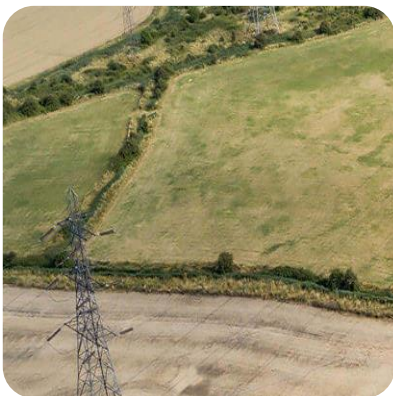




Statement of Common Ground with Historic England

Draft 4, May 2021



1 STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This is the fourth draft Statement of Common Ground between the applicant, Thurrock Power Ltd, and Historic England. It is presented for discussion with sections for:

- matters that Thurrock Power proposes could be agreed at this stage;
- matters that are currently under discussion between Thurrock Power and Historic England; and
- matters where there remains disagreement at this stage.

1.2 Matters that are agreed

- 1.2.1 The Environmental Statement (ES) and supplemental information, including photomontages, provide an adequate assessment of above-ground impacts on the settings of heritage assets. Less than substantial harm would result from these impacts.
- 1.2.2 Additional photomontages were taken from requested viewpoints and have been accepted. HE acknowledges that it is not currently feasible to take rectified photographs to produce wirelines or photomontages from Bowaters Farm.
- 1.2.3 The findings of the Geoarchaeological Deposit Model Report (ES Volume 6, Appendix 7.2) have informed the assessment of the baseline environment in the ES and have informed the further proposed pre-construction archaeological investigation set out in the Outline Terrestrial Written Scheme of Investigation (Outline WSI, application document reference A8.11a).
- 1.2.4 The 'main development site' of the Flexible Generation Plant (Zone A in the ES) has the greatest potential for impact on archaeology as this is the primary area of construction and area requiring deep foundations/piling. The pipeline route will also impact on archaeology, but to a lesser depth which will not impact geoarchaeological deposits.
- 1.2.5 The applicant has separated the Outline WSI into marine and terrestrial elements. The applicant has agreed with the MMO to propose a condition in the Deemed Marine License for approval of the 'Outline Marine and Intertidal WSI'.
- 1.2.6 The Outline Marine and Intertidal WSI (application document reference A8.11b) is accepted and agreed.
- 1.2.7 The Outline Terrestrial WSI (application document reference A8.11a) is accepted and agreed.
- 1.2.8 There is potential for Tilbury2 and the Lower Thames Crossing taken together with Thurrock Flexible Generation Plant to cause significant adverse cumulative effects. The level of harm would be less than substantial.
- 1.2.9 Walton Common is not a designated heritage asset, nor is it identified in the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) as a non-designated heritage asset.

1.3 Matters that are under discussion

- 1.3.1 The data obtained by the LTC project, including the linear borehole samples along the length of Zone C to the south of the railway line, will provide adequate information for a geoarchaeological model in this area without the need for any further geoarchaeological cores other than those already proposed for Zone A.

1.4 Matters that are not agreed

- 1.4.1 HE believes that the impact of the scheme has been represented as less than it is for Earthworks near church, West Tilbury, Church of St James and Second World War anti-aircraft battery at Bowaters Farm (even though this equates to less than substantial in the terminology of the NPS).
- 1.4.2 HE does not agree that an adequate assessment of below-ground archaeological remains has been undertaken prior to the DCO application being accepted for examination.
- 1.4.3 HE objects in principle to the proposed removal of Walton Common and considers that a more detailed assessment of its historic landscape character is required in order to understand its importance.