



OAKLANDS FARM SOLAR PARK

Applicant: Oaklands Farm Solar Ltd

Environmental Statement

Appendix 1.1 – Statement of Expertise

January 2024

Document Ref: EN010122/APP/6.1/Appx 1.1

Revision: -

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Application: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 - 5(2)(a)



Oaklands Farm Solar Park - Environmental Statement Volume 3

Appendix 1.1: Statement of Expertise

Final

Prepared by LUC

January 2024

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Statement of Expertise

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1.1 In line with Regulation 14(4) of the EIA Regulations, the ES and all technical assessments will be undertaken by suitably qualified ‘competent experts’ within the project team. Details are provided in **Table 1** regarding each chapter author’s professional experience.

Table 1: Statement of Expertise

Chapter (Organisation Responsible)	Chapter Author’s Professional Experience
<p>Chapter 1: Introduction</p> <p>Chapter 2: The Environmental Impact Assessment and Methodology</p> <p>Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design Strategy</p> <p>Chapter 4: Project Description</p> <p>(Prepared by LUC)</p>	<p>Helen Kent BA (Hons), MSc, PGDip, MRTPI, MIEMA, CEnv is an Associate Director of Planning at LUC. Helen is a Chartered Town Planner and has over 20 years’ professional experience in planning, environmental consultancy and local government. Helen has advised on EIA and planning across a number of sectors including housing, mixed use developments, community infrastructure, renewable energy, education, and heritage, for private sector and local authority clients. She is skilled in managing large teams of specialists, taking a strategic overview of complex projects to inform tailored and practical EIA advice to clients.</p> <p>Jennifer Rea BSc (Hons), PIEMA, AssocRTPI is an Associate Environmental Planner with over 12 years’ of experience in EIA and project management. Jen has project managed EIAs for a range of developments, including energy related and mixed-use developments Many of the projects Jen has been involved in have involved detailed coordination of multi-disciplinary teams. Jennifer</p>

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	<p>worked on the coordination of the Thames Tideway Tunnel NSIP EIA.</p> <p>Sarah Newman BA (Hons), MSc, RTPI Licentiate is a Consultant Planner with over two years' experience in development planning and EIA. Sarah has assisted with the preparation of a number of EIA Scoping Report and Environmental Statement reviews, and contributed to the preparation of an ES for a wind development in Wales.</p>
<p>Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual (Prepared by LUC)</p>	<p>Sam Oxley BSc (Hons), MLA, CMLI is a Chartered Landscape Architect and Landscape Planning and Board Director of LUC. She has been a Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute since 1999, and has a Master's degree in Landscape Design from Sheffield University, 1995, and a BSc (Honours) in Geography from Durham University, 1992. Sam has considerable experience in the fields of landscape and visual feasibility and assessment, design, planning, management and construction. Sam joined LUC from Environmental Resources Management in March 2008, where she managed the landscape team in Edinburgh. Sam is the Board Director responsible for the Landscape Planning and Management team. She has over 20 years of experience in preparing LVIA and cumulative LVIA, as well as feasibility and scoping studies, development of mitigation measures in relation to siting and design, or alteration of proposals subsequent to them obtaining planning permission. Her experience also includes assessing impacts upon the visual amenity of local residents. She has particular expertise in the field of renewable energy. Sam is an experienced expert witness and regularly gives landscape and visual evidence at Examination, Inquiries and Hearings.</p>

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	<p>Edward White BA (Hons), MLA, CMLI is a Chartered Landscape Architect with nine years' experience in landscape planning and environmental consultancy in the UK and abroad. He has been involved in a range of projects within urban, rural and coastal environments, and undertaken a wide range of assessment work including Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments (LVIA), Landscape Character Assessments and Landscape Sensitivity Studies. His work involvement has included projects within the energy, residential, retail, commercial and infrastructure sectors. Edward has prepared LVIA's for a variety of planning applications, either as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or as a standalone report. He has been involved in all stages of the process, including desk studies, fieldwork, stakeholder workshops and reporting. In addition, Edward has assisted in the preparation of evidence for public inquiries and undertaken peer reviews on behalf of councils.</p>
<p>Chapter 6: Ecology (Prepared by LUC)</p>	<p>David Green BSc, MCIEEM is a Full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. He is an Associate Director of Ecology at LUC with over 15 years of professional experience in ecological consultancy. David is a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) specialist and has completed and overseen numerous such assessments involving a range of sectors, including large-scale wind farms, housing, commercial and mixed-use developments. He regularly provides expert witness services at Hearings and Public Inquiry. David has been involved in the project from the outset and, together with a team of other ecological contributors at LUC, has overseen ecological baseline surveys, assessment and consultation completed to date.</p>

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	<p>Rebecca Turner BSc, MSc, ACIEEM is an Associated Member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. She is a Principal Ecologist at LUC and has seven years of professional experience in ecology. Rebecca has specialist knowledge and experience of HRA and EclA and has been involved in the delivery of a wide range of projects, including solar farms, housing, commercial and mixed-used developments. Rebecca has been involved in the project from the outset and has provided support to David in the delivery of ecological baseline surveys and assessment.</p>
<p>Chapter 7: Historic Environment (Prepared by LUC)</p>	<p>Melissa Conway BA (Hons), MA, MCIfA has over 20 years' experience of historic environment consultancy. Her core skills include archaeology, historic landscapes and setting and she also has experience of expert witness work. She has worked on assessment and EIA for multiple renewable energy projects.</p>
<p>Chapter 8: Water Resources and Flood Risk (Prepared by Yellow Sub Geo)</p>	<p>James Mortimer B.Eng (Hons), FGS has over 20 years' experience in geo-environmental and hydrological consultancy. With a background in engineering geology and geotechnics he specialises in the detailed assessment of environmental impact of development. He has supported many varied developments through the EIA process, on sites across England and Wales and has authored many Environmental Statement chapters for both Ground Conditions and Water Resources topics. He has worked on Environmental Impact Assessments for numerous prestigious projects including Bishopsgate Goodsyrd, Bow Common Gas Works, Leven Road Gasworks, Barking Riverside and the Garden Bridge. He has also worked on many Development Consent Orders including the proposed twin tracking of the DLR between Bow</p>

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	Common and Stratford and Croydon Tram extension to support the proposed Westfield Extension.
<p>Chapter 9: Ground Conditions (Prepared by Yellow Sub Geo)</p>	<p>Gareth Owen CGeol, MSc, BSc is a Chartered Geologist with over 20 years' experience in geo-environmental consultancy and with Countryside Council for Wales. With a background in geological and hydrogeological investigations and assessments he specialises in the detailed assessment of environmental impact of development. He has supported many developments through the EIA process, on sites across England and Wales. Gareth's particular strength lies in the ability to translate technical information into the language of EIA, on subjects including ground conditions, land quality, geomorphology, hydrology, flooding, and water resources.</p>
<p>Chapter 10: Transport and Access (Prepared by ITP)</p>	<p>Mark Lever-Green MEng is an Associate Transport Planner with seven years' experience in development planning and strategy across public and private sectors. Mark has extensive experience in the assessment of major development schemes across a full range of uses, including mixed-use, residential, commercial and leisure. He has prepared a large number of Transport Assessments, Travel Plans, Construction Traffic Management Plans and ES chapters during his career. He has also acted as an Expert Witness at planning appeal. He works on schemes at all stages from initial feasibility through to delivery.</p> <p>Dan Palmer BA is a Director at ITP with over 15 years' experience in Transport Planning and Traffic Engineering. Dan has provided guidance to both private and public-sector clients associated with proposals for residential, faith institutions, leisure, commercial, MOD and mixed-use developments throughout the United Kingdom and mainland Europe. Dan provides client focused expertise from initial</p>

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	<p>site appraisal and feasibility studies to planning application determination and post consent consultancy. Dan has provided ES chapters for large residential and commercial development as well as solar farms and battery storage sites across South East England.</p>
<p>Chapter 11: Noise (Prepared by Sustainable Acoustics)</p>	<p>Chris Heal MEng (Hons), CEng, MIOA is a Chartered Engineer and member of the Institute of Acoustics with 18 years' experience in environmental noise and building acoustic consultancy. Chris has extensive experience of undertaking EIA for housing, mixed use and energy sectors, including a large housing site at Picket Twenty in Andover, redevelopment of land at Kings Cross and the Rookery EFW power station.</p> <p>Louise Conroy BEng (Hons), MIOA is a member of the Institute of Acoustics and has been involved in acoustic consultancy since graduating from Southampton University's Institute of Sound and Vibration Research in 1990. Louise has worked on a variety of projects from Glyndebourne Opera House to educational buildings to mixed use developments, and has been involved in EIA work for multiple motorway widening projects and road bypass schemes, industrial plant development, land redevelopment and The Channel Tunnel Rail link.</p> <p>Peter Rogers BSc (Hons), MSc, CEng, FIOA, FRSA, MIOL is a Chartered Engineer, Fellow and Trustee of the Institute of Acoustics and registered Expert Witness. Peter has over 20 years' experience in noise and vibration consultancy and 5 years' experience in Local Authority as an enforcement officer. Peter has chaired many committees for the Institute of Acoustics and is currently the Chairman of the Parliamentary Liaison Group. Peter has worked on</p>

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	prestigious projects such as the Millennium Stadium, O2, Guys & St Thomas Hospital, Olympic Park Licensing and WWF HQ.
Chapter 12: Socio-Economics (Prepared by LUC)	The assessment was completed by LUC and overseen by Helen Kent BA (Hons), MSc, PGDip, MRTPI, MIEMA, CEnv and Jennifer Rea BSc (Hons), PIEMA, AssocRTPI . As above.
Chapter 13: Climate Change (Prepared by LUC and 3ADAPT)	The emissions reduction assessment was completed by 3Adapt and overseen by Dr Philip Hampshire . Phil is a Director with over 15 years' experience in planning and environmental consultancy. Phil has significant experience of completing Greenhouse Gas Assessments for all typologies of projects including renewable energy projects, new build developments and organizational operations. He has supported projects across the country through the entire planning process, including EIAs, leading on the carbon/greenhouse gas assessments and wider sustainability topics. The climate change resilience and adaptation assessment was completed by LUC and overseen by Helen Kent BA (Hons), MSc, PGDip, MRTPI, MIEMA, CEnv and Jennifer Rea BSc (Hons), PIEMA, AssocRTPI . As above.
Chapter 14: Glint and Glare (including Aviation) (Prepared by Pager Power)	Michael Sutton BSc is a Senior Technical Analyst with almost three years' experience undertaking technical assessments and providing planning support for renewable energy projects in the UK and Internationally. Michael has undertaken over 100 glint and glare assessments, including sites involving an ES and a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. He has assisted in implementing

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	<p>technical mitigation solutions for significant glint and glare impacts towards ground-based receptors and aviation receptors.</p> <p>Danny Scrivener BSc (Hons) is an Operations Director with 10 years' experience undertaking technical assessments and providing planning support for renewable energy projects in the UK and Internationally. Danny has driven the development of glint and glare software and has developed the world's first comprehensive Solar Glint and Glare Guidance, which sets out the assessment process for determining the effects of glint and glare. Danny has given technical presentations and seminars across the UK on several topics including glint and glare.</p>
<p>Chapter 15: Agriculture and Land Use (Prepared by Kernon Countryside Consultants)</p>	<p>This chapter was completed by Tony Kernon of Kernon Countryside Consultants (BSc Hons, Member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and Fellow of the British Institute of Agricultural Consultants).</p> <p>Tony has specialised in assessing the effects of development proposals on agricultural land (land quality and soils) and agricultural and rural businesses, for over 35 years. Tony's experience includes many Environmental Assessments and NSIP applications, including road, rail, residential, industrial, infrastructure and energy proposals, mostly in England and Wales. He regularly acts as expert witness for local planning authorities, Government agencies and developers.</p> <p>He has extensive experience with solar farm development. He is currently involved in multiple NSIP and DNO renewable energy development proposals, planning applications and appeals. He has undertaken assessments of proposed schemes and reviewed existing operating sites. His expertise covers the effects on soils,</p>

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	land quality, the rural economy, soil management and handling, and related planning policies.
<p>Chapter 16: Other Issues (Prepared by LUC and Air Quality Assessments Ltd)</p>	<p>The chapter was completed by LUC and overseen by Helen Kent BA (Hons), MSc, PGDip, MRTPI, MIEMA, CEnv and Jennifer Rea BSc (Hons), PIEMA, AssocRTPI as noted above.</p> <p>The air quality assessment was undertaken by Bob Thomas BSc (Hons), PgDip, MSc, MIEEnvSc, MIAQM, CSci who is a director of Air Quality Assessments Ltd with over 14 years' experience in the field of air quality management and assessment. Bob has carried out air quality assessments for a wide range of developments, including residential, commercial, industrial, minerals and waste developments. He has been responsible for air quality projects that include ambient air quality monitoring of nitrogen dioxide, dust and PM10, the assessment of nuisance odours and dust, and the preparation of Review and Assessment reports for local authorities. He has extensive dispersion modelling experience for road traffic, energy centre and industrial sources, and has completed many stand-alone reports and chapters for inclusion within an Environmental Statement. Bob has worked with a variety of clients to provide expert air quality services and advice, including local authorities, planners, developers, architects and process operators, and has provided expert witness services at public inquiry.</p>
<p>Chapter 17: Summary of Effects (Prepared by LUC)</p>	<p>Helen Kent BA (Hons), MSc, PGDip, MRTPI, MIEMA, CEnv and Jennifer Rea BSc (Hons), PIEMA, AssocRTPI.</p> <p>As above.</p>