



THE PLANNING ACT 2008
THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES
2010

Boston Alternative Energy Facility

Appendix E2 to Natural England's Deadline 2 Submission

**Further Natural England Advice in Relation to the Alignment of the England Coast
Path (ECP)**

For:

The construction and operation of Boston Alternative Energy Facility (AEF) that would generate approximately 102 MW of renewable energy and is located immediately south of Boston town, Lincolnshire.

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010095

11th November 2021

Appendix E2 Further Natural England advice in relation to the alignment of the England Coast Path (ECP)

Introduction

In addition to Natural England's relevant and written representations advice [RR-021], the following advice is provided in relation to reaching the necessary agreement on any new alignment of the proposed England Coast Path (ECP). Other risks and issues relating to the ECP remain as per our RR/WR [RR-021]

Detailed Comments

Since the application submission, Natural England's England Coast Path (ECP) team and Lincolnshire County Council have been engaged in discussions with the Applicant about the potential rerouting of the ECP to accommodate The Project.

Contrary to Section 5.3.29 of the Environmental Statement, **Natural England doesn't support the Applicant's proposed new alignment of the ECP**. Natural England advise that the proposed new alignment unnecessarily constrains access to the coast which is contrary to the ECP legislation as designated by parliament.

In order to satisfy the legislative requirements for the national trail, Natural England advises that the Applicant must provide further evidence to justify the proposals to significantly extinguish part of the current ECP route. Especially, when under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (Part 9) there are powers, and therefore options, to create new routes that better fit the legal expectations of the ECP than simply diverting to existing Public Rights of Way (PRoW).

Natural England therefore advises that alternative options such as that proposed in **Figure 1** below should be fully explored and assessed by the Applicant.

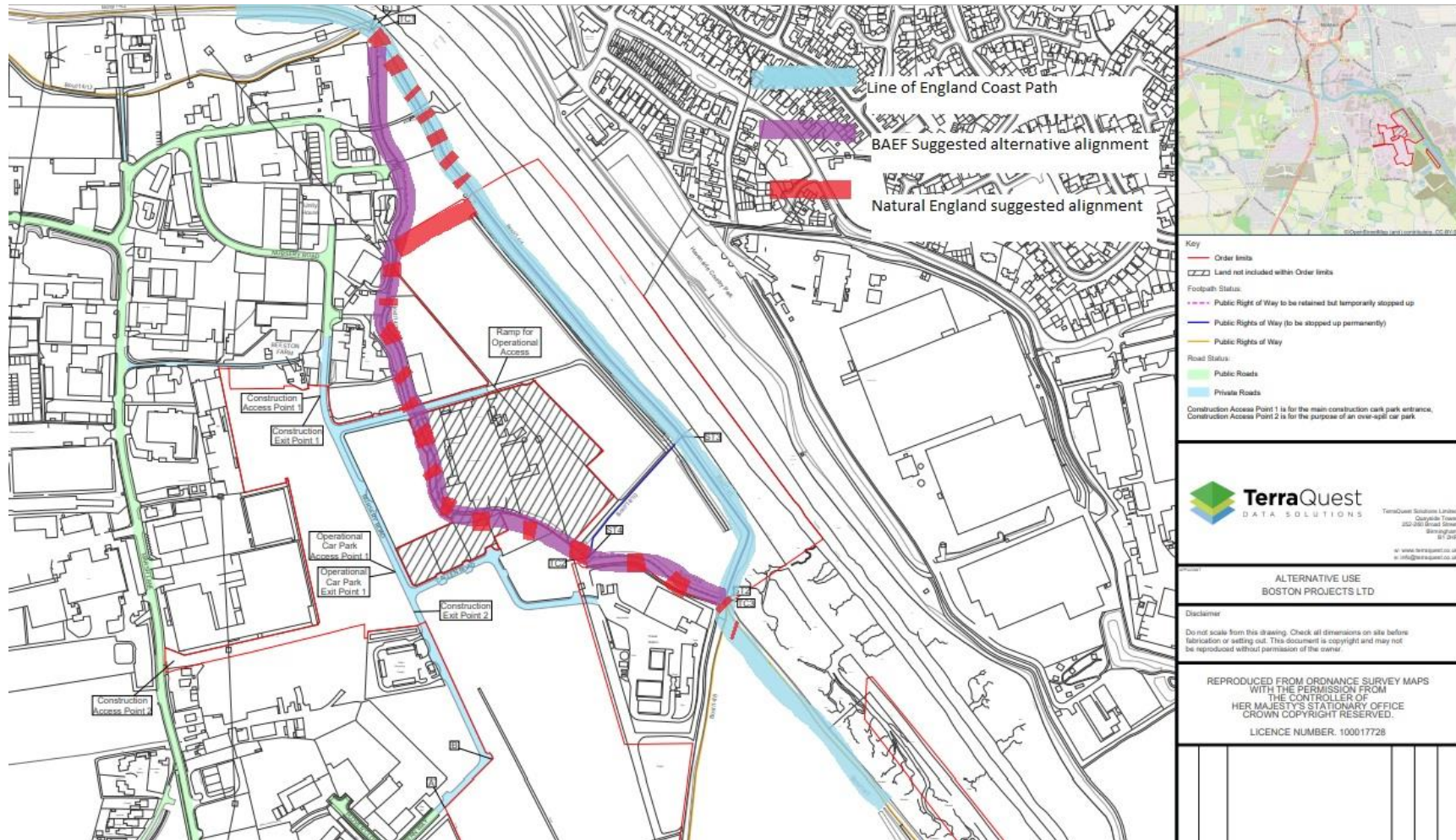


Figure 1: Natural England's suggested ECP alignment.

*NB: The red line on the site boundary, can be either side of the boundary and it doesn't have to be within any security fencing/site boundary and can readily be on adjacent land.