



# Mallard Pass

Solar Farm

## Mallard Pass Solar Farm

### Environmental Statement Volume 1 Chapter 2: Overview of EIA Process November 2022

PINS Ref: EN010127

Document Ref: EN010127/APP/6.1

Revision P0

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



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## **2.0 Overview of the EIA Process**

### **2.1. Purpose of EIA**

- 2.1.1. The purpose of EIA is to ensure that the likely significant environmental effects of the Proposed Development are understood and properly taken into account when decision-makers consider an application for development consent.
- 2.1.2. Through the EIA process, likely significant environmental effects (adverse and beneficial) arising from the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development will be identified and assessed with measures explored and proposed to mitigate or reduce any significant adverse effects on the environment caused by the Proposed Development. If likely significant effects are identified, consideration is given to monitoring measures that may be required.
- 2.1.3. The process is designed to produce an environmentally sensitive development by considering and assessing the effects of the Proposed Development against existing environmental baseline conditions. At the outset of the project, the EIA team undertook a review of the Order limits to identify potentially sensitive environmental receptors. This initial study was used to inform the Stage 1 Concept Masterplan of the Proposed Development which was presented within the non-statutory consultation exercise undertaken in November 2021. Further design and assessment work has been undertaken following the conclusion of the non-statutory and statutory consultation. The evolution of the Proposed Development, which is the subject of this ES, is described in **Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Development [EN010127/APP/6.1]**, of this ES.

### **2.2. EIA Regulations**

- 2.2.1. EIA Regulations specify which developments are required to undergo EIA and schemes relevant to the NSIP planning process are listed under either

of 'Schedule 1' or 'Schedule 2' of the EIA Regulations. Those developments listed in Schedule 1 must be subject to EIA, while developments listed in 'Schedule 2' must only be subject to EIA if they are considered "*likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its nature, size or location*". The criteria on which this judgement must be made are set out in Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations. The Proposed Development falls under Schedule 2 Part 3(a) of the EIA Regulations, as it constitutes "*industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water...*".

- 2.2.2. Taking into account the criteria listed in Schedule 3, it is considered that due to the Proposed Development's nature, size and location that it has the potential to have significant effects on the environment and therefore constitutes EIA Development as defined in the EIA Regulations. In accordance with Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, the Applicant has therefore provided an ES in support of the DCO Application.
- 2.2.3. The Proposed Development requires a DCO under the Planning Act 2008. The EIA for NSIPs is reported in two stages, as follows:
- a. A PEIR is prepared, to inform public consultation about the Proposed Development (in accordance with Regulation 12(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations); and
  - b. following consultation with the public, an ES is prepared to accompany the application for a DCO.
- 2.2.4. The information required in an ES under Regulation 14(2) is set out below:
- a. a description of the proposed development comprising information on the site, design, size and other relevant features of the development;
  - b. a description of the likely significant effects of the proposed development on the environment;

- c. a description of any features of the proposed development, or measures envisaged in order to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment;
- d. a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the applicant, which are relevant to the proposed development and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the development on the environment;
- e. a non-technical summary of the information referred to in subparagraphs (a) to (d); and
- f. any additional information specified in Schedule 4 relevant to the specific characteristics of the particular development or type of development and to the environmental features likely to be significantly affected.

## **2.3. EIA Scoping**

- 2.3.1. EIA Scoping is the process of identifying the issues to be considered within the ES and establishing the scope of the assessment. Although scoping is not a mandatory requirement under the EIA Regulations, it is recognised as a useful preliminary procedure which helps to identify the main effects that a proposed development is likely to have on the environment.
- 2.3.2. A formal request for a Scoping Opinion was submitted to PINS in accordance with Regulation 10(1) of the EIA Regulations on 7 February 2022. The Scoping Report is provided at **Appendix 2.1 [EN010127/APP/6.2]**. The Scoping Opinion was received from PINS on 18 March 2022 and is provided at **Appendix 2.2 [EN010127/APP/6.2]**.
- 2.3.3. A table outlining the key issues raised in the Scoping Opinion as well as how and where the ES and other DCO Application documents have

addressed them is included in the EIA Scoping Opinion Response Matrix, which is provided at **Appendix 2.3 [EN010127/APP/6.2]**. These are also responded to within an Appendix in each technical chapter of this ES.

## **2.4. Purpose of the ES**

- 2.4.1. The ES provides the baseline environmental information available for the study area relevant for the environmental assessment, the description of the likely environmental effects arising from the Proposed Development, and the mitigation measures envisaged to mitigate or reduce adverse environmental effects for the Proposed Development as well as any necessary monitoring measures.
- 2.4.2. The information presented within this report is based on the design of the Proposed Development as set out in Chapter 5: Project Description **[EN010127/APP/6.1]** of this ES. In order to maintain flexibility in the design and layout at this stage in the process, the assessment of the Proposed Development in this Environmental Statement has adopted the Rochdale Envelope approach, as described in the PINS Advice Note 9 **[Ref 2-1]**.
- 2.4.3. It is the establishment of the maximum parameters which enables a robust assessment of likely significant effects to be undertaken within this ES. **Chapter 5: Project Description** sets this approach out in greater detail.
- 2.4.4. To further assist with the reader's interpretation of the Rochdale Envelope (but not forming the basis of assessment), Illustrative Layout Designs **[EN010127/APP/2.3]** have been created to provide a visual representation of the PV Arrays, within each individual field, within the Rochdale envelope developed for the Proposed Development. The Illustrative Designs have been provided for illustration purposes only.
- 2.4.5. The likely effect that the Proposed Development may have on identified environmental receptors will be influenced by a combination of the

sensitivity (or importance) of the receptor and the predicted magnitude of impact from the baseline conditions.

- 2.4.6. Each of the technical topics of this ES provide further details on the assessment methodology used to quantify the level of effect in an appendix to the topic chapter. Where possible, this will be based upon quantitative and accepted criteria (for example, traffic assessment guidelines), together with the use of value judgement and expert interpretation to establish to what extent an effect is environmentally significant.
- 2.4.7. **Table 2-1** provides an illustrative example of how sensitivity and magnitude are combined to establish the significance of effect. As a rule, Moderate or Major effects are considered to be significant, whilst minor and negligible effects are considered to be not significant. However, professional judgement will be applied for each topic, including taking account of whether the effect is permanent or temporary, its duration / frequency, whether it is reversible, and / or its likelihood of occurrence.

**Table 2-1 Typical Significance Matrix**

Receptor Sensitivity	Magnitude of Impact			
	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
High	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Medium	Moderate	Minor	Minor	Negligible
Low	Minor	Minor	Negligible	Negligible
Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

- 2.4.8. This table is only a guide and the individual environmental topic chapters provide further information on the methodology for assigning of levels of sensitivity and magnitude of impact within an appendix for each of the chapters within this ES.

## **2.5. EIA Stages**

2.5.1. The following section of the ES provides an overview of the EIA process to help stakeholders understand the role and purpose of the ES. It is important to note that the steps set out below overlap with one another and that there has been ongoing engagement with stakeholders throughout the entire process of preparing the ES.

### **Current and Future Baseline Conditions**

2.5.2. An important first step in the EIA process is to establish a baseline against which to assess the effects of the Proposed Development. Information relating to the existing environmental baseline has been collected through field and desktop studies. These baseline sources include, but are not limited to:

- a. Online/digital resources;
- b. Data searches, e.g., Local Biological Record Centres, Historic Environment Record, etc.;
- c. Baseline field surveys; and
- d. Available environmental information submitted in support of other planning applications for development within the relevant study areas of the Order limits.

### **Identifying the Baseline Environment**

2.5.3. The first stage in the design and EIA process is to gather baseline information. Environmental surveys of the Order limits and study areas were carried out during 2021 and 2022 in order to establish a clear baseline against which the effects of the Proposed Development can be assessed. Further details of the baseline environment are provided at ***Chapter 3: Description of the Order limits*** and within the individual environmental chapters of this ES.



- 2.5.4. The 'future baseline' scenario describes the changes from the current baseline scenario as far as natural changes can be established, although it is noted without the Proposed Development that the Order limits would likely continue to be intensively managed for agricultural purposes.
- 2.5.5. The potential effects arising as a result of the Proposed Development are assessed against these two baselines and presented within the ES as follows:
- a. Construction Phase - Current and Future Baseline;
  - b. Operational Phase - Future Baseline; and
  - c. Decommissioning Phase - Future Baseline.

### **EIA Assessment Scenarios**

- 2.5.6. The ES will present the assessment of effects of the following scenarios;
- a. Construction Phase (2026 - 2028);
  - b. Operational Phase (no earlier than 2028); and
  - c. Decommissioning Phase (2069 - 2070).
- 2.5.7. The Applicant is not seeking a time limited consent. The operational life of the Proposed Development will not be specified within the DCO. Therefore, the ES as a worst case, assesses the permanent effects of the operational phase. Recognising that the electrical infrastructure associated with Solar Farms has an operational lifespan of typically 40 years, the ES also presents an assessment of the effects arising from a decommissioning phase, should the Applicant choose to decommission the Proposed Development. The decommissioning assessment is based on an assumption that decommissioning would take place after 40 years of operation, although it is noted that decommissioning could take place prior

to or after this timeframe subject to how the technology is performing at that time.

- 2.5.8. The ES assumes that there will be a need to repair or replace components of the Proposed Development that fail or break. It is anticipated that maintenance and servicing would include the inspection, removal, reconstruction, refurbishment or replacement of faulty or broken equipment, and adjusting and altering the components of the Proposed Development. These measures are set out within the outline Operational Environmental Management Plan (oOEMP) [EN010127/APP/7.7].

### **Predicting Environmental Impacts**

- 2.5.9. The gathering of baseline information and progression of the initial design concept allowed the environmental team to undertake a preliminary assessment in order to predict potential environmental impacts. The results of the preliminary environmental assessments were presented within the PEIR. Following the publication of the PEIR as part of the Stage 2 Consultation, the next stage of the EIA process was to undertake further assessment work/modelling, informed by the Stage 2 Consultation feedback, further baseline survey information and the refinement of the design in order to present the likely significant effects that might arise as a result of the Proposed Development within the ES. The assessment within the ES describes the impacts (changes to the environment, compared with the baseline environment) attributable to the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development, which may be adverse or beneficial, direct or indirect, temporary (short-term to long-term and irreversible) or permanent.
- 2.5.10. The methods of forecasting impacts vary by topic. For example, the assessment of air quality and noise relies upon traffic modelling.

2.5.11. Full details of the assessment methodology for each of the environmental chapters of this ES are presented in appendices to each topic chapter.

### **Assigning the Level of Significance**

2.5.12. The approach to assessing and assigning significance to an environmental effect is derived from a variety of sources including legislative requirements, topic-specific guidance, standards and codes of practice, the EIA Regulations, advice from statutory consultees and other stakeholders and the expert judgement of the team undertaking the EIA.

2.5.13. The following three stage approach has been used for determining significance for all environmental chapters within the ES:

- a. Assigning an environmental value to (or sensitivity of) a resource or receptor:
- b. Assigning a level of magnitude of impact; and
- c. Assigning a level of significance.

2.5.14. Owing to the different approaches and the terminology used to assign value, impact and the level of significance within best practice guidance for each topic, information on these matters is set out in detail within appendices to the individual environmental chapters.

### **Mitigation and Residual Effects**

2.5.15. The Proposed Development has been through three main stages of design development. These review stages resulted in the identification of mitigation measures that have been embedded into the design and layout of the Proposed Development, referred to as embedded mitigation.

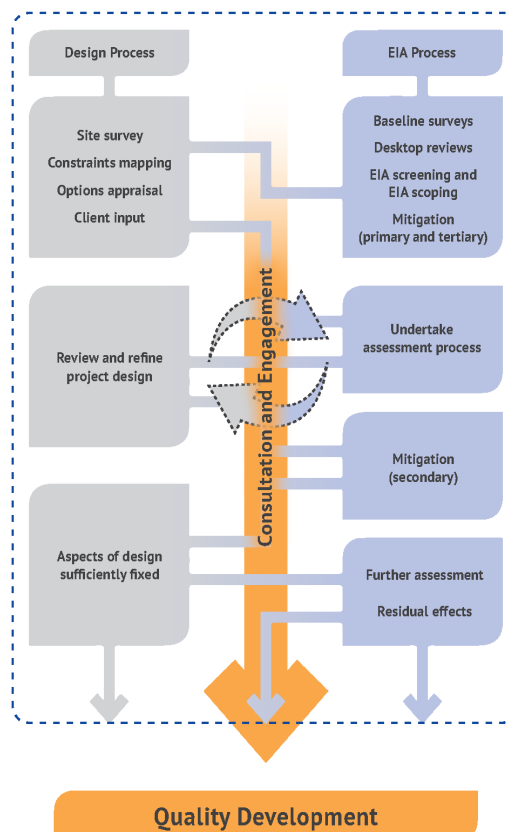
2.5.16. In addition to these embedded mitigation measures, the assessment of potential effects presented within this ES have identified the need for

additional mitigation measures to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects.

2.5.17. These mitigation measures have been developed as part of an iterative process and therefore will be developed throughout the EIA process in response to the findings of the initial assessments and stakeholder feedback.

2.5.18. Where this initial assessment of potential effects identified the need for additional mitigation, these were discussed with the design team and incorporated into the development proposals, where appropriate. The process of iterative design, assessment and consultation is set out below, adapted from IEMA’s ‘Guide to Shaping Quality Development’ (IEMA, 2015) (see Plate 1 below).

**Plate 1: Interaction of the design and EIA processes (IEMA, 2015).**



- 2.5.19. As shown on Plate 1, the final stage of the assessment and consultation process has been completed and the ES presents the results of this process to inform decision makers, stakeholders and the public about the Proposed Development.
- 2.5.20. Environmental effects remaining after the mitigation measures have been incorporated into the Proposed Development and/or control documents, as agreed with stakeholders (where necessary), are termed residual effects which are set out in the technical chapters in this ES along with how such measures are proposed to be secured within the DCO.
- 2.5.21. Where any significant residual effects remain the EIA Regulations require "*the monitoring of any significant adverse effects on the environment of the proposed development*". There are no monitoring requirements identified within this ES.

### **Cumulative Effects**

- 2.5.22. Paragraph 5 of Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations requires “a description of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment resulting from, inter alia ... the cumulation of effects with other existing and/or approved projects, taking into account any existing environmental problems relating to areas of particular environmental importance likely to be affected or the use of natural resources ...”
- 2.5.23. This requirement means that the technical team explored potential cumulative effects arising from other developments in the area, the process for which is set out in the text below.

### **Approach to Cumulative Site Search**

- 2.5.24. The cumulative effects assessment adopts a four-staged approach, as set out in the following subheadings.

### Stage 1: Establishing the Long List

- 2.5.25. For the purposes of the site search of potential projects to establish the long list, major developments have been defined as any development or infrastructure projects falling within the definitions set out in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations. The purpose of establishing a long list is to capture all the developments that have the potential for generating cumulative effects in combination with the Proposed Development.
- 2.5.26. In accordance with PINS' Advice Note Seventeen (2019) **[Ref 2-2]** projects to be considered in the identification of the long list will include the following categories, presented in **Table 2-2**. The criteria are used to indicate the certainty that can be applied to each other existing and/or approved development. The criteria are assigned in tiers which reflect the degree of certainty which can be assigned to each scheme. The categories descend from Tier 1 (most certain) to Tier 3 (least certain).

**Table 2-2 Identifying and assigning certainty to cumulative developments (PINS Advice Note Seventeen, 2019)**

Tier	Status of Scheme
Tier 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Under construction.</li> <li>b. Permitted application(s), whether under the PA2008 or other regimes, but not yet implemented.</li> <li>c. Submitted application(s) whether under the PA2008 or other regimes but not yet determined.</li> </ul>
Tier 2	Projects on PINS' Programme of Projects where a scoping report has been submitted.
Tier 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Projects on PINS' Programme of Projects where a scoping report has not been submitted.</li> <li>b. Identified in the relevant Development Plan (and emerging Development Plans – with appropriate weight being given as</li> </ul>

Tier	Status of Scheme
	<p>they move closer to adoption) recognising that there will be limited information available on the relevant proposals.</p> <p>c. Identified in other plans and programmes (as appropriate) which set the framework for future development consents/approvals, where such development is reasonably likely to come forward.</p>

2.5.27. The long list of other existing and/or approved development has been established using the tiered approach as provided in **Table 2-2** above and is set out at **Appendix 2.4**. The Zone of Influence (Zol) for each topic discipline has been identified which forms the basis of the search area for the cumulative effects assessment.

2.5.28. The Zol for each environmental topic area has been identified based on the extent of likely effects as identified as the study area in each of the individual topic chapters (**Chapters 6 - 15**) of this ES. The Zol has been identified in line with industry specific guidance along with professional judgement and knowledge of the local area relevant to each environmental topic area. The identified Zols are presented in **Table 2-3** below.

**Table 2-3 Zone of Influence Identified for the Cumulative Effects Assessment**

Topic	Zone of Influence (Zol)
Landscape and Visual Impact	Landscape and visual receptors: 2km
Ecology and Biodiversity	Internationally designated sites: 10km Nationally designated sites: 2km Locally designated sites: 2km Protected species records: 2km Surveys – most surveys limited to Site boundary and immediate vicinity but will extend to 500m for great crested newt (GCN) ponds and winter bird survey will include adjacent fields.
Access and Highways	Extent of the local road network (LRN) affected by the construction and decommissioning phases, as well as any identified sensitive receptors.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Zone of Influence (Zoi)</b>
	The three potential access routes from the strategic road network (SRN) to the Proposed Development will be considered.
Noise and Vibration	500m from the proposed Solar PV Site, and 800m from the Onsite Substation.
Air Quality	5km from the Order limits
Water Resources and Ground Conditions	Hydrological and hydrogeological receptors within a 5km radius from the Proposed Development, based on the hydrological and hydrogeological connectivity of water bodies located downstream of the Proposed Development.
Agricultural Land Use	The Proposed Development and adjoining agricultural land, where relevant.
Glint & Glare	Other solar PV projects within 1km of an assessed ground-based receptor may be relevant from a cumulative impact perspective.
Climate Change Impact Assessment	In-Combination Climate Change Impact (ICCI): dependant on related individual topics (e.g. flood risk) Climate Change Resilience: Site Boundary Greenhouse Gas emissions: GHG emissions from the Proposed Development and contribution to national GHG targets.
Socio-economics	Rutland County Council and South Kesteven District Council

## **Stage 2: Establishing the Short List**

2.5.29. Stage 2 of the cumulative effects assessment approach involves reviewing and applying a threshold criteria to the long list, in order to establish a short list of other existing and/or approved developments, to ensure that the cumulative assessment is proportionate. The criteria ensures that only other existing and/or approved development, which is likely to result in significant cumulative effects, is taken forward to the assessment stage.

The threshold criteria used considers the following factors:

- a. Temporal scope;
- b. Scale and nature of the development;



- c. Other factors such as, nature and capacity of the receiving environment, source-pathway-receptor approach; and
- d. Professional judgement.

2.5.30. **Appendix 2.4** presents the identified long list of existing and/or approved developments within the search area and sets out the threshold criteria applied to identify the preliminary short list of existing and/or approved developments for each environmental topic.

2.5.31. The short list of reasonably foreseeable existing and/or approved developments identified for the cumulative effects assessment and their respective tiers, (in accordance with PINS' Advice Note Seventeen as explained above), is provided in **Table 2-4** below and illustrated on **Figure 2.1** and **Figure 2.2** [EN010127/APP/6.3].

**Table 2-4 Short List of Existing and/or Approved Development**

Cumulative Scheme reference number	Planning Reference / Project Title	Description	Consenting Authority	Tier
1	2019/0433/FUL	Big Pit Quarry Bidwell Lane Clipsham Rutland: Southern extension to Clipsham Quarry (primarily to release blockstone reserves); restoration of the southern extension through the importation of restoration material; continuation of aggregate extraction including flooring and walling stone along with Lincolnshire Limestone within the existing quarry; and erection of stone working facility to be operated ancillary to the continued blockstone extraction and processing operations.	Rutland County Council	1

Cumulative Scheme reference number	Planning Reference / Project Title	Description	Consenting Authority	Tier
2	2020/0297/MIN	North Western extension to Greetham Quarry including the extraction of Limestone and building stone and importation of suitable inert material.	Rutland County Council	1
3	2021/0170/MAO	Outline planning application for 30 residential dwellings (Class C3), with all matters reserved except for access.	Rutland County Council	1
4	2021/0171/MAO	Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except access for a maximum of 94,000m <sup>2</sup> of Class B8 and Class B2 and E(g) and ancillary business and service space (Class E).	Rutland County Council	1
5	2021/0379/MAF	New warehouse (Class B8 Storage/Distribution). Land Adjacent to Buildings 25 And 26 Meadow Park Industrial Estate, Essendine, Rutland. Located immediately adjacent to the Order limits.	Rutland County Council	1
11	2020/1480/MAF	Erection of 60 leisure lodges for occupation on a non-continuous basis, renovation and conversion of existing barns to form a leisure suite including gym, swimming pool and ancillary spaces including staff accommodation, renovation and alteration of the existing Clubhouse, erection of a new maintenance facility, alterations to the grounds including changes to the golf course and construction of lakes for leisure and ecological purposes, and ancillary works including alterations to the access drive, provision of a visitor check-in kiosk, alterations to car parking, creation of a circular walk, alteration and extension of the	Rutland County Council	1

Cumulative Scheme reference number	Planning Reference / Project Title	Description	Consenting Authority	Tier
		noise bund, and consequential landscape works.		
30	S19/2160	Outline planning application in respect of up to 81 dwellings across Plots A and B with all matters reserved except for accesses off Station Road.	South Kesteven District Council	1
53	A47 Wansford to Sutton	Upgrading of approximately 2.6km of single carriageway on the A47 between Wansford and Sutton and associated works to enable the Proposed Scheme to connect into the strategic road network.	PINS	2
54	East Northants Resource Management Facility Western Extension	Extension in the area and timescales for the operation of the site including an extension to the west of the existing site and increasing the throughput of the waste treatment and recovery facility.	PINS	2
55	Land at Six Hundreds Farm (Heckington Fen)	Proposed ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation and energy storage facility (the "Energy Park") with an approximate capacity of 500 megawatts (MW) with a further 200 - 400MW of energy storage capacity on an area of agricultural land	PINS	2
56	Little Crow	Construction, installation, operation and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar park with a maximum design capacity of up to 150MWp (megawatts peak) and up to 90 Megawatts of battery based electricity storage 2facility. There will also be electrical connection infrastructure and the point of connection into the local electricity grid is directly to the 132KV	PINS	2

Cumulative Scheme reference number	Planning Reference / Project Title	Description	Consenting Authority	Tier
		electricity overhead pylon which already runs through the development site.		
57	Gate Burton	Installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities across a proposed site in Lincolnshire (hereafter referred to as the 'Site') together with grid connection infrastructure (hereafter referred to as the 'Grid Connection Corridor Options'). The Scheme would allow for the generation, storage and export of up to 500 megawatts (MW) electrical generation capacity.	PINS	2
58	West Burton	The Scheme consists of four electricity generating stations each with a capacity of over 50 megawatts (MW) comprising of ground mounted solar arrays; and 'Associated Development' comprising of energy storage, grid connection infrastructure and other infrastructure integral to the construction, operation and maintenance of the Scheme.	PINS	2
59	Cottam Solar Park	The Scheme consists of three electricity generating stations each with a capacity of over 50 megawatts (MW) comprising of ground mounted solar arrays; and 'Associated Development' comprising of energy storage, grid connection infrastructure and other infrastructure integral to the construction, operation and maintenance of the Scheme.	PINS	2
60	Allocation W1 of RCC Site Allocations and Policies DPD 2014	Cottesmore, Burley Road: Small scale preliminary treatment facilities and Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facilities	Rutland County Council	3

<b>Cumulative Scheme reference number</b>	<b>Planning Reference / Project Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Consenting Authority</b>	<b>Tier</b>
61	Allocation W2 of RCC Site Allocations and Policies DPD 2014	Greetham, Wood Lane: Small scale preliminary treatment facilities and Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facilities	Rutland County Council	3
62	Allocation MCS Policy 5 of RCC Minerals Core Strategy and Development Control Policies 2010	Extension to Aggregates Sites: Limestone extraction primarily for Aggregate Purposes	Rutland County Council	3
63	Allocation MCS Policy 4 of RCC Minerals Core Strategy and Development Control Policies 2010	Extension to Aggregates Sites: Limestone and clay extraction primarily for Cement Purposes	Rutland County Council	3
64	Allocation STM1-H1 of South Kesteven Local Plan 2020	Stamford North SKLP257, 258, 240 1,300 units at 30dph	South Kesteven District Council	3
65	Allocation STM2-H2 of South Kesteven Local Plan 2020	Stamford East SKLP300,318 162 units at 30dph	South Kesteven District Council	3
67	Allocation DEP2-H2 of South Kesteven Local Plan 2020	Land off Linchfield Road SKLP 680 units at 30dph	South Kesteven District Council	3
70	Allocation M033 of Peterborough City Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2021	Mineral Extraction: Sand and Gravel 33ha	South Kesteven District Council	3

2.5.32. Where schemes have been discounted, they will continue to be monitored to ensure that any changes to those schemes are identified and their omission from the short list is reassessed. For example, in the instance that schemes have been discounted because the application failed to obtain planning consent.

### **Stage 3: Information Gathering**

2.5.33. The next stage of the cumulative effects assessment process was to gather environmental information for the short listed existing and/or approved development, where available, including details of:

- a. Proposed design;
- b. Location;
- c. Programme (construction, operation and decommissioning);
- d. Baseline data; and
- e. Effects arising from such other developments.

### **Stage 4: Assessment**

2.5.34. The technical chapters (6-15) of this ES present the assessment of cumulative effects associated with the short-list of developments. A summary of these effects is then presented in **Chapter 16: Interaction of Effects and Cumulative Effects** of the ES [EN010127/APP/6.1].

## **2.6. References**

Ref 2-1 PINS Advice Note 9 (2018).

Ref 2-2 PINS Advice Note Seventeen (2019).

