baseline habitats												
Baseline ref	Baseline habitat	Habitat Area	Baseline distinctiveness band	Baseline distinctiveness score	Baseline condition category	Baseline condition score	Baseline ecological connectivity	Baseline connectivity	Baseline connectivity Score	Baseline strategic significance category	Baseline strategic significance score	Baseline habitat units	Suggested action to address habitat losses
6	Grassland - Other neutral grassland	11.91	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Medium strategic significance	1.1	157.21	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required

Post development/ post intervention habitats										
Proposed habitat	Change in distinctiveness and condition		Area ha	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Ecological connectivity		
	Distinctiveness change	Condition change						Ecological connectivity score	Connectivity	Connectivity multiplier
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed	Medium - Medium	Good - Good	2.89	Medium	4	Good	3	Low	Unconnected habitat	1
		Total site area	2.89							

Strategic significance			Temporal multiplier		Difficulty multipliers		Habitat units delivered	Comments	
Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic position multiplier	Time to target condition/years	Time to target multiplier	Difficulty of creation category	Difficulty of creation multiplier		Assessor comments	Reviewer comments
Location ecologically desirable but not in local strategy	Medium strategic significance	1.1	32+	0.320	Medium	0.67	185.17		
							185.17		

D-1 Off Site Habitat Baseline

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	Habitats and areas			Habitat distinctiveness		Habitat condition	
Baseline ref	Broad habitat	Habitat type	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
		Total site area ha	0.00				

Ecological connectivity			Strategic significance			Suggested action to address habitat losses	Ecological baseline
Ecological connectivity	Connectivity	Connectivity multiplier	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic position multiplier		Total habitat units
						Total Site baseline	0.00

Retention category biodiversity value								Bespoke compensation agreed for unacceptable losses	Comments	
Area retained	Area enhanced	Area succession	Baseline units retained	Baseline units enhanced	Baseline units succession	Area lost	Units lost		Assessor comments	Reviewer comments
	8									
0.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			

D-3 Off Site Habitat Enhancment

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	Baseline habitats												
Baseline ref	Baseline habitat	Total habitat area	Baseline distinctiveness band	Baseline distinctiveness score	Baseline condition category	Baseline condition score	Baseline ecological connectivity	Baseline connectivity	Baseline connectivity score	Baseline strategic significance category	Baseline strategic significance score	Baseline habitat units	Suggested action to address habitat losses

Change in distinctiveness and condition			Area ha	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score
Proposed habitat (Pre-Populated but can be overridden)	Distinctiveness change	Condition change					
						V. High	
		Total site area	0.00				

Post development / post intervention habitats

Ecological connectivity			Strategic significance			Temporal multiplier		Difficulty multipliers		Spatial risk multiplier		
Ecological connectivity score	Connectivity	Connectivity multiplier	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic position multiplier	Time to target condition/ years	Time to target multiplier	Difficulty of enhancement category	Difficulty of enhancement multiplier	Spatial risk category	Spatial risk multiplier	Habitat units delivered
Low	Unconnected habitat	1	Area/compensation not in local strategy / no local strategy	Low Strategic Significance	1					Compensation inside LPA or NCA, or deemed to be sufficiently local, to site of biodiversity loss	1	
										Total off-site area		0.00

Comments	
Assessor comments	Reviewer comments

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Phase 1 Habitat	UK Hab habitat	Distinctiveness band
Woodland	Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed	Medium
Broadleaved woodland	Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved	Medium
Semi-natural broadleaved woodland	Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	High
Plantation broadleaved woodland	Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved	Medium
Coniferous woodland	Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland	Low
Semi-natural coniferous woodland	Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands	High
Plantation coniferous woodland	Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland	Low
Mixed woodland	Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed	Medium
Semi-natural mixed woodland	Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	High
Plantation mixed woodland	Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed	Medium
Scrub	Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	Medium
Dense / continuous scrub	Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	Medium
Scattered scrub	Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	Medium
Parkland / scattered trees	Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland	High
Broadleaved parkland / scattered trees	Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland	High
Coniferous parkland / scattered trees	Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland	Medium
Mixed parkland / scattered trees	Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland	High
Recently-felled woodland	Woodland and forest - Felled	Medium
Broadleaved recently felled woodland	Woodland and forest - Felled	Medium
Coniferous recently felled woodland	Woodland and forest - Felled	Medium
Mixed recently felled woodland	Woodland and forest - Felled	Medium
Acid grassland	Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland	Medium
Acid grassland	Grassland - Upland acid grassland	Medium
Unimproved acid grassland	Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland	V.High
Unimproved acid grassland	Grassland - Upland hay meadows	V.High
Semi-improved acid grassland (Good quality)	Grassland - Upland acid grassland	Medium
Semi-improved acid grassland (Good quality)	Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland	Medium
Semi-improved acid grassland (Poor quality)	Grassland - Modified grassland	Low
Neutral grassland	Grassland - Other neutral grassland	Medium
Unimproved neutral grassland	Grassland - Lowland meadows	V.High
Semi-improved neutral grassland (Good quality)	Grassland - Other neutral grassland	Medium
Semi-improved neutral grassland (Poor quality)	Grassland - Modified grassland	Low
Calcareous grassland	Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland	High
Calcareous grassland	Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland	High
Unimproved calcareous grassland	Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland	High
Unimproved calcareous grassland	Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland	High
Semi-improved calcareous grassland (Good quality)	Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland	High
Semi-improved calcareous grassland (Good quality)	Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland	High
Semi-improved calcareous grassland (Poor quality)	Grassland - Modified grassland	Low
Improved grassland	Grassland - Modified grassland	Low
Marsh/marshy grassland	Wetland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures	V.High
Marsh/marshy grassland	Grassland - Other neutral grassland	Medium
Marsh/marshy grassland	Grassland - Modified grassland	Low
Poor semi-improved grassland	Grassland - Modified grassland	Low
Strandline vegetation coastland	Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal vegetated shingle	High
Sand dune	Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes	High
Dune slack sand dune coastland	Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes	High
Dune grassland sand dune coastland	Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes	High
Dune heath sand dune coastland	Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes	High
Dune scrub sand dune coastland	Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes	High
Open dune sand dune coastland	Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes	High
Maritime cliff coastland	Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes	High
Hard maritime cliff coastland	Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes	High
Soft maritime cliff	Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes	High
Crevice/ledge vegetation	Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes	High
Crevice/ledge vegetation	Grassland - Tall herb communities	High
Coastal grassland	Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes	High
Coastal grassland	Grassland - Lowland meadows	V.High
Coastal grassland	Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland	V.High
Coastal grassland	Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland	Medium
Coastal heathland	Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes	High
Coastal heathland	Heathland and shrub - Lowland Heathland	High
Standing open water	lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies	V.High
Standing open water	Lakes - Ditches	Medium
Standing open water	Lakes - High alkalinity lakes	High
Standing open water	Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes	High
Standing open water	Lakes - Marl Lakes	High
Standing open water	Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes	High
Standing open water	Lakes - Peat Lakes	High
Standing open water	Lakes - Ponds (Priority Habitat)	High
Standing open water	Lakes - Ponds (Non- Priority Habitat)	High
Standing open water	Lakes - Reservoirs	Medium
Standing open water	Lakes - Temporary lakes, ponds and pools	High
Dry dwarf shrub heath	Heathland and shrub - Lowland Heathland	High
Dry dwarf shrub heath	Heathland and shrub - Upland Heathland	High
Acidic dry dwarf shrub heath	Heathland and shrub - Lowland Heathland	High
Acidic dry dwarf shrub heath	Heathland and shrub - Upland Heathland	High
Basic dry dwarf shrub heath	Heathland and shrub - Lowland Heathland	High
Basic dry dwarf shrub heath	Heathland and shrub - Upland Heathland	High
Wet dwarf shrub heath	Heathland and shrub - Lowland Heathland	High
Wet dwarf shrub heath	Heathland and shrub - Upland Heathland	High
Lichen / bryophyte heath	Heathland and shrub - Lowland Heathland	High
Lichen / bryophyte heath	Heathland and shrub - Upland Heathland	High

Montane heath / dwarf herb	Heathland and shrub - Mountain heaths and willow scrub	V.High
Dry heath / acidic grass mosaic	Heathland and shrub - Lowland Heathland	High
Wet heath / acidic grass mosaic	Heathland and shrub - Lowland Heathland	High
Dry heath / acidic grass mosaic	Heathland and shrub - Upland Heathland	High
Wet heath / acidic grass mosaic	Heathland and shrub - Upland Heathland	High
Bracken	Grassland - Bracken	Medium
Continuous bracken	Grassland - Bracken	Medium
Scattered bracken	Grassland - Bracken	Medium
Other tall herb or fern (Good quality)	Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	High
Other tall herb or fern	Grassland - Bracken	Medium
Tall ruderal	Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral	Low
Non-ruderal	Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral	Low
Bog	Wetland - Lowland raised bog	V.High
Sphagnum bog	Wetland - Lowland raised bog	V.High
Blanket bog	Wetland - Blanket bog	V.High
Raised bog	Wetland - Lowland raised bog	V.High
Wet modified bog	Wetland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)	V.High
Dry modified bog	Wetland - Blanket bog	V.High
Dry modified bog	Wetland - Lowland raised bog	V.High
Flush and spring	Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)	V.High
Acid/neutral flush	Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)	V.High
Basic flush	Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)	V.High
Bryophyte-dominated spring	Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)	V.High
Fen	Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)	V.High
Valley mire	Wetland – Oceanic Valley Mire[1] (D2.1)	V.High
Basin mire	Wetland – Oceanic Valley Mire[1] (D2.1)	V.High
Floodplain mire	Wetland – Oceanic Valley Mire[1] (D2.1)	V.High
Bare peat	Wetland - Depressions on Peat substrates (H7150)	V.High
Swamp	Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)	V.High
Marginal and inundation	Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)	V.High
Marginal and inundation	Wetland - Reedbeds	High
Marginal vegetation	Use the Feature that it is within, i.e. River, Lake type etc.	
Inundation vegetation	Wetland - Reedbeds	High
Natural rock exposures and caves (Good quality)	Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	High
Natural rock exposures and caves	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Inland cliff (High quality)	Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	High
Inland cliff	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Acidic inland cliff	Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	High
Basic inland cliff	Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	High
Scree	Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	High
Acidic scree	Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	High
Basic scree	Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	High
Limestone pavement	Sparsely vegetated land - Limestone pavement	V.High
Other natural rock exposure	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Other acidic natural rock exposure	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Other basic rock exposure	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Artificial rock exposures	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Artificial rock exposures	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Artificial rock exposures	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Artificial rock exposures	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Artificial rock exposures	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Artificial rock exposures	Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Medium
Quarry	Urban - Sand pit quarry or open cast mine	Low
Spoil heap	Urban - Sand pit quarry or open cast mine	Low
Mine	Urban - Sand pit quarry or open cast mine	Low
Refuse tip	Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	V.Low
Cultivated/disturbed ground	Cropland - Cereal crops other	Low
Arable	Cropland - Cereal crops	Low
Amenity grassland	Urban - Amenity grassland	Low
Ephemeral / short perennial	Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral	Low
Introduced shrub	Urban - Introduced shrub	Low
Fence	Urban - Built linear features	V.Low
Wall	Urban - Built linear features	V.Low
Built-up areas	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	V.Low
Caravans	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	V.Low
Sea wall (artificial materials)	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	V.Low
Buildings	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	V.Low
Bare ground	Urban - Vacant/derelict land/ bareground	Low

The Biodiversity Metric 2.0 - Calculation Tool

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All area habitats

Area habitat groups

Multipliers

Temporal multipliers

Enhancement temporal multipliers

Hedgerow data

River data

Condition data

UKHab/Phase 1 translation

Appendix 2.3: Record of Further Engagement

Agreed Actions following Meeting 13/11/2019		
Ecological Surveys and Approach to Assessment	1) Provide badger figure as it was not within the version provided.	Copy of Badger Survey Report (**Appendix 9D**) **Document 5.2** with figure was sent via email to Janice Bradley on 14/11/2019 (action completed).
	2) Consider comments made in relation to rationale/justification for scoping out overwintering birds	It remains the Applicant's opinion that scoping out the requirement for wintering bird surveys follows CIEEM 2018 impact assessment rationale that there is no need to 'carry out detailed assessment of ecological features that are sufficiently widespread, unthreatened and resilient to project impacts and will remain viable and sustainable'. At the time of scoping surveys in 2017 and again in 2019 during ground-truthing, the Applicant's ecological consultants (AECOM) sought the opinion of the retained West Burton Power Station site Ecologist who provided the following feedback: '*With regards to the areas in question, the chances of overwintering birds beyond species like fieldfare and redwing are limited. Both of those species are present in good numbers all around the East Midlands so would hardly be a rarity on the Site. The grassland areas are pretty poor year-round for birds'.* However, in order to move forward on this point, it is proposed that the Phase 1 Habitat survey, which would be updated prior to commencement of construction,

		would include a walkover survey by an ornithologist to determine the need for wintering bird surveys, in addition to the breeding bird surveys already proposed. The pre-construction surveys for species will be secured by Requirement 14 of the draft DCO (**APP-004 - Document 2.1**) and are required due the legislative protection afforded to these species' groups.
	3) Provide a figure/further commentary to support GCN population class size of medium, based upon historical and more recent survey data, particularly in relation to ponds where access couldn't be obtained due to H&S constraints	GCN surveys have been carried out across the West Burton Power Station site in 2007, 2010, 2014, 2017 and 2019 – the number of ponds surveyed has varied each year due to scope requirements and also limitations of accessibility; there are a total of 24 ponds across the West Burton Power Station site that have been included in surveys over the above years. The overall assessment of population size class has remained consistent (medium) over the last three survey periods where relatively comparable data is available. A summary of the pond survey results is provided below (see **Table 3.2** – GCN survey results summaries). Please note that references numbers to the ponds in the table below have been standardised to reflect those used by AECOM in 2017; ponds not surveyed in 2017 but included in other year's surveys have been included for completeness where considered relevant. No ponds will be lost or disturbed as part of the Proposed Development. Three ponds (11, 12 and 18) have been scoped out from full surveys due to health and safety (H&S) constraints for the last two survey years (2017 and 2019). These ponds form part of a cluster of 10 ponds, where peak numbers vary between 0 - 11 GCN in the past two survey years. If the average count of six GCN was applied to each of the three ponds, this would increase the overall peak counts of the whole site to 103 in 2017 and 85 in 2019. Although this would increase the 2017 metapopulation slightly into the large population size class, the 2019 survey metapopulation would remain as medium. Updated GCN surveys will be completed in the year prior to commencement of construction, to inform the formal licence application, secured by Requirement 14

		of the draft DCO (**APP-004 - Document 2.1**). All efforts will be made to undertake surveys in the ponds that have previously been excluded, to complete the baseline picture of GCN status.
	4) Check status of peregrine records on site	Peregrine nesting was not reported in the survey area of the 2017 breeding bird surveys; the survey area was considered sub-optimal for this species which was scoped out as a receptor for the EcIA. The wider West Burton Power Station site has provided records of peregrine nesting historically. Sightings were noted anecdotally by education staff and the maintenance team, although no dates for sightings are available. The confirmed nesting location was on an overhead electricity pylon located in West Burton A Power Station as shown on confidential **Figure 9H4** (updated to illustrate locations). The one confirmed and two unconfirmed locations are outside of the Proposed Development site area; the confirmed nesting location is over 1km from the Proposed Power Plant Site and the unconfirmed sites are over 800m away. Disturbance distances for peregrine have been reported as between 500m-750m (Ruddock et al, 2007)[3], however peregrine frequently nest in disturbed sites such as quarries, power stations and urban centres and the species is therefore tolerant of human disturbance. Disturbance to peregrine previously recorded nesting at the West Burton Power Station site is likely to occur at distances below the aforementioned 500-750m threshold, as the birds are likely to have become habituated to the effects of at least some human disturbance associated with the operational Power Station. The confirmed and unconfirmed nests sites within West Burton Power Station are greater than 750m from the construction footprint of the

[3] Rudduck, M. and Whitfield, D.P. (2007). A review of Disturbance Distances in Selected Bird Species – A Report from Natural Research Ltd. to Scottish Natural Heritage

		Proposed Power Plant site and therefore disturbance to breeding peregrine during construction or operation is not considered likely.
	5) Provide further clarity on habitat loss and impacts on species within West Burton Power Station LWS	The draft DCO (**Application Document Ref. 2.1**) seeks consent for **Work No. 5** (shown on Sheet 5 of 10 of **Application Document Ref. 3.2**). This involves constructing a new surface water drainage system, comprising pond(s) and/or a tank or similar, including a surface water drainage pipeline connecting the Proposed Power Plant Site into the existing West Burton Power Station site purge line that runs approximately parallel with River Road from the WBA Power Station cooling towers to the River Trent and forms part of the drainage system. Three potential options that have been considered are explained and illustrated in the Outline Drainage Strategy (**Application Document Ref. 7.8**) and in **Chapter 4**: The Proposed Development (**Application Document Ref 5.2**). To ensure a worst-case assessment, each of these options is also assessed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including **Chapter 9**: Ecology. The three options that have been assessed are as follows: • Option (C) south-west connection to WBB GU36 hence onto the permitted discharge point W6 connected to purge line chamber 15 ‘referred to in the ES as the ‘third option, connecting into WBB, which may involve installation of an oily water separator to the south-east corner of the WBB Power Station site, as shown in the ‘triangular’ hatched area on Work Plan 5; • Option (B) north-east connection to purge line chambers P3 or P4‘referred to in the ES as the ‘northern drainage connection corridor’; and • Option (A) south-east connection to WBB GMX/purge line chamber 7, (permitted discharge point W5 in the existing WBB Environmental Permit) ‘referred to in the ES as the ‘southern drainage connection corridor’.

		It is important to note that **only one of the three** potential drainage options will be developed, and the decision as to which option will be used will be made at the detailed design stage. As explained in paragraph 5.2.9 of the Outline Drainage Strategy (**Application Document Ref. 7.8**), due to the technical difficulties and risks present with the connection option 'A' (Refer to Section 6.1), calculations and layouts have only been carried out for options 'B' and 'C', although the area is included on Work Plan 5 and the option to construct and use this drainage connection corridor has been include in the ES in order to ensure a worst-case assessment. The Appendices of the Outline Drainage Strategy (**Application Document Ref. 7.8**) provide indicative drainage connection plans and indicative cross sections of the tie-ins to existing drainage systems for Options B and C as well as an outline method statement (Appendix E2 - Outline Connection Method Statement) regarding construction of drainage connection into WBA purge line chamber P3 for the northern drainage connection corridor. It is reasonable to assume broadly similar methods as detailed in Appendix E2, subject to local conditions, would be applied for working within the southern drainage connection corridor, if chosen. Appendix E1 of the Outline Drainage Strategy provides a schematic cross section for the connection into the existing purge line for the norther drainage connection corridor. Using this information, assumptions on the working width and depth of connections have been developed and are presented in other reports e.g. the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (OWSI) (**Application Document Ref. 7.9**) which states: *'The depth of impact from the drainage system would be up to approximately **4m** below present ground level, where the connection into the existing WBA Power Station drainage system is proposed, …. The width of the impact would be a corridor of around **4m**, where the tie-in to the WBA Power Station drainage system is proposed and excavations down to the connection point are required.*

		However, in assessing impacts on habitats and species within West Burton Power Station LWS and West Burton Reedbed LWS in **Chapter 9**: Ecology, more conservative assumptions regarding the working width and clearance have been used i.e. in relation to the northern drainage connection corridor option through West Burton Power Station LWS, paragraph 9.6.6 of Chapter 9: Ecology states '*removal of scrub adjacent to access tracks/the River Road would be required, affecting a worst-case area of up to **0.35ha**. Some pruning of trees on the edge of the woodland may be required and small areas of swamp (reedbed) may also be affected, but impacts on these habitats would be avoided, where possible, and protective fencing would be established as necessary.*' For a corridor of approximately 250m, this equates to a conservative assumption of a working corridor up to 14m width. In relation to the southern drainage connection corridor, paragraph 9.6.7 of Chapter 9: Ecology states that 'if implemented, would require removal of habitat, mainly comprising scrub and scattered semi-mature trees, up to a worst-case area of 0.5ha. Part of an existing drainage ditch may also be impacted during construction works, though the extent and nature of the impact on this feature is unknown at this stage. For a corridor of approximately 350m, this equates to a conservative assumption of a working corridor up to 14m width. It is therefore reasonable to conclude that a worst-case and conservative assessment of habitats affected within the LWS has been completed and in reality, the design and impact avoidance measures committed to in **Chapter 9**: Ecology including '*the Proposed Development would avoid, as far as reasonably practicable, areas of high quality habitat, such as mature trees and woodland/wetland habitats associated with LWS to the east and south of the Site*' would mean that impacts would be less than those reported in the ES.

		The presence of Cetti's warbler has been assessed in terms of its Schedule 1 status and not its conservation concern (green conservation status in the UK). Due to its presence in the West Burton Reedbed LWS (although not a reason for the designation) potential disturbance impacts on this species were considered in paragraph 9.5.11 of **APP-038 (Chapter 9**: Ecology). It was considered that during construction, potential disturbance impacts due to noise would be unlikely, taking into account the design and impact avoidance measures required for legal compliance and which are therefore proposed to avoid disturbance to this species. These measures are described in **Section 9.5** (paragraph 9.5.11) and also in the Landscape and Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan (**APP-139** - **Document 7.5**), in the Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan (**APP-137 – Document 7.3**) and in the Commitments Register presented in **APP-135** (**Document 7.1**) and include: • a pre-construction survey to check for breeding birds including Cetti's warbler would be undertaken in advance of construction works; and • if the proposed southern drainage connection corridor (Option A) is chosen, or should it be necessary to undertake works associated with the third drainage option (Option C) adjacent to West Burton Reedbed LWS, construction works that would cause disturbance to Cetti's warbler or other protected birds within the nearby West Burton Reedbed LWS and other adjacent habitats would be timed to be outside the bird breeding season (March to August inclusive). This is proposed to be secured through Requirement 14 of the draft DCO (**APP-004**). **Table 9-8** of **APP-038** (**Chapter 9**: Ecology) explains that impacts due to noise disturbance during the operational phase of the Proposed Development are not anticipated for Cetti's warbler. This is because this species was found within the

		West Burton Reedbed LWS, which is located approximately 200m to the south of the Proposed Power Plant Site and is already subject to operational disturbance associated with WBB Power Station, located approximately 100m to the west.
	6) Confirm the proposed mitigation for badger – would exclusions be required and confirmation on how many social groups present?	Updated badger surveys were conducted across the West Burton Power Station in March 2019 by the Applicant. This re-confirmed the presence of one subsidiary sett within the Proposed Power Plant Site which was consistent with the March 2017 and January 2019 badger survey results. The subsidiary sett shows sporadic activity (vegetation debris in or around the entrance), the survey concluded '*possible badger disturbance recorded around the sett but field signs unclear, lots of rabbit activity'*. No further setts have been recorded in the Order Limits. [redacted] The presence of 3 main setts indicates that there could be 3 social groups residing however no bait marking surveys to confirm this have been undertaken. Permanent exclusion of the subsidiary sett (2 holes) within the Proposed Power Plant Site will be required if the sett remains active prior to construction. Non-permanent exclusion of some holes relating to the other setts may be required whilst construction works are completed to ensure no damage to setts. Holes within 30m of heavy plant movement will be susceptible to disturbance/damage, however ground disturbing activities such as pile driving, and large-scale excavations may result in disturbance to setts at greater distances. It is not proposed to permanently close any of the main setts recorded but partial closure of some holes may be required. Badgers are widespread throughout the wider West Burton Power Station site and adjacent area – an estimated 8 social groups have been recorded in the vicinity of the West Burton Power Station site. Further information on the distribution of

		badger social groups associated with the Site was not considered necessary to inform a robust assessment of impacts and effects on badger for the purposes of the EcIA. However, badger bait marking surveys will be completed prior to construction works to gain a better understanding of the social groups present to inform the licence application and the requirement for compensatory artificial setts. The pre-construction surveys for species will be secured by Requirement 14 of the draft DCO (**APP-004 - Document 2.1**) and are required due the legislative protection afforded to these species' groups. Mammal pathways were noted around the boundaries of the existing West Burton Power Station site and a mammal pathway was recorded along the northern boundary of the Proposed Power Plant Site indicating that the majority of the Proposed Power Plant Site is not regularly utilised by badger for foraging/commuting. It is considered that commuting corridors can be maintained with the habitat enhancement area to the north of the construction laydown area where suitable foraging habitat is present.
	7) Review assessment of nathusius pipistrelle at the site (points score assessment)	A single record for *Nathusius'* pipistrelle was recorded at the site during all bat activity surveys completed at the Site. These comprised five periods of static detector surveys conducted at the site between May and September 2017. Statics were placed in two locations for a minimum of five nights per month. Six transect surveys were also completed between May and September 2017. The single record was picked up on the static detector located on the edge of woodland associated with West Burton Power Station LWS during the May static detector survey period. It is concluded that this was likely to be an individual commuting through the area. Wray (2010)[4] was used to determine the relative value of the bat species assemblage at the site and for *Nathusius'* pipistrelle this was concluded to be

[4] Wray, S., Wells, D., Long, E and Mitchell-Jones, T (2010) Valuing bats in ecological impact assessment. In Practice, No. 70, pages 23-25. IEEM.

		District/Local with a points score of 17. The assessment concluded that the single record is not sufficient to demonstrate presence/residence of the species at the Site and therefore the proposed works will not impact this species. This assessment remains valid. Activity surveys (transects and static detector surveys) will be updated prior to construction commencing to confirm the nature conservation value of the bat species assemblages associated with the Site. The pre-construction surveys for species will be secured by Requirement 14 of the draft DCO (**APP-004 - Document 2.1**) and are required due the legislative protection afforded to these species' groups.
	8) Update net gain calculations to take into account the condition of the compensatory habitat proposed to be secured by the previous permissions rather than the current situation	Acknowledging the need to take into account the future baseline condition of habitats associated with WBB Power Station Landscape and Creative Conservation Plan LaCCP, the metric 2.0 calculation was re-ran using a future baseline for the habitats on site. This future baseline was assumed the successful implementation of the management proposed in the 2012 LaCCP (which focused on enhancement of the grassland, woodland and scrub areas in Areas 4 & 5 of the proposed Landscape and Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan (**Figure 9.1**), and enhancement of existing reedbed). In summary this gave a revised baseline scenario as follows:

Habitats and areas		Habitat distinctiveness		Habitat
Habitat type	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition
Urban - Vacant/derelict land/ bareground	1.68	Low	2	Poor
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved	2.65	Medium	4	Good
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved	1.07	Medium	4	Good
Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	1.39	V.Low	0	N/A - Other
Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	9.64	V.Low	0	N/A - Other
Grassland - Other neutral grassland	11.91	Medium	4	Good
Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral	1.45	Low	2	Poor
Grassland - Modified grassland	0.12	Low	2	Poor
Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	6.04	Medium	4	Moderate
Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	0.11	Medium	4	Moderate
Lakes - Ponds (Priority Habitat)	0.002	High	6	Good
Wetland - Reedbeds	0.13	High	6	Good
Lakes - Ditches	0.03	Medium	4	Good

The metric (attached) models this scenario, and overall the Proposed Development still achieves a **32% net gain** (see '_future baseline condition' workbook). This assessment used the following assumptions

1) like for like replacement of habitats areas lost, aiming for 'good' condition;
2) enhancement of retained areas of tall ruderal and scrub habitat; and
3) 2.89ha of tree planting in Area 4.

The gain is largely due to the 2.89ha of tree planting proposed in Area 4.

Appendix 3.2 – GCN survey results summaries

Pond No.	Parsons Brinckerhoff Ltd	Jacobs	Jacobs	AECOM	WSP	Notes
	2007	2010 (*)	2014	2017	2019	
1				0.49 - Poor HSI		Scoped out in 2017 due to low HSI score - pond is used for operational activities and the water quality is very poor. Not in scope for other surveys.
2	17			Dry	1	Man-made lined pond. GCN numbers have declined since 2007.
3	4			2	Dry	Reedbeds with some standing water. Water level fluctuates - small numbers of GCN present in wetter years.
4				1	Dry	Reedbeds with some standing water. Water level fluctuates - small numbers of GCN present in wetter years.
5				0.52 - Below Average HSI		Stocked fishing pond with absence of macrophytes. No safe access in 2019
6				0.43 - Poor HSI		Stocked fishing pond with absence of macrophytes. No safe access in 2020
7				0.46 - Poor HSI		Stocked fishing pond with absence of macrophytes. No safe access in 2021

Pond No.	Parsons Brinckerhoff Ltd	Jacobs	Jacobs	AECOM	WSP	Notes
	2007	2010 (*)	2014	2017	2019	
8	4		37	61	35	GCN numbers have increased since first survey in 2007. Medium size class maintained over last 3 survey periods, with highest numbers in 2017.
9	0		0.68 - Average HSI	0.85 - Excellent HSI	0	Dense fringing scrub and reedbed made access to open water too dangerous in 2014 and 2017. No GCN recorded in 2007 and 2019
10			0.72 - Good HSI	0.85 - Excellent HSI	0	Dense fringing scrub and reedbed made access to open water too dangerous in 2014 and 2017. No GCN recorded in 2007 and 2019
11			0.69 - Average HSI	0.85 - Excellent HSI		Dense fringing scrub and reedbed made access to open water too dangerous in 2014, 2017 and 2019. No GCN recorded in 2007
12			0.55 - Below Average HSI	0.84 - Excellent HSI		Dense fringing scrub and reedbed made access to open water too dangerous in 2014, 2017 and 2019. No GCN recorded in 2007

Pond No.	Parsons Brinckerhoff Ltd	Jacobs	Jacobs	AECOM	WSP	Notes
	2007	2010 (*)	2014	2017	2019	
13		GCN Present	2	0.84 - Excellent HSI	Dry	Dense fringing scrub and reedbed made access to open water too dangerous in 2017. Thick layer of residue on surface water in more open areas. Dry in 2019. Supports small numbers of GCN.
14		GCN Present	5	11	2	Small size class population, with a medium recorded in 2017
15			0	0.56 - Below Average HSI	3	Dense fringing scrub and reedbed made access to open water too dangerous in 2017. No GCN in 2007 or 2014 and small GCN population recorded in 2019
16			11	10	9	Population appears stable at small/medium size class
17				2	0	Small size class population
18			0	0.83 - Excellent HSI		Dense fringing reedbed made access to open water too dangerous in 2017. Steep banks and deep water were the H&S concerns in 2019. No GCN recorded in 2014.
Bole Ings Ditch	6	GCN Present	30		15	Medium size class population, increased from small in 2007
Bole Ings Reedbed	0	GCN Present	2		1	Population appears stable at small size class

Pond No.	Parsons Brinckerhoff Ltd	Jacobs	Jacobs	AECOM	WSP	Notes
	2007	2010 (*)	2014	2017	2019	
Bole Ings Wetland	0		5		8	Population appears stable at small size class
Ditch South of Bole Round	0					No GCN recorded
Ditch at Burton Road	0					No GCN recorded
WSP 24			Pond Not Present		5	Small size class population
PEAK TOTALS ACROSS ALL PONDS	31	0	92	87	74	Peak numbers have increased since the first survey in 2007 and appear fairly consistent (high tens) over the latest 3 survey periods.
TOTAL PEAK ON ONE NIGHT	**9**	**N/A**	**70**	**85**	**67**	
Population Size Class	**SMALL**	**Medium**	**Medium**	**Medium**	**Medium**	

(*) Full survey information is not available for the 2010 survey. This survey was summarised as part of the desk study in the 2017 Jacobs report - full details of all ponds surveyed were not provided, the ponds where GCN were recorded was summarised and the population size was classed as medium based on the peak count from the site visit with the highest peak count summed across all ponds - no peak total was provided.

Not Surveyed - Not in Scope

Scoped out on suitability (HSI provided where available)

Scoped out - H&S Issues (HSI provided where available)