

Gate Burton Energy Park Draft Statement of Common Ground with Cottam, West Burton and Tillbridge Solar Projects

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Regulation 5(2)(q)
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Gate Burton Energy Park Limited

Prepared for:

Gate Burton Energy Park Limited

Prepared by:

AECOM Limited

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STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared and agreed by (1) Gate Burton Energy Park Limited, (2) Cottam Solar Project Limited (3) West Burton Solar Project Limited and (4) Tillbridge Solar Limited

Lauren McGill, Project Manager on behalf of Gate Burton Energy Park Limited

Date:.....

Signed.....

[NAME] [POSITION] on behalf of Cottam Solar Project Limited

Date:.....

Signed.....

[NAME] [POSITION] on behalf of West Burton Solar Project Limited

Date:.....

Signed.....

[NAME] [POSITION] on behalf of Tillbridge Solar Limited

Date:.....

Signed.....

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1. Introduction

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared to be submitted to the Examining Authority (ExA) during the Examination of the Development Consent Order Application Gate Burton Energy Park (hereafter referred to as the Scheme).
- 1.1.2 The Application was submitted by Gate Burton Energy Park Ltd (the Applicant). The Applicant is funded by Low Carbon Limited (company number 13356797) ("Low Carbon"), which is a privately-owned UK investment and asset management company specialising in renewable energy. The Funding Statement **[EN010131/APP-221/6.7]** provides further information on the Applicant and Low Carbon.
- 1.1.3 In its Rule 6 Letter issued on 31 May 2023, the ExA requested the preparation of a SoCG between the Applicant and representatives or promoters of other solar Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) to include Cottam, West Burton and Tillbridge. Cottam Solar Project Limited is the promoter for the Cottam Solar Project, West Burton Solar Project Limited is the promoter for the West Burton Solar Project and Tillbridge Solar Limited is the promoter for the Tillbridge Solar Project.
- 1.1.4 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) Gate Burton Energy Park Ltd (the Applicant), (2) Cottam Solar Project Limited (Cottam); (3) West Burton Solar Project Limited (West Burton); and (4) Tillbridge Solar Project Limited (Tillbridge).
- 1.1.5 This SoCG covers the following matters as requested by the Examining Authority as set out in the Rule 6 Letter:
- 'Overlapping issues';
 - Any comments from Cottam, West Burton or Tillbridge on the 'Report on the interrelationship with other National Infrastructure projects' submitted by the Applicant;
 - Any principal concerns of Cottam, West Burton or Tillbridge expressed in other submissions; and
 - Any other matters on which agreement might aid the smooth running of the Examination and assist the Examining Authority's recommendation to the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero.
- 1.1.6 In the Rule 6 letter the ExA also requested the preparation of a report on the interrelationships between the four projects. This report has been submitted at Deadline 1 (18 July 2023) **[EN010131/APP/8.2]** and provides details on all four projects, including plans showing the location of the respective schemes. Please refer to this document for further details. Appendix A of the interrelationships report provides details of engagement between the parties so this is not repeated here.

2. Areas of Discussion between the Parties

Ref.	Document	Subject	Issue	Status
2.1	Report on the interrelationship with other National Infrastructure projects	n/a	The Applicant has prepared a report on the interrelationship with other NSIP projects to provide information on the interrelationships between the Gate Burton Energy Park and the Cottam Solar Project, West Burton Solar Project, and Tillbridge Solar Project. The draft report was shared with all three parties before submission and comments incorporated into the version submitted by the Applicant at Deadline 1. The teams are all currently reviewing the applications submitted by the other developers to compare sections on cumulative impacts and looking for further ways to collaborate and reduce cumulative impacts (e.g. on access). Whilst there are not currently any known areas of disagreement, these topics remain under discussion.	Under discussion
2.2	Cooperation agreement	n/a	The Applicant, Cottam, West Burton and Tillbridge have entered into a cooperation agreement to ensure various obligations on each party in relation to their cooperation throughout the Examination(s) of each DCO application. This cooperation agreement is provided in Appendix C of the interrelationships report.	Agreed
3.1	Draft development consent order (DCO)	Protective provisions	Tillbridge proposes to include protective provisions for the benefit of the Applicant, Cottam and West Burton within its DCO and the intention is for reciprocal protective provisions to be included in the DCOs of the Applicant, Cottam and West Burton for the benefit of Tillbridge Solar Limited. This agreement is set out in the cooperation agreement and will be progressed following the submission of the application for the Tillbridge scheme later in 2023.	Agreed