

Karen Wilkinson
Environmental Services Advisor
The Planning Inspectorate

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Dear Karen

**Temple Oaks Renewable Energy Park
EIA Scoping Report consultation**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scoping report for the above project which is principally located at the former RAF Folkingham in South Kesteven district with the grid connection crossing into North Kesteven, South Holland and Boston in Lincolnshire.

Anglian Water is the appointed water and sewerage undertaker for the site shown on plate 1 (page 3). The following response is submitted on behalf of Anglian Water in its statutory capacity and relates to potable water and public water supply assets.

- The Scheme – Existing infrastructure

Anglian Water notes that the promoter identifies the Ingoldsby water mains scheme (page 67) as a reference for the baseline assessment of the site. Given this and the guidance in the National Policy Statements we would have anticipated that the scoping would have included and then considered the approach to water supply, water resources and water recycling assets. This is not the case and the scoping report is silent on these points.

Having reviewed the site area and route of the grid connections, there Anglian Water assets including water and sewer mains within and adjoining the site. These assets include water mains which cross the north east section of the main site and which, for example, serve Laughton Hall Farm and other properties. The grid connection routes which cross roads or are near to villages also potentially impact the public water supply and public sewer networks serving in the villages of Laughton, Folkingham, Threekingham, Bridge End Donington and Bicker.

- Water Resources

The main site is within the Central Lincolnshire Water Resource Zone (WRZ), which supplies water to

Grantham and the eastern parts of the grid connection route in the East Lincolnshire WRZ which serves communities to the north including Boston. The southern part of the main site adjacent to Keisby Wood and a northern area of the main site between South Lodge and New Covert are in Level 3 (Total Catchment) Source Protection Zone. The northern grid route is within 2km of two Anglian Water abstraction locations at Osbournby and Swaton.

We note that site selection and site design (page 10) did not consider the potential impact on existing infrastructure and resources including water supply and waste recycling. Not does paragraph 80 (page 12) on Hydrology or paragraph 87 (page 13) Socio- Economic Effects consider water supply and waste water infrastructure and the potential impacts on communities and business if these services are distributed. There is no reference to the need to assess the carbon costs of relocating water infrastructure if assets are impacted during construction or operation. Anglian Water notes that the applicant has not sought to scope these matters out by providing sufficient information to reach a conclusion that the projects impacts with regard to water supply, water recycling and water quality, are not significant.

- Engagement

Anglian Water would welcome the instigation of discussions with Ridge Clean Energy as the prospective applicant, in line with the requirements of the 2008 Planning Act and guidance. Experience has shown that early engagement and agreement is required between NSIP applicants and statutory undertakers during design and assessment and well before submission of the draft DCO for examination. Consultation at the statutory PEIR stage would in our view be too late to inform design and may result in delays to the project. We would recommend discussion on the following issues:

1. Requirement for potable and raw water supplies
2. Impact of development on Anglian Water's assets including groundwater and water abstraction and the need for mitigation
3. Requirement for water recycling connections (if any)
4. The design of the project to minimise interaction with Anglian Water assets and specifically to avoid the need for diversions which have carbon costs
5. Confirmation of the projects cumulative impacts (if any) with Anglian Water projects including the Strategic Pipeline from Grantham to Peterborough

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require clarification on the above response or during the pre- application to decision stages of the project.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darl Sweetland', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Darl Sweetland DMS MRTPI
Spatial Planning Manager

cc energy@ridgecleanenergy.com