



**NORTH
LINCOLNSHIRE
GREEN
ENERGY PARK**

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning
(Applications
Prescribed Forms and
Procedure) Regulations
2009

North Lincolnshire Green Energy Park

Volume 8

8.2.14 Initial Draft Statement of
Common Ground with Historic
England

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GLOSSARY

Acronym	Full term / Description
2008 Act	Planning Act 2008
AGI	Above Ground Installations
CBMF	Concrete Block Manufacturing Facility
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CCUS	Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
DCO	Development Consent Order
DHPWN	District Heating and Private Wire Network
ERF	Energy Recovery Facility
ES	Environmental Statement
EV	Electric Vehicle
H2	Hydrogen
NLC	North Lincolnshire Council
NLGEP	North Lincolnshire Green Energy Park
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
PRF	Plastic Recycling Facility
RHTF	Residue Handling and Treatment Facility
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SoS	Secretary of State
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground ('SoCG') has been prepared on behalf of North Lincolnshire Green Energy Park Limited ('the Applicant'). It forms part of the application (the 'Application') for a Development Consent Order (a 'DCO'), that has been submitted to the Secretary of State (the 'SoS') for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, under Section 37 of 'The Planning Act 2008' (the '2008 Act').
- 1.1.2 The Proposed Development is an Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) capable of converting up to 760,000 tonnes of non-recyclable waste into 95 MW of electricity and a carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) facility which will treat a proportion of the excess gasses released from the ERF to remove and store carbon dioxide (CO₂) prior to emission into the atmosphere. It is described in Chapter 3: Project Description and Alternatives of the Environmental Statement (ES).
- 1.1.3 The Proposed Development meets the criteria to be considered as an NSIP under the 2008 Act as a 'generating station' under section 15(2). Section 15(2) defined an NSIP as a proposed generating station which would be located within England, would not be offshore, and would have a total generating capacity of more than 50MW.

1.2 The Proposed Development

- 1.2.1 The North Lincolnshire Green Energy Park (NLGEP), located at Flixborough, North Lincolnshire, comprises an ERF capable of converting up to 760,000 tonnes of non-recyclable waste into 95 MW of electricity and a CCUS facility which will treat a proportion of the excess gasses released from the ERF to remove and store CO₂. Prior to emission into the atmosphere. The design of the ERF and CCUS will also enable future connection to the Zero Carbon Humber pipeline, when this is consented and operational, to enable the possibility of full carbon capture in the future.
- 1.2.2 The NSIP incorporates a switchyard, to ensure that the power created can be exported to the National Grid or to local businesses, and a water treatment facility, to take water from the mains supply or recycled process water to remove impurities and make it suitable for use in the boilers, the CCUS facility, concrete block manufacture, hydrogen production and the maintenance of the water levels in the wetland area.
- 1.2.3 The Project includes the following Associated Development to support the operation of the NSIP:
- a bottom ash and flue gas residue handling and treatment facility (RHTF);
 - a concrete block manufacturing facility (CBMF);

- a plastic recycling facility (PRF);
 - a hydrogen production and storage facility;
 - an electric vehicle (EV) and hydrogen (H2) refuelling station;
 - battery storage;
 - a hydrogen and natural gas above ground installation (AGI);
 - a new access road and parking;
 - a gatehouse and visitor centre with elevated walkway;
 - railway reinstatement works including; sidings at Dragonby, reinstatement and safety improvements to the 6km private railway spur, and the construction of a new railhead with sidings south of Flixborough Wharf;
 - a northern and southern district heating and private wire network (DHPWN);
 - habitat creation, landscaping and ecological mitigation, including green infrastructure and 65 acre wetland area;
 - new public rights of way and cycle ways including footbridges;
 - Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and flood defence; and
 - utility constructions and diversions.
- 1.2.4 The Project will also include development in connection with the above works such as security gates, fencing, boundary treatment, lighting, hard and soft landscaping, surface and foul water treatment and drainage systems and CCTV.
- 1.2.5 The Project also includes temporary facilities required during the course of construction including site establishment and preparation works, temporary construction laydown areas, contractor facilities, materials and plant storage, generators, concrete batching facilities, vehicle and cycle parking facilities, offices, staff welfare facilities, security fencing and gates, external lighting, roadways and haul routes, wheel wash facilities, and signage.
- 1.2.6 The overarching aim of the Project is to support the UK's transition to a low carbon economy as outlined in the Sixth Carbon Budget (December 2020), the national Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution (November 2020) and the North Lincolnshire prospectus for a Green Future which is currently being developed. It will do this by enabling circular resource strategies and low-carbon infrastructure to be deployed as an integral part of the design (for example by re-processing ash, wastewater and carbon dioxide to manufacture concrete blocks) and capturing waste-heat to supply local homes and businesses with heat via a district heating network.

1.3 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.3.1 This Statement of Common Ground is between the North Lincolnshire Green Energy Park and Historic England.

- 1.3.2 Historic England is an executive non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Its powers and responsibilities are principally set out in the National Heritage Act 1983 (ref. 1).
- 1.3.3 Historic England is the government's statutory adviser on the historic environment, championing historic places and helping people to understand, value and care for them.
- 1.3.4 For archaeological matters, Historic England deferred the Applicant to the expertise and advice of the North Lincolnshire Council's Archaeologist and Curator.

1.4 The Purpose and Structure of this Document

- 1.4.1 The purpose of this document is to summarise clearly the agreements reached between the parties on matters relevant to the examination of the Application and to assist the Examining Authority in their determination of the Application. It has been prepared with regard to the guidance in 'Planning Act 2008: examination of application for development consent' (Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2015).
- 1.4.2 The document is structured as follows:
- Section 2 – sets out the key correspondence and engagement between the parties up until the submission of the Application; and,
 - Section 3 – sets out the matters agreed and matters outstanding between the parties during the pre-application stage in respect of the Application.

2.0 SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT

- 2.1.1 The below Table 2.1 contains a record of key correspondence and engagement between the Applicant and Historic England pertinent to this SoCG.

Table 2.1: Summary of Correspondence and Engagement

Date	Attendance	Topics Covered
16/07/2021	NLC archaeologist, ERM & Historic England	Approach to archaeological evaluations. The strategy for iterative field evaluation (geoarchaeological, geophysical and trial trenching) was discussed.
15/09/2021	NLC's archaeological advisor,	Fieldwork reports, Geophysics Strategy, GPR, ES, survey results

Date	Attendance	Topics Covered
	Solar21 (S21) Applicant, Historic England	

3.0

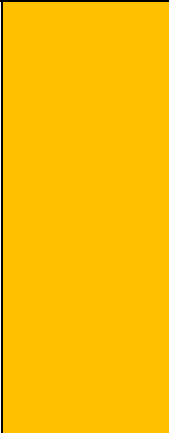
MATTERS

3.1.1 The below Table 3.2 contains a list of 'matters agreed' along with a concise commentary of what the item refers to and how it came to be agreed between the two parties.

Table 3.2: List of Matters

HISTORIC ENGLAND POSITION	APPLICANT POSITION	STATUS
Proposed scope should be reviewed in the context of the initial results.	Scope and methodology were agreed with HE, following statutory consultation.	
The best way to avoid confusion is to use significance in the sense used in National Policy and significant in the sense used in the EIA regulation (to describe the degree of an impact).	Value/significance has been used in the ES Chapter 12.	
Detailed assessments required of historic ferry crossing, Saxon Nunnery and other designated heritage assets in views across the Trent.	This is included in Chapter 12: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement (Document Reference 6.2.12).	
Grade II listed buildings and Conservation Areas do not fall under moderate category.	This was amended in chapter 12: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement (Document Reference 6.2.12).	
Historic England's GPA 3 should be referenced in the methodology.	GPA 3 is applied and referenced in Chapter 12: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement (Document Reference 6.2.12).	
<p>5.3 bands impacts (High / Medium / Low / Minimal / no Change) such that High equates to Change such that the significance of the asset is totally altered or destroyed.</p> <p>Comprehensive change to setting affecting significance, resulting in changes in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its historical context and setting, as the only criteria above medium.</p>	<p>Our view is that this is a robust and widely applied methodology, providing sufficient resolution to identify significant effects on the historic environment. This approach is maintained in Chapter 12: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement (Document Reference 6.2.12).</p>	

<p>5.4 significance of effect value v. magnitude of effect. When the banding of importance of asset set out 5.2.1.3 is combined with the banding of impact in 5.3 this would tend to fail to afford sufficient weight to significant environmental effects in all but the most extreme cases.</p>	<p>Methodology is robust and widely applied, providing sufficient resolution to identify significant effects on the historic environment.</p>	
<p>In Sections 6 - 10 of the appended Archaeological Desk Based Assessment, the initial assessments of impact are premature in the absence of a structured processes of evaluation and assessment - assets viewed individually rather than evidence of patterns of past human activity within a landscape.</p>	<p>The desk-based assessment has been upgraded to take into account these comments. Geoarchaeological modelling has been undertaken based on historic boreholes combined with the results of recent ground investigation work undertaken for the Project. This is included in Section 6: Baseline and Receptors of Chapter 12: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement (Document Reference 6.2.12).</p> <p>A series of baseline studies are appended to the ES, including a Desk-Based Assessment (Appendix B), a Geoarchaeological Watching Brief Report and Deposit Model (Appendix C) and results of Geophysical Surveys (Appendix D). Two Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI) for work undertaken after submission include one for further geoarchaeological borehole transects and ERT survey (Appendix E), and one for a trial trench evaluation (Appendix F).</p>	
<p>Borehole data needs to be combined with geophysical survey and trial excavation.</p>	<p>As per above response.</p>	

<p>Measures for further field work fail to be grounded in appropriate assessment of the site's archaeological potential and landscape setting, and context of designated and other high importance assets the vicinity of the proposed development.</p>	<p>The issues have been addressed in further discussion between the Applicant's team, HE and NLC - programme of works agreed in principle, comprising additional geoarchaeological survey, geophysical surveys and trial trenching.</p> <p>A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the first phases of these works (the geoarchaeological and geophysical surveys) has been agreed. The Applicant has continued to work with NLC throughout the examination to agree the approach to the WSI. This engagement is ongoing.</p>	
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4.0 SIGNATURES

4.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground is agreed:

On behalf of Historic England:

Name: XXXX

Signature: XXXX

Date: XX

On behalf of the Applicant:

Name: XXXXX

Signature: XXXX

Date: XXXXX