



Little Crow

Solar Park

Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT: TECHNICAL APPENDICES

APPENDIX 7.7

OUTLINE CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY

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APPENDIX 7.7: OUTLINE CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (BIODIVERSITY) LITTLE CROW SOLAR, SANTON, LINCOLNSHIRE

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| Author | Mike Hockey | | | |
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| | | | | |

The information, data and advice which has been prepared and provided is true, and has been prepared and provided in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management's (CIEEM) Code of Professional Conduct. We confirm that the opinions expressed are our true and professional bona fide opinions. This report and its contents remain the property of Clarkson and Woods Ltd. until payment has been made in full.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 This Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (Biodiversity) has been prepared by Clarkson and Woods Ltd. on behalf of INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd. in support of the Environmental Statement (ES) for the construction of a ground mounted solar park and associated battery storage at land proposed to accommodate Little Crow Solar Park near Scunthorpe, within the North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) administrative area.

1.1.2 This plan sets out the environmental protection procedures for undertaking works associated with the proposed development; specifically dealing with the protection of habitats and species during the construction phase.

1.1.3 At this stage, the plan has been prepared as an outline document since details of construction personnel and the practicality of the recommended measures are not fully known. It is recommended that this outline CEMP (Biodiversity) is reviewed and amended where necessary as a condition of the Development Consent Order to ensure the information and instruction contained within is appropriate.

1.1.4 This plan has been informed by ecological surveys and the following corresponding reports:

- *Environmental Statement – Chapter 7 Ecology and Nature Conservation– Little Crow Solar, Santon, Lincolnshire (Clarkson & Woods, August 2019) (Document Ref: 6.7 LC ES CH7).*
- *ES Appendix 7.1: Extended Phase 1, Arable Plants, Great Crested Newts & Water Vole – Little Crow Solar, Santon, Lincolnshire (Clarkson & Woods, July 2020) (Document Ref: 7.22 LC TA7.1);*
- *ES Appendix 7.2: Wintering Bird Surveys – Little Crow Solar Farm, Scunthorpe (Clarkson & Woods, July 2020) (Document Ref: 7.23 LC TA7.2);*
- *ES Appendix 7.3: Breeding Bird Surveys – Little Crow Solar Farm, Scunthorpe (Clarkson & Woods, July 2020) (Document Ref: 7.24 LC TA7.3);*
- *ES Appendix 7.4 - Bat Survey Report – Little Crow Solar, Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire (Clarkson & Woods, July 2020) (Document Ref: 7.25 LC TA7.4);*
- *ES Appendix 7.5: Badger Survey & Assessment – Little Crow Solar Farm, Scunthorpe (Clarkson & Woods, July 2020) (Document Ref: 8.1 LC TA7.5);*
- *ES Appendix 7.6: Great Crested Newt Risk Avoidance Method Statement – Little Crow Solar Farm, Scunthorpe (Clarkson & Woods, July 2020) (Document Ref: 7.26 LC TA7.6); and*

- *ES Appendix 7.8: Landscape and Ecological Management Plan – Little Crow Solar, Santon, Lincolnshire (Clarkson & Woods, July 2020) (Document Ref: 7.28 LC TA7.8);*

1.1.5 This CEMP (Biodiversity) outlines measures to prevent impacts on retained habitats and protected species; thus avoiding offences being committed under relevant legislation. The purpose of this plan is to:

- *Plainly identify known risks to preserving habitats and/or the function of the site for protected or notable species and implement the mitigation outlined in the ecological report;*
- *Clearly set out when and where ecological supervision will be required;*
- *Identify ecologically sensitive areas (biodiversity protection zones) and indicate where protective buffers/fencing is required; and*
- *Identify roles and responsibilities for undertaking the work in relation to protecting biodiversity on site during the construction phase.*

1.1.6 It is the responsibility of INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd. to arrange for the work outlined in this document to be undertaken to ensure all prescriptions are fulfilled. It may be appropriate to conduct updated ecological surveys to inform the delivery of this CEMP to ensure that the recommendations made are still relevant.

1.1.7 Layout plans for the site (Document Ref: 2.10 LC DRW) were consulted in the preparation of this plan.

1.1.8 This outline CEMP (Biodiversity) follows the guidelines set out within the Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development, British Standard 42020:2013.

1.1.9 A separate Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) (Document Ref: 7.28 LC TA7.8) has also been prepared for the site, which covers the continued protection and enhancement of the ecological features associated with the site during operation.

2 RESPONSIBLE PERSONNEL & LINES OF COMMUNICATION

2.1 Client

2.1.1 INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd. are to be responsible for the implementation of this CEMP (Biodiversity) and shall liaise with the Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) to commission and arrange an ecologist’s input or site attendance, where required.

2.1.2 Should management on the site change, new personnel will be made aware of and action this CEMP.

2.2 Site Manager

2.2.1 To be confirmed.

2.3 Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW)

2.3.1 An ECoW is required to support the development and ensure that INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd. adheres to the requirements of this CEMP (Biodiversity) to be legally compliant.

2.3.2 Ecological queries should be directed to Clarkson & Woods Ltd, contactable on 01934 712500. Where another ecological consultancy is employed to fulfil this role, any ecologist must be suitably qualified, have at least two years’ experience and in receipt of suitable training in how the responsibilities of the ECoW are to be discharged.

2.3.3 The ECoW will be responsible for delivering the prescriptions requiring ecological expertise during construction. They shall assist and advise INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd. in their adherence to the requirements of this CEMP (Biodiversity).

2.4 Contact Details

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Client | INRG Solar (Little Crow) Ltd. | Tom Harlow, Managing Director | INRG Solar, 93 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 9DQ | Contact Email: [REDACTED] |
| Main Contractor | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |
| ECoW | Clarkson & Woods | Primary Contact: Peter Timms | Overbrook Business Centre, Poolbridge Road, Blackford, Somerset, BS28 4PA | Contact [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED] Contact Telephone: 01934 712500 |
| Wildlife Rescue Centre | RSPCA | N/A | RSPCA Animal Welfare Centre, | Contact Telephone: 01482 341331 |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | | Clough Rd, Hull, HU6 7PE | |
| Pollution Incident Contact | Environment Agency | N/A | N/A | Incident hotline: 0800 80 70 60 |

3 BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION ZONES

- 3.1.1 For the outer edge of the development, a typical development buffer of 10m would be provided between the edge of the Order Limits and the perimeter fencing (Work No. 6). This allows the provision of future mitigation planting should it be required during the lifetime of the development. This buffer increases to 15m where the Order Limits adjoin Scheduled Ancient Woodland.
- 3.1.2 In addition to the perimeter buffer, the following ecological features (as informed through the aforementioned baseline surveys) will be safeguarded through implementation of Biodiversity Protection Zones (BPZs) or through adoption of sensitive working methods (see Section 5) to avoid and minimise adverse impacts during the construction phase. The locations of ecological features and BPZs are illustrated in Figure 1. A detailed risk assessment of the construction-phase impacts of the proposals upon the identified ecological features is provided in Section 4 overleaf.

Habitats:

- *Extensive plantation woodland surrounding the Order Limits, much of which is included within locally-designated sites for nature conservation and some of which is representative of Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS). Smaller blocks of plantation woodland and semi-natural woodland also present within the Order Limits;*
- *Hedgerows, some of which are species rich and 'Important' under the Hedgerow Regulations (1997); and*
- *Ponds and ditches, some of which are permanently filled with water and some of which are seasonally dry.*

Species:

- *Badger setts and foraging badgers within and adjacent to the site;*
- *A population of brown hare using the site;*
- *Birds breeding in woodland, hedgerows and open fields, including a range of farmland bird species of conservation concern;*
- *Great crested newts present within pond 330m to the south of the Order Limits and thus a Great Crested Newt Working Area established as a 500m perimeter around this pond; and*

- *Widespread amphibians and reptile species likely to be utilising hedgerows, woodland edges, field margins and ditches/ponds.*

4 ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1.1 A risk assessment of the construction-phase impacts of the proposals upon habitats and species identified in Section 3, along with suggested remedial measures to be implemented through Method Statements, is provided below. *This excludes impacts which have been avoided through the layout design of the development and mitigation/compensation/ enhancement measures which are covered by the LEMP*

| Ecological Feature | Ecological Feature Description/Comments | Potential Adverse Impacts (Risk Assessment) | Risk Avoidance Methods - see Section 5 for Method Statements (MS) | Timing to Implement Risk Avoidance MS (see Section 6) | Person Responsible to Implement Risk Avoidance Methods |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| Designated Sites | | | | | |
| Broughton Far Wood SSSI, Broughton Far Wood LWS & Rowland Plantation LWS | Nationally designated site for its rich woodland canopy and ground flora; as well as areas of herb-rich limestone grassland. LWS areas with some diverse habitats | Accidental damage to woodland habitats from airborne pollution resulting in smothering of leaves/ deposition of spoil from runoff resulting in change to soil character. Could lead to degradation of habitat and indirect adverse effects on species it supports | Airborne Pollution (Dust) & Silt Control (MS 3) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect habitats as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| Heron Holt LWS, Broughton West Wood LWS, Manby Wood LWS & Santon Wood East LWS | Locally designated sites with botanically diverse woodland and ground flora | Accidental physical (mechanical) damage to trees, including disturbance (direct or indirect) of any species using features. Also soil compaction and associated effects | Toolbox Talk (MS 1) | Pre-construction | ECoW |
| | | | BPZ Fencing (MS 2) | Install prior to construction and maintain for duration of construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect fencing on installation and as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| | | | Airborne Pollution (Dust) & Silt Control (MS 3) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |

| Ecological Feature | Ecological Feature Description/Comments | Potential Adverse Impacts (Risk Assessment) | Risk Avoidance Methods - see Section 5 for Method Statements (MS) | Timing to Implement Risk Avoidance MS (see Section 6) | Person Responsible to Implement Risk Avoidance Methods |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| | | leaves/ deposition of spoil from runoff resulting in change to soil character. Could lead to degradation of habitat and indirect adverse effects on species it supports | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect habitats as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| Broughton West Wood SNCI & Santon Wood SNCI | Locally designated sites with some diverse ground flora | Accidental damage to woodland habitats from airborne pollution resulting in smothering of leaves/ deposition of spoil from runoff resulting in change to soil character. Could lead to degradation of habitat and indirect adverse effects on species it supports | Airborne Pollution (Dust) & Silt Control (MS 3) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect habitats as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| | | | Toolbox Talk (MS 1) | Pre-construction | ECoW |
| | | Accidental physical (mechanical) damage to trees, including disturbance (direct or indirect) of any species using features. Also soil compaction and associated effects | Cable Laying in Icehouse strip (MS 11) | Tree removal to coincide with scheduled felling for timber harvest. Prior walkover by ECoW | Main contractor, ECoW |
| | | | BPZ Fencing (MS 2) | Install prior to construction and maintain for duration of construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect fencing on installation and as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| Habitats | | | | | |
| Retained hedgerow and associated trees | Locally important mix of species-poor and species-rich hedgerows | Accidental physical (mechanical) damage to trees, including disturbance (direct or indirect) of any species using features. Also soil compaction and associated effects | BPZ Fencing (MS 2) | Install prior to construction and maintain for duration of construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect fencing on installation and as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |

| Ecological Feature | Ecological Feature Description/Comments | Potential Adverse Impacts (Risk Assessment) | Risk Avoidance Methods - see Section 5 for Method Statements (MS) | Timing to Implement Risk Avoidance MS (see Section 6) | Person Responsible to Implement Risk Avoidance Methods |
|--------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
| | | Accidental damage from airborne pollution resulting in smothering of leaves/ deposition of spoil from runoff resulting in change to soil character. Could lead to degradation of habitat and indirect adverse effects on species it supports | Airborne Pollution (Dust) & Silt Control (MS 3) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect habitats as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| Retained woodland | Locally important semi-natural and plantation broadleaved woodland | Accidental damage to woodland habitats from airborne pollution resulting in smothering of leaves/ deposition of spoil from runoff resulting in change to soil character. Could lead to degradation of habitat and indirect adverse effects on species it supports | Airborne Pollution (Dust) & Silt Control (MS 3) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect habitats as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| | | | Toolbox Talk (MS 1) | Pre-construction | ECoW |
| | | Accidental physical (mechanical) damage to trees, including disturbance (direct or indirect) of any species using features. Also soil compaction and associated effects | BPZ Fencing (MS 2) | Install prior to construction and maintain for duration of construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS12) | Inspect fencing on installation and as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| Retained ditches | Locally important network of drainage ditches at field boundaries | Pollution of watercourse through dust deposition, siltation or chemical spillage. Pollution may result in adverse impacts on flora and fauna the ditch supports in addition to habitat/species downstream | Airborne Pollution (dust) & Silt Control (MS 3) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Pollution Prevention (Safe Storage of Chemicals and Materials) (MS 4) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect habitats as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |

| Ecological Feature | Ecological Feature Description/Comments | Potential Adverse Impacts (Risk Assessment) | Risk Avoidance Methods - see Section 5 for Method Statements (MS) | Timing to Implement Risk Avoidance MS (see Section 6) | Person Responsible to Implement Risk Avoidance Methods | | |
|--------------------|---|--|---|---|--|---|-----------------|
| | | Accidental physical (mechanical) damage to ditch-side habitat including disturbance (direct or indirect) of any species using these features | Toolbox Talk (MS 1) | Pre-construction | ECoW | | |
| | | | BPZ Fencing (MS 2) | Install prior to construction and maintain for duration of construction | Main contractor | | |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect fencing on installation and as per monitoring schedule | ECoW | | |
| Retained ponds | 5 on-site ponds and 2 off-site ponds within 500m, locally important | Pollution of pond through dust deposition, siltation or chemical spillage. Pollution may result in adverse impacts on pond flora and fauna | Airborne Pollution (dust) & Silt Control (MS 3) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor | | |
| | | | Pollution Prevention (Safe Storage of Chemicals and Materials) (MS 4) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor | | |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect habitats as per monitoring schedule | ECoW | | |
| | | | | Injury/ mortality of wildlife around pond due to movement of construction plant | Toolbox Talk (MS 1) | Pre-construction | ECoW |
| | | | | | BPZ Fencing (MS 2) | Install prior to construction and maintain for duration of construction | Main contractor |
| | | | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect fencing on installation and as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| | | Species | | | | | |
| Badgers | Protected species of Site importance. Active setts present and site used for foraging | Accidental physical (mechanical) damage to a sett including disturbance (direct or indirect), or obstruction | BPZ Fencing (MS 2) | Install prior to construction and maintain for duration of construction | Main contractor | | |
| | | | Update Badger Survey (MS 6) | If impacts cannot be avoided. Exclusion between July-November only | ECoW | | |

| Ecological Feature | Ecological Feature Description/Comments | Potential Adverse Impacts (Risk Assessment) | Risk Avoidance Methods - see Section 5 for Method Statements (MS) | Timing to Implement Risk Avoidance MS (see Section 6) | Person Responsible to Implement Risk Avoidance Methods |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | Accidental injury/ mortality of badgers due to becoming trapped in excavations/ site materials; electrocution or collision with vehicles | Precautionary Site Maintenance Measures (MS 7) | Measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect construction site as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |
| | | Exclusion from foraging areas | Precautionary Site Maintenance Measures (MS 7) | Upon fence installation | Main contractor |
| Bats | Locally important populations of at least five bat species | Potential dissuasion of bats from foraging/ commuting areas, possibly resulting in reduced prey availability/ reduced fitness of individuals and population decline | Sensitive Lighting Strategy (MS 5) | Measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| Brown hare | Locally important population of this Species of Principal Importance | Accidental injury/ mortality from construction activities | Precautionary Site Maintenance Measures (MS 7) | Measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| | | Exclusion from foraging areas | | Upon fence installation | Main contractor |
| Breeding Birds (Ground Nesting Birds of Open Farmland) | Populations of birds, including several species of conservation concern, using open fields for nesting of District importance | Accidental injury/ mortality from construction activities | Nesting Bird Mitigation (MS 8) | Cut prior to construction commencing, after last harvest and before 1 st March. Maintain for duration of construction | Main contractor |
| | | | | If vegetation not maintained as prescribed in MS X; March-August inclusive | ECoW |
| Breeding Birds - Other | Populations of birds, including several species of conservation concern, using boundary habitats for nesting | Accidental injury/ mortality from hedgerow clearance/ vehicular damage | BPZ Fencing (MS 2) | Install prior to construction and maintain for duration of construction | Main contractor |
| | | | Nesting Bird Mitigation (MS 8) | If vegetation is to be removed; March-August inclusive | ECoW |
| | | | Construction-phase Monitoring (MS 12) | Inspect construction site as per monitoring schedule | ECoW |

| Ecological Feature | Ecological Feature Description/Comments | Potential Adverse Impacts (Risk Assessment) | Risk Avoidance Methods - see Section 5 for Method Statements (MS) | Timing to Implement Risk Avoidance MS (see Section 6) | Person Responsible to Implement Risk Avoidance Methods |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|--|
| | | Accidental degradation of nests and injury or mortality of young due to dust deposition | Airborne Pollution (dust) & Silt Control (MS 3) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |
| Great crested newts | Population of GCN within a pond 330m south of the <u>Order Limits</u> | Accidental injury/ mortality from habitat clearance | GCN Risk Avoidance Method Statement (MS 10) | Duration of construction | Main contractor, ECoW |
| Reptiles and toads | Widespread reptiles and common toad likely to be present in marginal habitats | Accidental injury/ mortality from habitat clearance | Precautionary Measures for Reptiles and Amphibians (MS 9) | During clearance of suitable habitat | Main contractor, ECoW |
| Invertebrates | Locally important assemblage of invertebrates, both terrestrial and aquatic | Accidental injury/ mortality due to smothering by airborne pollution/ deposition of spoil from runoff. Indirect effects of pollution damage to habitats | Airborne Pollution (dust) & Silt Control (MS 3) | Control measures to be adhered to throughout construction | Main contractor |

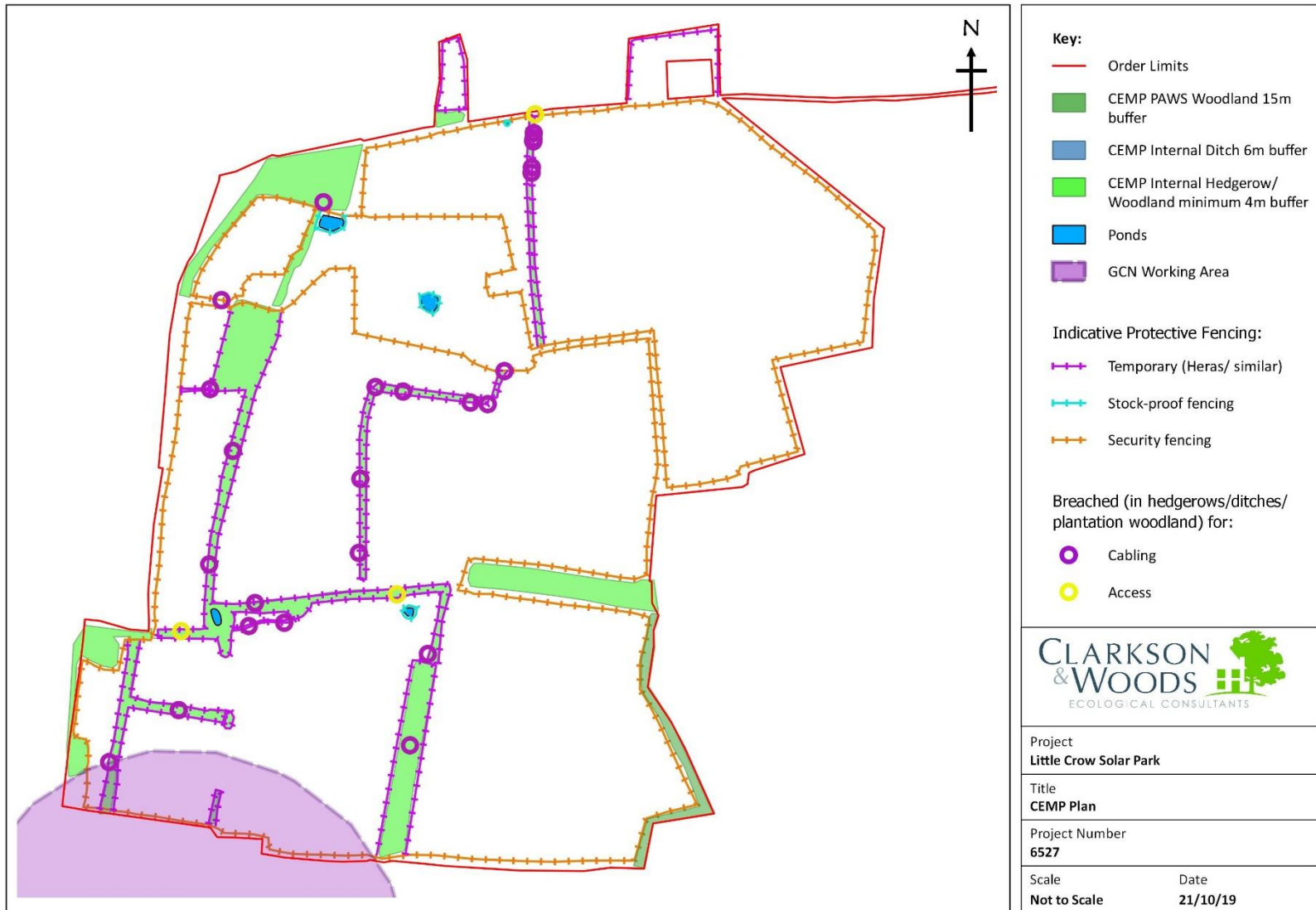


Figure 1: CEMP Plan

5 Biodiversity Working Method Statements

- 5.1.1 The method statements detailed below relate to the ecological features identified in Section 4. Adherence to these method statements will ensure that construction activities remain legally compliant and follow best practice measures relating to biodiversity.
- 5.1.2 Periodic review of the Method Statements will be undertaken, informed by construction-phase monitoring by the ECoW, to ensure that the recommendations remain relevant and any required remedial action is taken.

METHOD STATEMENT No.1: Toolbox Talk



| | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Pre-construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Commencement of construction |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) Ecological Clerk of Works (Clarkson and Woods) | | |
| Description of Work | Toolbox talk to be delivered regarding ecological constraints within the <u>Order Limits</u> . | | |
| Purpose | To ensure species and retained habitats are protected during construction and site personnel are aware of their responsibilities in this regard. | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>Prior to construction activities commencing, a toolbox talk will be delivered by the ECoW to all site personnel. The talk will cover the ecological features present or potentially present within the site and the legal and ecological imperatives for their protection. It will also provide an overview of the Method Statements to be implemented.</p> <p>It will be the responsibility of the site manager to relay all of the information within the toolbox talk to all site staff during their inductions. In the event that site management changes, the toolbox talk shall be repeated by the ECoW.</p> | | |
| Completion | Delivery of toolbox talk marks completion. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | A log of when and to whom toolbox talks should be kept to be made available as required as evidence of adherence to the requirement for toolbox talks to be delivered to key site personnel. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | All new site personnel to be given toolbox talk by site manager. Requirement for repetition of talk by ECoW if site management changes. | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.2: Biodiversity Protection Zone Fencing



| | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Pre-construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of construction |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) Fencing Contractor (TBC) Ecological Clerk of Works (Clarkson and Woods) | | |
| Description of Work | BPZs to be maintained through provision of fencing according to BS 5837: 2012. See Figure 2 for layout of fencing. | | |
| Purpose | To protect retained habitats and protected species therein. Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>The BPZs will prevent construction activities from resulting in physical damage to areas of sensitive habitat and species outside of the construction area. BPZs will be delineated by appropriate fencing for each habitat type/ feature to be protected, as detailed in the table below.</p> <p>Fencing will be in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction and will be marked with weather-proof signage (minimum A4 size) stating "Biodiversity Protection Zone – Keep Out".</p> <p>The fencing will be installed in accordance with Figure 1, prior to the commencement of ground works. Temporary fencing will remain in place until the development is completed and all site machinery and materials removed from site. No site personnel or machinery shall enter the BPZs and no equipment will be stored therein for the duration of construction.</p> <p>The maintenance of the BPZs and condition of fencing will be inspected by an ECoW on installation to ensure it complies with the correct specification and is installed in the correct locations. Thereafter the fencing will be subject to regular checks by the ECoW as per Method Statement 12; however it will be the responsibility of the site manager to ensure the fence is appropriately maintained throughout the construction phase.</p> | | |
| Completion | Completion of fencing installation and inspection by ECoW marks completion of work. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | Ecological Inspection Proforma (EIP) to be provided to INRG as evidence of completion of work. EIP to be retained as evidence of installation of fencing as per the CEMP. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | Monitoring and maintenance of BPZs during construction (MS 12) | | |

| Feature | BPZ Minimum Specification | Fencing Type |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Perimeter of <u>Order Limits</u> | Minimum 10m (greater for PAWS Woodland) | Security fencing |
| PAWS Woodland | 15m from woodland edge | Security fencing |
| All other woodland - boundaries | Root protection zone or shading zone of trees, whichever is greater | Security fencing |
| All other woodland - internal | Root protection zone or shading zone of trees, whichever is greater | Temporary Heras/ similar |
| Hedgerows - boundaries | 4m from hedgerow edge | Security fencing |
| Hedgerows - internal | 4m from hedgerow edge | Temporary Heras/ similar |

| | | |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ponds | 6m from banks | Stock-proof fencing |
| Ditches | 6m from top of bank | Temporary Heras/ similar |
| Badger sett – main and subsidiary setts | 20m from sett entrance | Temporary Heras/ similar |
| Badger sett – outlying setts | 5m from sett entrance | Temporary Heras/ similar |
| Ground-nesting bird nest | 50m around nest | Temporary Heras/ similar |
| Other bird nest | 4m around nest | Temporary Heras/ similar |

METHOD STATEMENT No.3: Airborne Pollution (Dust) and Silt Control



| | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Pre-construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of construction |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) | | |
| Description of Work | Dust and silt control measures to be implemented throughout construction phase for relevant activities. | | |
| Purpose | To protect retained habitats and protected species therein. Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>All aspects of works will be conducted in such a manner to minimise the generation and spread of dust and silt into the surrounding area, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockpiles of materials will be kept away from the site entrance and field boundaries; • Stockpiles of materials subject to wind erosion will be dampened down or seeded to ensure satisfactory dust control and covered with tarpaulins as appropriate; • Airborne dust will be kept to a minimum by the regular use of water spray systems and bowsers wetting down haul roads and pre-excavated areas; • All loads entering and leaving site, as well as skips stored on site, will be securely covered; • Delivery of materials to site will be programmed to minimise the time stockpiles are kept on site; • Plant and wheel washing will only be carried out in a designated area at least 15 metres from any watercourse, surface drain or potential pollution pathway. This will be constructed on an impermeable base with a collecting sump to prevent spreading of dust and spoil onto the surrounding roads; • The wheels of all vehicles will be checked on leaving the site, and if necessary will be cleaned by jet wash within the designated washing area; • Construction activities within 25m of woodland, hedgerows, ditches or ponds will be avoided during heavy rain to minimise risk of sediment effects; • Silt fencing or temporary drainage channels will be used to block or divert runoff from stockpiles of materials; and • Notices will be erected to stipulate that the above measures are adhered to. | | |
| Completion | Implementation of correct procedure as verified by Site Manager marks completion. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | Records of all measures to reduce dust and silt are to be kept on site, including dates undertaken. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | Monitoring of habitat condition during construction (MS 12) | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.4: Pollution Prevention (Safe Storage of Chemicals and Materials)



| | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Commencement of construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of construction |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) | | |
| Description of Work | Pollution-prevention measures to be implemented. | | |
| Purpose | To protect retained habitats and protected species therein. Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>Any potential contaminants (fuel, oils and chemicals) used during construction will be stored in designated compounds on an impermeable surface, at least 15m from any watercourse or pond. These will be securely locked away when not in use. Appropriate measures to prevent the spillage of chemicals into the ponds and ditches will be implemented, including the storage of several spill kits and, potentially, the usage of earth bunds surrounding the designated refuelling/chemical handling site. A detailed pollution/spill response plan will be kept within the site office. The Environment Agency will be contacted in the event of an incident.</p> <p>Machinery operation within 25m of ponds and ditches will be minimised in general and avoided entirely during periods of heavy rain.</p> <p>Appropriate pollution control measures will be employed in accordance with those outlined in the NetRegs document Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPP) 5: Works and maintenance in or near water (February 2018). Although not endorsed by the Environment Agency in England (as the EA do not currently provide good practice guidelines following the withdraw of Pollution Prevention Guidelines (PPG) 5), measures in this document (accessed at: http://www.netregs.org.uk/media/1418/gpp-5-works-and-maintenance-in-or-near-water.pdf) should nevertheless be followed in order to prevent pollution of the nearby watercourses and ensure any pollution events are dealt with swiftly.</p> <p>A spill kit must be kept on site with sand, earth or commercial products for the containment of fuel and other material spillages. All staff will receive appropriate training in the use of these kits and are to be made aware of where the kit is stored.</p> <p>In the event of a spillage of oils or chemicals resulting in contamination of water courses or damage to habitats, the following procedure will be adopted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appropriate spill kit is to be deployed immediately and the site manager is to be informed; • The incident is to be recorded within the site log book; and • In the event of contaminants being discharged directly to water courses, or in the event of significant spillage (in excess of 10 litres), the Environment Agency is to be contacted on the incident hotline 0800 80 70 60 (see contact details in Section 2) | | |
| Completion | Implementation of correct procedure as verified by Site Manager marks completion. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | In the event of a pollution incident details must be kept of the nature of the incident and all remedial actions undertaken within the site log book. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | Monitoring of habitat condition during construction (MS 12) | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.5: Sensitive Lighting Strategy



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|---|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Commencement of construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of construction |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) | | |
| Description of Work | Artificial lighting will be avoided during the summer months and if needed during winter, directed away from retained boundary habitats | | |
| Purpose | To avoid adverse impacts on nocturnal wildlife including bats. | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>No artificial lighting will be employed during construction of the development unless agreed with the ECoW before use. It is anticipated that no artificial lighting will be used during the summer months (April-September inclusive). Artificial lighting, if required, is likely to be restricted to use within the site compound and will only be used during typical working hours approx. (7am – 7pm).</p> <p>Should any artificial lighting need to be employed, this will be directed away from retained boundary habitats to ensure light spill is avoided in these areas.</p> <p>Lighting will only be used during working hours and no lighting will be switched on overnight outside of these hours, unless under prior agreement with the ECoW, with lighting being on a motion sensor with a maximum agreed time limit.</p> | | |
| Completion | Implementation of correct procedure as verified by Site Manager marks completion. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | Lighting strategy to be agreed in writing with the ECoW before use. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | Monitoring of site condition during construction (MS 12). | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.6: Update Badger Survey



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|---|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Within 1 month prior to construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of survey |
| Personnel Required | Ecological Clerk of Works (Clarkson and Woods) | | |
| Description of Work | An update badger survey will be conducted to ensure no new badger setts are present within the <u>Order Limits</u> and exclusion of setts under licence is not required. | | |
| Purpose | To avoid harm to badgers as a result of construction activities which would constitute an offence. Protection of Badgers Act 1992 | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>Given that badgers can excavate new setts in a relatively short time, an update site inspection by an appropriately experienced ecologist (ECoW) will be carried out no more than 1 month prior to the commencement of construction activities on-site. The survey will look for evidence of badger activity within the site, including setts, paths, hairs, footprints or faeces and record the location of and type of all setts at the site, as well as their active status.</p> <p>In the event that an active sett is discovered that would be impacted by construction activities, a licence from Natural England may be necessary to temporarily or permanently close the sett. Works to a badger sett can only be undertaken from 1st July-31st November inclusive. Outside of this time no works affecting the sett would be permitted and a buffer zone, as informed by the ECoW, would be required in which different levels of disturbance are permitted. Work in other parts of the site, however, can continue as advised by the ECoW.</p> <p>A conventional mitigation licence from Natural England can take at least 30 working days to determine. A class-licensed ecologist could obtain a licence more quickly.</p> | | |
| Completion | Completion of survey by ECOW marks completion of work. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | Ecological Inspection Proforma (EIP) to be provided to INRG as evidence of completion of work. This report may need to be submitted to the LPA as evidence of compliance with this requirement. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | Monitoring of site condition during construction (MS 12) | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.7: Precautionary Site Maintenance Measures



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|---|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Commencement of construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of construction |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) | | |
| Description of Work | Maintenance of access for hares, badgers and other wildlife to the construction site, as well as precautionary measures to avoid harm to wildlife which may result from interaction with machinery, equipment or excavations | | |
| Purpose | To allow wildlife continued access to the construction site and to avoid injury or mortality to wildlife as a result of construction activities. Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>It is likely badgers (and other mammals) may move within the site during the construction phase. As such any pits or trenches, dug during the construction phase, will be covered overnight or a wide, rough sawn plank or earth ramp will be placed/created in the pit at a 45° angle to enable any animals to escape should they fall in. In addition, any open pipework larger than 150mm outside diameter will be blanked off at the end of each working day to prevent badgers from occupying it.</p> <p>Electrical equipment will be stored away securely to prevent electrocution of wildlife.</p> <p>In the unlikely event of a badger (or any other animal) becoming trapped or injured during construction, Clarkson and Woods and/or the RSPCA (contact details in Section 2) must be called immediately and the appropriate action undertaken.</p> <p>A 10mph speed limit on the site will be imposed to reduce the risk of collisions and subsequent injury or mortality of wildlife.</p> <p>Gaps in the external fencing of 100-150mm will be maintained to allow access badgers, hares and other wildlife to access the construction site. Gaps will need to be created around the perimeter of the site with a gap provided at least every 200m. This will be verified by the ECoW during the inspection of the biodiversity protection zone fencing and subsequently gaps will be checked during regular ecological monitoring.</p> | | |
| Completion | Implementation of correct procedure as verified by Site Manager marks completion. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | <p>The presence and location of gaps for mammals should be identified within an EIP prepared by the Ecologist once the gaps have been created.</p> <p>The periodic inspection of the mammal gaps should be recorded within the ecologists EIP which will be prepared following each site inspection (See MS12)</p> | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | Monitoring of site condition during construction (MS 12) | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.8: Nesting Bird Mitigation



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|---|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Pre-construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of vegetation clearance |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) Ecological Clerk of Works (Clarkson and Woods) | | |
| Description of Work | Open habitats within the construction zone will be maintained as unsuitable for nesting birds prior to construction commencing. Thereafter, any open or hedgerow/ woodland habitat which remains suitable for nesting birds will first be inspected by an ecologist, if these habitats are to be impacted during the nesting season. | | |
| Purpose | To avoid harm to nesting birds, their eggs and young. Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p><u>Maintenance of Unsuitability of Open Habitats for Nesting</u> After the last harvest of crops prior to construction commencing, open habitats will be cut to ground level after 31st August and before 1st March to discourage nesting within the following nesting season. Habitats will be regularly rolled and flattened (at least weekly) thereafter to maintain them as unsuitable for nesting.</p> <p><u>Nesting Bird Inspections</u> During the construction phase, any removal of suitable vegetation for nesting, including hedgerow, woodland and open areas which have not been maintained as unsuitable through the measures detailed above, should ideally be conducted outside the bird nesting season (which is usually March to August but variable dependent on climate). However, in the event works are required during this period, an inspection to confirm the absence of nesting birds must first be carried out by a suitably experienced ecologist (or the ECoW) to ensure that offences relating to nesting birds are not committed.</p> <p><u>Open Field</u> If suitable habitats remain during the nesting season (vegetation >100mm), an experienced ecologist will conduct a walkover survey within 48 hours prior to construction commencing to check for nests within the open field. If no nests are found, the habitats should be cut short to maintain them as unsuitable for nesting within 48 hours of the survey.</p> <p><u>Woody Vegetation</u> A check of any hedgerow, woodland or scrub for nesting birds must be carried out no more than 48 hours prior to their removal.</p> <p><u>General</u> If an active nest is found, a suitable exclusion zone (to be determined by the ecologist but <u>minimum</u> 50m for nests in open habitats and 4m for other nests) will be instigated around the nest to protect it until completion of nesting. The exclusion zone will be demarcated by barrier tape or appropriate temporary fencing (e.g. High Visibility Netlon or Heras) along with notices informing site staff that the excluded area must not be disturbed. A brief proforma report will be issued to the site manager/foreman immediately following the inspection which will detail the findings, any constraints, and confirmation of actions required. The ecologist will monitor the nest periodically and determine when the chicks have fledged so the exclusion zone can be removed. In the unlikely instance that an active bird nest is subsequently identified during site clearance in the absence of an ecologist, activity must cease immediately and advice sought from the ECoW.</p> | | |
| Completion | Approval by ECoW that all checks have been conducted marks completion. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | Ecological Inspection Proforma (EIP) to be prepared after all site inspections for nesting birds by the ECoW. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | Monitor any nests found and protect until completion of nesting. | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.9: Precautionary Measures for Reptiles and Amphibians



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| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Construction phase (April-October inclusive) |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of habitat clearance |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) Ecological Clerk of Works (Clarkson and Woods) | | |
| Description of Work | Precautionary strategy for clearance of habitats liable to support reptiles or amphibians. | | |
| Purpose | To avoid reckless injury or mortality of widespread reptiles and other wildlife such as toads. Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>Field margins, scrub, the bases of hedgerows and tree roots may support widespread reptile species and amphibians such as common toad. Generally these areas are being protected and therefore minimal work in these habitats is necessary. If works to these habitats is required, this will be restricted to the months of April-October inclusive and be conducted under an ecological watching brief by an ecologist.</p> <p><u>Grassland field Margins</u> Initially, all areas of grassland to be removed will be strimmed/cut down to a height of 100mm and left for at least 24hrs to increase light and reduce shelter at ground level. This aims to encourage reptiles and other wildlife to leave of their own accord. Thereafter, the ECoW will inspect the site and note areas which require a targeted destructive search. The destructive search will entail removal of the remaining vegetation and top layer of soil using a 360° tracked excavator to search for any remaining animals under an ecological watching brief by an ecologist.</p> <p><u>Dense scrub, hedgerows and woodland</u> Areas of dense scrub, hedgerows or woodland to be removed will need to be cleared in phases, with the upper parts of the vegetation cut down to 300mm initially, subject to the measures detailed in MS2, 6 and 8. Secondary clearance of vegetation below 300mm will be conducted between the months of April and October when reptiles are not in hibernation. Clearance shall be conducted using a 360° tracked excavator with a toothed bucket under an ecological watching brief.</p> <p><u>Shelter Features</u> Any shelter features found, such as root balls, logs, rocks and rubble/ debris piles, will be lifted by hand or where considered necessary a targeted destructive search conducted utilising a 360° tracked excavator with a toothed bucket. An ECoW will be present during this work.</p> <p><u>General</u> All cut vegetation (brash and clippings) from site clearance will be moved off-site immediately following cutting to minimise the risk of creating habitat features that may attract wildlife into the site. In the event that any reptiles, amphibians or other wildlife are discovered during site clearance, they shall be caught and relocated to suitable retained habitat around the site. In the event of accidental injury to an animal Clarkson and Woods and/or RSPCA must be called immediately and the appropriate action undertaken (contact details in Section 2 of CEMP).</p> | | |
| Completion | Approval of correct procedure by ECoW marks completion. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | Ecological Inspection Proforma (EIP) to be provided to INRG as evidence of completion of work. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | None. | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.10: Great Crested Newt Risk Avoidance Method Statement



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|---|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Commencement of construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of construction |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) Ecological Clerk of Works (Clarkson and Woods) | | |
| Description of Work | Precautionary working methods to avoid adverse impacts upon great crested newts within defined Great Crested Newt Working Area (GCNWA). | | |
| Purpose | To avoid adverse impacts upon great crested newts and thereby avoid committing an offence. | | |
| Sequence / Method | Detail provided separately in Appendix 7.6 of the Environmental Statement (Document Ref: 7.26 LC TA7.6 = Great Crested Newt Risk Avoidance Method Statement) Where possible works within GCNWA to be scheduled to occur during the winter to minimise risk of encountering newts. Where this is not possible the Risk Avoidance Method Statement is to be strictly followed. | | |
| Completion | Completion of all construction activities within GCNWA. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | Detail provided separately in Appendix 7.6 of the Environmental Statement. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | Detail provided separately in Appendix 7.6 of the Environmental Statement. | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.11: Cable Laying in Icehouse Strip



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|---|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Following timber harvest and prior to replanting (construction phase) |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of cable laying (construction phase) |
| Personnel Required | Site Manager (TBC) Ecological Clerk of Works (Clarkson and Woods) | | |
| Description of Work | Laying of cable in the Icehouse strip to be timed sensitively and preceded by a walkover inspection by an ecologist. | | |
| Purpose | To protect badgers and other protected species. Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>Laying of cable within the Icehouse strip, part of Broughton West Wood SNCI, will be timed to follow routine harvesting of trees within this area (as part of commercial forestry works) and prior to replanting.</p> <p>Cable to be laid outside of the GCNWA (Great Crested Newt Working Area) to minimise the risk of encountering newts during this work.</p> <p>Other areas of woodland within the Icehouse strip not subject to felling will be protected by BPZs as detailed in MS2.</p> <p>Prior to laying of cable, an ecologist will first conduct a walkover of the cable route to search for badger setts or other important ecological features. The cable route will be adjusted as necessary to avoid impacts to these features.</p> | | |
| Completion | Completion of walkover by ECOW marks completion of work. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | Ecological Inspection Proforma (EIP) to be provided to INRG as evidence of completion of work. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | None | | |

METHOD STATEMENT No.12: Construction-phase Monitoring



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|---|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Project Name | Little Crow Solar | Anticipated Start Date | Commencement of construction |
| Site Address / Location | Little Crow Solar Park, Scunthorpe. DN20 0BG | Anticipated Finish Date | Completion of construction |
| Personnel Required | Ecological Clerk of Works (Clarkson and Woods) | | |
| Description of Work | Periodic monitoring by the ECoW of site condition and correct implementation of Method Statements 1-11. | | |
| Purpose | To ensure that retained habitats and species are being safeguarded. | | |
| Sequence / Method | <p>At the outset of construction and every 1 month thereafter during the construction phase, the ECoW will inspect the site to ensure the compliance with the CEMP. This will include checking the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct installation of fencing; • Safeguarding of biodiversity protection zones; • Hedgerow and woodland condition; • Pond and ditch condition; • Implementation of precautionary site maintenance measures; • Adherence to the Great Crested Newt RAMS for work in GCNWA; and • Adherence to lighting strategy. <p>Following inspections the ECoW will discuss monitoring outcomes with the site manager and provide a written proforma of findings to INRG identifying any remedial actions and timescales for actions to be implemented.</p> | | |
| Completion | Completion of monitoring visit by ECOW marks completion of work. | | |
| Reporting Requirements | Ecological Inspection Proforma (EIP) to be provided to INRG as evidence of completion of work. | | |
| Monitoring/Aftercare Requirement | Ongoing throughout construction. | | |

