

Gate Burton Energy Park

EN010131

Statement of Common Ground between the Applicant, Nottinghamshire County Council and Bassetlaw District Council
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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) Nottinghamshire County Council and (3) Bassetlaw District Council.

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

Date:.....

Signed.....

[NAME] [POSITION] on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council

Date:.....

Signed.....

NAME] [POSITION] on behalf of Bassetlaw District Council

Date:.....

Signed.....

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1. Introduction

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared to accompany an application made to the Secretary of State for the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy for a Development Consent Order (the Application) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008). The Application seeks consent for the proposed Gate Burton Energy Park (hereafter referred to as the Scheme).
- 1.1.2 The Application is submitted by Gate Burton Energy Park Ltd (the Applicant) which is a subsidiary of Low Carbon Ltd ('Low Carbon'). Low Carbon is a privately-owned UK investment and asset management company specialising in renewable energy. The Funding Statement [EN010131/APP/6.7] provides further information on the Applicant and Low Carbon.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) Gate Burton Energy Park Ltd as the Applicant, (2) Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) and (3) Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) (the parties).
- 1.1.4 BDC and NCC are the local planning authorities for the area within the Grid Connection Corridor to the west of the River Trent, including the point of connection at Cottam Power Station. The section of cable route located to the east of the River Trent and the Solar and Energy Storage Park lie in the area covered by West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) and Lincolnshire County Council (LCC). Given the different extent and nature of works in the adjoining area, these host authorities are covered by separate SoCGs. Figure 1 shows the boundaries of the host Local Planning Authorities alongside the Order limits.
- 1.1.5 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority where agreement has been reached between the parties, where agreement has not been reached (and that is the parties' final position) and where discussions are still ongoing.
- 1.1.6 **This version has been prepared by the Applicant and incorporates comments from NCC and BDC provided in writing and discussed in meetings. However, discussions are ongoing on a number of matters and this document is therefore not yet a final, signed Statement of Common Ground.**

1.2 The Scheme

- 1.1.7 Gate Burton Energy Park is a proposed solar photovoltaic electricity generating facility. The Application is for development consent to construct, operate, maintain and decommission ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panel arrays, on-site battery storage and associated infrastructure. Associated infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, access provision and an underground 400kV electrical connection of approximately 7.5km to the National Grid Substation at Cottam Power Station. A detailed description of

the Scheme is included in **Chapter 2: The Scheme** of the Environmental Statement [EN010131/APP/3.1].

1.1.8 The land within the Order Limits is wholly contained within one site and will comprise of two distinct areas, based on the elements of the Scheme that are proposed in each:

- The **Solar and Energy Storage Park**: is the main area for the Scheme, including the area where the solar panels, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and on-site substation would be located. This is an area of 652 hectares.
- The **Grid Connection Corridor**: this comprises of land between the Solar and Energy Storage Park and Cottam Substation for grid connection works. This is an area of 172 hectares.

1.1.9 These areas are shown in Figure 1.

1.3 Format of Document and Terminology

1.1.10 Section 2 summarises the issues that are 'agreed', 'not agreed' or are 'under discussion'. 'Not Agreed' indicates a final position where the parties have agreed to disagree, 'Agreed' indicates where the issue has been resolved.

1.1.11 This SoCG is supported by Appendix A, which details the full record of engagement between the parties. Appendix B lists relevant local planning policy documents.

2. Areas of Discussion between the Parties

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
1.General Principles of the Scheme and Relevant Planning Policy						
1.1		In principle support for solar development	BDC support the principle of renewable energy development.	NCC has no policy on renewable energy. We support the principle of renewable energy in terms of national planning policy and the aims of the Government in achieving its renewable targets.	There is support for the principle of solar development in existing and emerging national government energy and planning policy. Solar development can make a significant contribution to achieving the UK's renewable energy and carbon reduction targets. Action to achieve the UK's renewable and carbon reduction targets is necessary and urgent.	Agreed
1.2		Sustainable development	Agreed	NCC support the principle of renewable energy in terms of National Planning Policy and the NPPF. We are, not however the determining authority and defer to BDC.	The Scheme comprises 'sustainable development' in the context of the presumption in favour of sustainable development in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Ref 1-1).	Agreed
1.3		Relevant Planning Policy	Agreed	Agreed	The Applicant has identified the planning policy documents listed in Appendix B as being relevant to BDC and NCC.	Agreed
1.4		Policy and the principle of the Scheme	BDC are in agreement that the principle of the Scheme is supported by local planning policy.	NCC defer to BDC.	The Scheme is supported by local planning policy. Policy DM10 of the BDC Core Strategy states the Council will be supportive of proposals that seek to utilise renewable and low carbon energy provided that they demonstrate they are: compatible with policies to safeguard the built and natural environment; not lead to the loss or damage of high-grade agricultural land; are compatible with tourism and	Agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
					<p>recreational facilities; will not result in unacceptable landscape and visual impacts and will not result in unacceptable cumulative impacts. The Applicant considers that the Scheme complies with this policy.</p> <p>Policy ST51 of the BDC Draft Local Plan 2020-2038 makes provision for development that generates, shares, transmits and/or stores zero carbon and/or low carbon renewable energy outside of the identified Area of Best Fit provided it is demonstrated there is an operational and/or economic need for the development in that location, and the satisfactory resolution of all relevant site specific and cumulative impacts that the scheme could have on the area. The Applicant considers that the Scheme complies with this policy.</p>	
1.5		Compliance with local planning policy	BDC are in agreement that the Scheme complies with local planning policy where located within the BDC area.	Defer to BDC.	The Applicant considers it has complied with relevant local planning policy as set out in Appendix B of the Planning, Design and Access Statement [EN010131/APP/2.2] .	Agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
1.6		Cottam Priority Regeneration Area	Specifically on the Priority Regeneration Area the parties agree that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Order limits includes an area of land identified as part of the 'Cottam Priority Regeneration Area' (PRA) in the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan Main Modifications (August 2023). The PRA is not allocated for employment or housing purposes. Development of the PRA is not required to meet targets in the Draft Local Plan. BDC and NCC expect development of the PRA beyond the plan period and does not expect to revisit the status of the site before the Local Plan Review in 2028. In line with Policy ST6 proposals at the PRA should deliver a scheme in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan framework. Whilst an initial masterplan has been developed for the site, no 'comprehensive masterplan framework' has yet been shared with BDC and NCC. Development within the PRA as part of the Scheme is limited to grid connection works at the existing Cottam Substation, underground cables to connect to the Substation and improvements to access to facilitate development and maintenance. In this context, it is agreed that 1/ The Scheme will not jeopardise the comprehensive remediation, reclamation and development of the site; and 2/ The Scheme does not conflict with Policy ST6. 			Agreed

2. Alternatives and Scheme design

2.1		Alternatives and Scheme design	There are no areas of disagreement between the Applicant, NCC and BDC regarding site selection and Scheme design.			Agreed
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3. Cumulative development

3.1	BDC Stat Con Response NCC and BDC Project Update Meeting note 09/03/2023	Cumulative developments	BDC state that the ES should consider the Tillbridge Solar Farm DCO application when it is submitted for examination.	NCC agree with the Applicant's list of cumulative development as part of the cumulative assessment.	The draft Cumulative Development longlist was shared with NCC and BDC on 19/10/2022. No comment or amendments were received. This is now agreed between all parties. The Tillbridge DCO application will not be submitted prior to the end of the Gate Burton Examination. However, the Application does consider cumulative impacts with the Tillbridge DCO project and has continued to update assessments as further information has been developed.	Agreed
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Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
4. Climate change and GHG emissions						
4.1	NCC and BDC Project Update Meeting note 09/03/2023	Climate change and GHG	There are no areas of disagreement between BDC and the Applicant regarding Climate Change impacts and GHG emissions in relation to the Scheme.	There are no areas of disagreement between BDC and the Applicant regarding Climate Change impacts and GHG emissions in relation to the Scheme.	Comments noted. Agreed with thanks.	Agreed at meeting 09/03/2023
5. Cultural Heritage						
5.1		ES Scope and Methodology	There are no areas of disagreement between BDC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the Cultural Heritage assessment in the ES.	There are no areas of disagreement between NCC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the Cultural Heritage assessment in the ES.	Comments noted agreed with thanks.	Agreed.
5.2		Cultural Heritage impacts	There are no areas of disagreement between BDC and the Applicant regarding Cultural Heritage impacts.	There are no areas of disagreement between NCC and the Applicant regarding Cultural Heritage impacts.	Comments noted agreed with thanks.	Agreed.

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
5.3	Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Geophysical Survey (email) NCC and BDC Project Update Meeting note 09/03/2023	Archaeological evaluation methodology	BDC provided comments on the draft WSI for geophysical survey and confirmed acceptance of the final WSI via email.		The WSI for geophysical survey was submitted to BDC via email. Comments were received from LCC who are acting archaeological advisors on behalf of BDC on the first draft of the WSI. BDC confirmed acceptance of the final WSI via email.	Agreed at meeting 09/03/2023
5.4	Scope of Works for trial trench evaluation (email) NCC and BDC Project Update Meeting note 09/03/2023	Archaeological evaluation methodology	BDC provided comments on the draft Scope of Works and agreed the design of the trial trench layout		The Scope of Works for trial trench evaluation was submitted to BDC via email. BDC provided comments on the draft Scope of Works and the final trench layout design was approved by BDC.	Agreed at meeting 09/03/2023
5.5	WSI for trial trench evaluation (email) NCC and BDC Project Update Meeting note 09/03/2023	Archaeological evaluation methodology	BDC provided comments to be incorporated into the archaeological contractors WSI. BDC confirmed acceptance of the final WSI via email.		The WSI for trial trench evaluation was submitted to BDC via email. BDC confirmed acceptance of the final WSI via email.	Agreed at meeting 09/03/2023

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
5.6	Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS)	Archaeological mitigation strategies	BDC provided comments to be incorporated into the draft AMS and confirmed acceptance of the final AMS via email.		Agreed with thanks. The AMS was submitted to BDC on 17/01/2023. BDC provided comments on the AMS during a meeting held on 19/01/2023. BDC confirmed acceptance of the final AMS via email on 23/01/2023.	Agreed at meeting 09/03/2023
5.7	Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS)	Archaeological mitigation strategies (Change Request)	The parties have engaged on the trial trenching for the area covered within the Change Request submitted in October 2023. There are no areas of disagreement between the parties on the extent of investigation works, the findings or the changes to the AMS to reflect the (limited) findings.			Agreed

6. Ecology and Biodiversity

6.1		ES Scope and Methodology	There are no areas of disagreement between the BDC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the ES in relation to ecology and biodiversity.	There are no areas of disagreement between the NCC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the ES in relation to ecology and biodiversity.	Agreed	Agreed
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Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
6.2		Ecology and Biodiversity Impacts	There are no areas of disagreement between the BDC and the Applicant regarding the Scheme's impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	There are no areas of disagreement between the NCC and the Applicant regarding the Scheme's impacts on ecology and biodiversity.	Agreed	Agreed

7. Water Environment

7.1	BDC and NCC Stat Con response NCC and BDC Project Update Meeting note 09/03/2023	Flood risk	BDC states that due to the design of solar development, the completed cable route being underground and mitigation returning ground levels to their original baseline, it is acceptable for some of the Proposed Development to be in Flood Zones 2 and 3.	NCC states that given that this site falls outside of the county boundary (Notably on the eastern side of the Trent, and also due to the nature of the proposals, the Flood Team have no comment to make.	Given that the grid connection point is located within and surrounded by areas in Flood Zone 2 and 3 any grid connection corridor would pass through these areas. The connection would also be underground with the land restored after installation. Locating the grid connection through areas of elevated flood risk is acceptable in this context.	Agreed at meeting 09/03/2023
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8. Landscape and Visual

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
8.1	BDC LIR	ES Scope and Methodology	<p>Consideration should be given to the Landscape impact including views from high points within Bassetlaw, both alongside the river and from further away (e.g. Sturton le Steeple, South Leverton, etc), especially having regard to vistas from both roads and public footpaths.</p> <p>Similarly, views of Bassetlaw assets from the east side of the river should also be fully assessed (e.g. Sturton le Steeple church spire). As we have recently found with several other solar farm proposals in Bassetlaw recently, those key views might extend several miles and be less obvious until seen on the ground.</p> <p>Following a meeting with the Applicant on 25 October 2023 BDC confirms their comments have been addressed and are in agreement.</p>	<p>There are no areas of disagreement between the NCC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the ES in relation to the Landscape and Visual Assessment.</p>	<p>BDC: ES Chapter 10 [APP-019/3.1] assesses the likelihood of landscape and visual effects west of the River Trent including locations along the river, namely at the embankment at Littleborough (refer to Photomontage LCC10 included in ES Figure 10-18 [APP-087 to 090/3.2]) as well as from Littleborough Road (refer to Photomontage 14 included in ES Figure 10-18 [APP-087 to 090/3.2]). Neither of these views will experience significant visual effects. Visual effects at operation will be neutral and result in a no change situation when compared to the existing situation as stated in ES Appendix 10-F Visual Assessment [APP-149/3.3]). Areas west of the River Trent including Sturton le Steeple, North Leverton with Hablesthorpe, South Leverton, Treswell and Rampton have also been assessed during site surveys. ES Chapter 10 [APP-019/3.1] states that during the construction stage “<i>areas west of the River Trent are very sparsely populated until reaching Sturton le Steeple, Fenton and Hablesthorpe. Sections of the construction compound and access road will be discernible in background views due to their location on elevated ground west of the low ridge at Gate Burton. Available distant views will be filtered by considerable intervening vegetation in an overall wide panorama. Residences at Littleborough will also benefit from substantial and mature intervening vegetation close to the residences, along</i></p>	<p>BDC: Agreed NCC: Agreed</p>

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
					<p><i>the embankments of the River Trent and uphill towards the A156, which will screen open views towards the entrance to the Scheme along the A156 and the construction compound. Visual effects are estimated to range from very low to low and their significance will range from negligible – none and neutral”.</i></p> <p>Landscape Effects in LLCA 3, LLCA10 – LLCA 13 are considered not significant at operation. Visual effects during operation are not considered significant and are negligible to neutral due to intervening vegetation and landform as well as due to the planned landscape reinstatement proposals within the Grid Connection Corridor. Refer to response above. Views west from the eastern side of the River Trent as well as from along the A156 will remain unchanged at operation as the Scheme is located further east and out of view. Construction works within the Grid Connection Corridor will be temporarily discernible during the construction phase in views from the River Trent flood protection embankments to the east and west.</p>	
8.2		Landscape and Visual scope and methodology	There are no areas of disagreement between the BDC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the ES in relation to landscape and visual.	There are no areas of disagreement between the NCC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the ES in relation to landscape and visual.	Comments noted	Agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
8.3		Landscape and Visual impacts	There are no areas of disagreement between the BDC and the Applicant regarding landscape and visual impacts	There are no areas of disagreement between the NCC and the Applicant regarding landscape and visual impacts	Comments noted	Agreed

9. Noise and Vibration

9.1		Noise and Vibration Assessment scope and methodology	There are no areas of disagreement between the BDC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the ES in relation to noise and vibration	There are no areas of disagreement between the NCC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the ES in relation to noise and vibration	Comments noted.	Agreed
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Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
9.2	BDC LIR	Noise and vibration impact	<p>BDC comment the following in respect of the Scheme's noise impacts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) BDC request cabling work is undertaken in a timely manner so as to limit the duration of any noise nuisance to residents/businesses; 2) The cabling route chosen should have a significant noise impact on as few residential properties and businesses as possible within Bassetlaw, with the priority given to residential properties; 3) Detailed noise surveys should be undertaken to identify properties likely to be impacted by noise and effective mitigation measures are put in place; 4) The developer liaise with the wider community, but especially closely with those residents and businesses likely to be most impacted by the development, to explain the likely impact and allay any concerns; and 5) That at the highest level, possibly at Ministerial level, the various solar and other energy projects that are proposing to connect to the Cottam Substation are required to effectively collaborate to avoid the 	<p>There are no areas of disagreement between the NCC and the Applicant regarding noise and vibration impacts of the Scheme.</p>	<p>BDC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan [REP-026/7.3 and as amended] includes measures to ensure the construction works are as least disruptive to residents/businesses as possible. This includes a scheme for the provision of monthly reporting of information to local residents to advise when potential noisy works are due to take place. 2) The cable route was selected based on the conclusions of Appendix 3-A Grid Connection Corridor Appraisal [APP-115/3.3 and as amended]. The Appraisal concluded that Corridor C1 provided the best balance of minimising impacts on the environment and the local community whilst meeting the technical and constructability feasibility requirements. 3) Baseline Noise Surveys have been undertaken to inform the construction and operational noise assessments by establishing the existing noise climate in the area. Further information is provided in Appendix 11-C [APP-157/3.3]. 4) The Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan [REP-026/7.3 and as amended] includes measures to ensure the construction works are as least disruptive to residents/businesses as possible. This includes a commitment to develop a communications strategy. 5) The Applicant is committed to working with the various solar energy projects that 	<p>BDC: Agreed</p> <p>NCC: Agreed</p>

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
			possibility of multiple different cabling routes being installed in the vicinity of Cottam, parallel routes being installed at different times, or developed cabling route being re-opened for additional cabling.		are proposing to connect to the Cottam Substation.	
10. Minerals and waste						
10.1	NCC Stat Con response NCC and BDC Project Update Meeting note 09/03/2023	Waste		NCC confirm there are no existing waste sites within the vicinity of the site where the proposed development could cause an issue in terms of safeguarding existing waste management facilities.	Agreed	Agreed at meeting 09/03/2023
10.2	Minerals discussion meeting 18/05/2022 NCC and BDC Project Update Meeting note 09/03/2023	Mineral Safeguarding Assessment		NCC confirm a Mineral Safeguarding Assessment will not be required.	Agreed with thanks. It was confirmed with NCC and LCC that there is not a need for a standalone Mineral Safeguarding Assessment to accompany the DCO Application. Policies relevant to mineral safeguarding will be referenced and afforded the appropriate weight in the Planning, Design and Access Statement [EN010131/APP/2.2] .	Agreed at meeting 09/03/2023

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
11. Rights of Way						
11.1	NCC Stat Con response	Construction impact		NCC states that the preferred grid corridor would impact upon 6 Public Right of Ways (PRoWs). NCC states that the trenching of the underground cable would affect the PRoWs in the short term and request closures are employed sensitively to optimise the connectivity of the wider PROW network and any works that affect the safe use of the PROW should be closed temporarily under a formal Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO).	There will be no PRoW permanent closures as a result of the Scheme. All temporary closures are accompanied by diversions to maintain continuity of the PRoW during construction, An Outline PRoW Management Plan [EN010131/APP/7.8] has been prepared in support of the DCO Application to demonstrate how PRoW will be managed safely during the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning phases. This has been updated for the Change Request due to the interaction with PRoW	Under discussion
12 Transport and access						
12.1		ES Scope and Methodology	There are no areas of disagreement between the BDC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the ES in relation to Transport and Access/	There are no areas of disagreement between the NCC and the Applicant regarding the scope and methodology of the ES in relation to Transport and Access.	Comments noted.	Agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
12.2		Magnitude of Impact	There are no areas of disagreement between the BDC and the Applicant regarding the Scheme's impacts on transport and access.	There are no areas of disagreement between the NCC and the Applicant regarding the Scheme's impacts on transport and access.	The methodology for the assessment of the impact of the Scheme on the highway network and the level of impacts is agreed with Lincolnshire County Council and Nottinghamshire Country Council as the two local highway authorities for the project. The threshold is considered appropriate, particularly given that transport impacts are all temporary for the construction period.	Agreed
12.3	NCC LIR and email correspondence	Construction Access Arrangements	N/A	<i>NCC will be seeking conditions with respect the size, location, and access arrangements for any temporary compounds required to facilitate the construction of the grid connection, the routeing of vehicles involved in the laying of the cable and the condition and suitability of those routes or as set out in an agreed CTMP.</i>	The comment is noted re. NCC will be seeking conditions for items to facilitate the construction of the grid connection corridor. The CTMP will be a control document and will be secured through Requirement 14 of the Draft Development Consent Order [REP-018/6.1] . Construction activities will therefore be required to be delivered in line with the CTMP. The detailed CTMP will be required to be agreed with the relevant Highways Authorities, included NCC, and will need to be substantially in accordance with the Framework CTMP [APP-167 to 168/3.3 and as amended] agreed through the DCO process. Therefore, NCC can have confidence that all such elements requested will be agreed through the CTMP and delivered in line with those agreements.	Under discussion

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
12.4	Email correspondence	Construction Access Arrangements	N/A	NCC query whether the proposed access locations for the Grid Connection Corridor have proportionate footprints to maintenance requirements.	<p>The Applicant has committed to amending the proposed access locations to the grid corridor to ensure that the footprint of the access is proportionate to the maintenance requirements. The arrangements of these access proposals are to be agreed and approved by Nottinghamshire County Council prior to the completion of construction activities. Revised access arrangements will be implemented prior to the end of construction of the Gate Burton Scheme at such point as there is no longer a requirement for use of the access for construction of the Gate Burton Grid Connection corridor, or any other Solar Park Scheme in the vicinity in the event that construction timeframes differ. The access locations to which this applies are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headstead Bank East • Headstead Bank West • Cottam Road North • Cottam Road South <p>Further to the above, a restricted (emergency) access will be utilised on the northern side of Torksey Ferry Road which will only be utilised by light vehicles during exceptional circumstances if required i.e. should it not be possible to utilise the access on Cottam Road South. If this access is deemed necessary, its location, standard, removal, or retention for maintenance will be agreed prior to construction with Nottinghamshire County Council.</p>	Agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
					This is secured in the Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan submitted at Deadline 4 [REP4-014/3.3].	
12.5	Email correspondence	Construction Access Arrangements (Cow Pasture Lane)	N/A	Agreed	<p>The western access on Cow Pasture Lane will be retained during operation due the presence of a ditch along the perimeter field. The nature of the existing access would be returned to reflect the nature of the current crossing, albeit the access would be wider than the existing in the image due to the need in construction to widen the crossing to suit the vehicles necessary.</p> <p>For access to the east of Cow Pasture lane, the access at present is informal as the field meets the access at grade and therefore agricultural vehicles simply drive onto the field at any point. The Applicant proposes to return this eastern access point to reflect the current access arrangements. This would maximise the availability of agricultural land and prevent any remaining hardstanding being used for fly tipping, due to there being no means to secure the paved access off Cow Pasture Lane due to the lack of any existing fencing arrangement in place.</p>	Agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
12.6		Surveys of existing Public Rights of Way (PRoWs)	N/A	Agreed	<p>No public rights of way would be closed or permanently diverted as part of the Scheme. Suitable temporary diversions and route management are proposed for all PRoW routes, so that suitable routes for any/ all users (including in the instance that these routes are relatively well used) will be available for the duration of the construction phase. There is therefore no requirement to establish usage of the PRoW.</p> <p>Consultation was carried out with Local Highway Authorities on the methodology for assessment that there was no requirement to carry out surveys of PRoW in this context.</p>	Agreed

13. Agricultural Land

13.1	N/A	Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Surveys in the Grid Connection Corridor	Agreed	Agreed	<p>Given that there would be no loss of agricultural land within the Grid Connection Corridor, soil surveys are not considered necessary to inform the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The Applicant has subsequently completed ALC surveys of the Grid Connection Corridor for completeness and submitted these at Deadline 5.</p>	Agreed
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14. Other Environmental Topics

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
14.1	BDC LIR	Land contamination	<i>We would like to see means of mitigating land contamination and intrusive site investigations taking place where there is reasonable possibility of existing land contamination in line with LCRM guidance.</i>	N/A	As stated within the Outline Soil Management Plan [REP-030/7.12] ground testing / soil sampling will be required to confirm contamination levels.	Agreed
14.2	BDC LIR	Lighting	<i>Flood lighting at the site of the cabling work, lighting servicing site compounds etc, or security lighting could have a significant negative impact on residents and businesses in the vicinity of the cabling route. Once the route is selected, care should be taken to ensure that all artificial lighting for the site both temporary and permanent should be of such a design and installed and sited/ angled in such a manner as to prevent glare or light shining directly into neighbouring residential properties or businesses</i>	N/A	There are measures included within the Framework CEMP [REP-026/7.3 and as amended] to control the use of lighting for example ensuring that lighting is minimised where possible, and if used is directional to minimise outward spill.	Agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
14.3	NCC LIR	Decommissioning	N/A	NCC assume the grid connection cable would be abandoned or repurposed on decommissioning rather than being removed. Otherwise, we would be seeking similar conditions to the above.	In terms of the grid connection cable as stated within para 2.7.6 of Chapter 2 of the ES [APP-011/3.1] "It is not currently known if the buried 400 kV cables would be left in situ or removed". For the purposes of the assessment, both scenarios have been considered within the ES and further details are set out within Chapter 2 of the Framework Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [APP-226/7.5] .	Under discussion

15. draft Development Consent Order

15.1	NCC LIR	Requirement 19	N/A	<i>It is requested that the examiner considers the time period for the life of the project. County Council officers are of the opinion that if the ES has been based on a life period of 60 years then the development order should be for 60 years and not indefinitely</i>	The Applicant considered the oral submissions made by interested parties at the issue specific hearing on the draft DCO [APP-215/6.1] regarding the need for a mechanism to secure a 60-year temporal limit. As a result, the Applicant updated the draft DCO at Deadline 1 [REP-018/6.1] to amend Requirement 19 to ensure that decommissioning must take place no later than 60 years following the date of final commissioning of the authorised development. Therefore, the Scheme cannot continue indefinitely and is reversible after its lifetime.	Agreed
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Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
16. Cumulative impacts						
16.1		Cumulative impacts on landfill sites in Nottinghamshire	<p>The Applicant and NCC agree that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At present there are limited options for recycling or recovery of some of the solar apparatus and landfill may be the only option within the Nottinghamshire/ Lincolnshire area. • There is forecast to be insufficient capacity in existing landfill facilities within Nottinghamshire from the year 2030 for all materials (when all planned solar farms in the counties are decommissioned). • The lack of dedicated recycling and recovery facilities in the county is likely to be due to the lack of demand, given that few projects are yet reaching the stage of being decommissioned. • There is good reason to suggest that the market for recycling PV equipment will be more mature at the point of decommissioning and the expectation for most apparatus to be recycled/recovered should be stated within a de-commissioning statement. • There are strong policy and monetary incentives to recycle and recover materials and it is therefore unlikely that some/all materials from the Gate Burton Energy Park and other large projects would be sent to landfill if appropriate recycling or recovery facilities exist at the point of de-commissioning. 			Agreed
16.2		Cumulative impacts on landfill sites in Nottinghamshire	<p>The Applicant and NCC deviate on what would constitute a reasonable worst case in this scenario. The Applicant considers that assuming that all projects would be decommissioned and some/all materials sent locally to landfill is not a reasonable worst case scenario as it is very unlikely to occur. NCC considers that the scenario where some/all materials go to landfill locally should be considered a reasonable worst case scenario because this is the scenario that would arise if the projects were decommissioned without appropriate recycling or recovery facilities being in place.</p>			Not agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
16.3		Requirement 19 and Framework DEMP	<p>The Framework DEMP [REP4-037/7.5] currently states:</p> <p><i>'The applicant(s) will consider the objectives of sustainable resource and waste management and seek to use material resources efficiently, reduce waste at source, reduce waste that requires final disposal to landfill and apply the principles of the waste hierarchy. This would include, where reasonably practical, working towards a cut and fill balance for excavations; segregation of decommissioning materials on-site for appropriate re-use, recycling and recovery, with landfill as a last resort.'</i></p> <p>Requirement 19 of the draft Development Consent Order [REP4-023/6.1] states that no decommissioning works must be carried out until the final DEMP is approved by the relevant local planning authority, providing the opportunity for this to be updated to reflect facilities available at that time. NCC are satisfied with this wording.</p>			Agreed
16.4		Cumulative traffic impacts	BDC recognise difficulties of aligning when DCOs might not be granted, support and encourage joint implementation.	NCC recognise difficulties of aligning when DCOs might not be granted, support and encourage joint implementation.	The Applicant is working with the developers of the other three NSIPs to minimise cumulative traffic impacts; this has included amending accesses to align with other projects (e.g. Cottam South) and provision for development of a Joint CTMP should the timescales for projects align.	Agreed
17. Order Limit Change Submitted on 3 October						
17.1		Proposed Order limit changes	BDC are content with the Applicant's proposed changes to the Order limits, the rationale for the changes and the information provided. BDC has no objection to the changes.	NCC are content with the Applicant's proposed changes to the Order limits, the rationale for the changes and the information provided. NCC has no objection to the changes.	Comments noted.	Agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
17.2	Joint Host Authorities Meeting	Byway for All Traffic	N/A	<p>NCC requests further details regarding the level of likely construction/operation traffic so that the effect on the BOAT13 and the need for any temporary closure/diversion could be considered further.</p> <p>NCC request further information how BOAT12 and Footpath 20 will be impacted during construction.</p>	<p>The Applicant has updated its Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan [document 3.3, Appendix 13-E updated at Deadline 4] (CTMP) to state that the works will require the closure of a section of PRow NT/Rampton/BOAT13 for a maximum period of up to 4 weeks for the upgrades required to Torksey Ferry Road. Prior to construction, the duration of the closure will be reviewed depending on the existing road condition, construction sequencing, final design and weather conditions during the works to reduce this duration as far as possible. The measures are secured through the DCO, via the Framework CTMP and also the Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan [document 7.3 as updated at Deadline 4].</p>	Under discussion
17.3	Joint Host Authorities Meeting	HGV Traffic		NCC query how the changes will affect construction traffic through Rampton.	The Applicant confirms there will be no additional HGV traffic movements through Rampton because construction traffic from the north will use the dedicated haul route within the Order limits to the west of the Cottam power station site. This is also secured in the updated Framework CTMP.	Agreed

Ref.	Document	Subject	Bassetlaw Position	Nottinghamshire Position	Applicant Position	Status
17.4		Archaeology	<p>The additional area of the Order limits along Torksey Ferry Road and within the former Power Station Site have been previously disturbed and do not have potential for archaeology.</p> <p>Further trial trenching has been undertaken in the area added to the Order limits as part of the Change Request. A total of five trenches were excavated and the results are provided in the updated Appendix 7-E Archaeological Trial Trenching Evaluation Fieldwork Report submitted at Deadline 5.</p> <p>The Archaeological Advisors to BDC and NCC agreed to a watching brief during construction activities within the extended Order limits. In addition, Historic England have agreed to a 20m buffer zone along the northern boundary of the Scheduled Monument Fleet Plantation moated site (NHLE 1008594). No construction activities will be undertaken within this buffer zone. These mitigation strategies have been set out in the updated Appendix 7.6 Archaeological Mitigation Strategy Part 2 Grid Connection Corridor submitted at Deadline 5. The parties all agree the proposed mitigation is sufficient.</p>			Agreed

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2. References

Ref 1-1: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) (2021) National Planning Policy Framework, Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf

Ref 1-2: Bassetlaw District Council Core Strategy (BCS) and Development Management Policies DPD, adopted 22 December 2011. Available at: <https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/1543/cs1adoptedcorestrategy.pdf>

Ref 1-3: Bassetlaw District Council, "Draft Local Plan 2020-2038". Bassetlaw District Council, Nottinghamshire, 2022.

Ref 1-4: Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan, adopted March 2021. Available at: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/minerals-local-plan/adopted-minerals-local-plan>

Ref 1-5: Nottinghamshire Waste Local Plan, adopted 2002. Available at: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/109140/wastelocalplan.pdf>

Ref 1-6: Nottinghamshire Waste Core Strategy, adopted 2013. Available at: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/109118/waste-core-strategy-1.pdf>

Ref 1-7: Treswell and Cottam Neighbourhood Plan, made February 2019. Available at: <https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-services/neighbourhood-plans/all-neighbourhood-plans/treswell-neighbourhood-plan-made/>

Ref 1-8: Rampton and Woodbeck Neighbourhood Plan, made May 2021. Available at: <https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6194/rampton-woodbeck-02-neighbourhood-plan-final.pdf>

Ref 1-9: Sturton by Stow and Stow Neighbourhood Development Plan, made July 2022. Available at: <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-04/Sturton%20by%20Stow%20and%20Stow%20Neighbourhood%20Plan%20Final%20Approved%20Version.pdf>

Ref 1-10: HMSO (2008) The Planning Act 2008, Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/pdfs/ukpga_20080029_en.pdf

Appendix A: Record of Engagement

Date	Correspondence	Topics discussed and outcomes
15/09/2021	NCC HER	Data order email
15/09/2021	NCC HER	Data order email update
15/10/2022	Meeting with NCC, BDC, LC, CAM and AECOM	PowerPoint presentation on Scheme. Q&A session documented in minutes.
15/10/2021	Meeting with LCC, CAM, AECOM, LW	(Nb the archaeological advisors for BDS are LCC so correspondence with LCC is included here). AECOM provide introduction to Applicant and project team, overview of Scheme, programme, and consultation process. LCC advise initial engagement with Officers including Heritage, Sustainability and LLFA officers.
19/10/2021	LCC (FT) and AECOM (JW)	Request for contact detail for the appropriate archaeological advisor for LCC. Advised - Ian Marshman
20/10/2021	AECOM (JW) and LCC (IM)	Email to introduce heritage lead and discuss approach to consultation. Response stating that LCC were determining who would be assigned to the project.
27/10/2021	LCC (IG) and AECOM (JW) phone call	Email requesting that initial contact be made with Ian George until projects assigned.
05/11/2021	LCC (IG) and AECOM (JW) phone call	Initial conversation to discuss approach to consultation and archaeological evaluation.
08/11/2021	LCC (IG) and AECOM (JW) email	Sent WSI for geophysical survey for comment.
23/11/2021	LCC (IG) and AECOM (JW) email	Email from Ian saying that Jan Allen and Matt Adams will be overseeing the project on behalf of LCC. In addition, Matt Adams will be representing Bassetlaw District Council / NCC.
03/12/2021	LCC, BDC (JA and MA) and AECOM (JW) email	Email received with comments on geophysical survey WSI
08/12/2021	Meeting with LC, BDC, LCC and AECOM	Meeting to discuss heritage, need for geophysics survey, engagement with LCC and BDC/NCC, and scoping report.
02/02/2022	BDC (MA) and AECOM (JW) phone call	Call to discuss the potential embedded design strategies that could be deployed to avoid impacts to archaeological deposits within the Grid Connection Corridor

15/02/2022	Meeting with LCC, BDC, LC and AECOM	Overview of concept masterplan and design development to date in relation to cultural heritage
22/02/2022	Email from GB to JN (BDC)	Email offering meeting between Low Carbon and BDC.
1/03/2022	Meeting with BDC, LCC, WLDC, NCC, LC, and AECOM	Meeting to discuss proposed landscape viewpoints
08/03/2022	Email with NCC and AECOM	Response received from Nottinghamshire CC following the meeting to discuss proposed landscape viewpoints.
22/03/2022	Meeting with LCC, BDC, NCC, LC and AECOM	Transport Scoping Discussion
11/04/2022	BDC Members Briefing	PowerPoint presentation on overview of NSIPS and the Scheme.
11/04/2022	Email from AB (AECOM) to BDC	Request for comments on draft SoCC.
12/05/2022	Draft SoCC response from BDC	Response to draft SoCC.
16/05/2022	Email from BM (CAM) to NCC	Follow up email requesting comments on draft SoCC.
16/05/2022	Email from NCC to BM (CAM)	Confirming no comments on draft SoCC and agree locations for events.
21/06/2022	Email between LCC, BDC (JA and MA) and AECOM	Scope of Works for trial trench evaluation submitted to LCC and BDC via email detailing the approach to evaluation trenching within the Site.
21/06/2022	Email with LCC (JA) and AECOM	Email received from LCC on behalf of BDC providing guidance on the requirements of the WSI.
19/07/2022	Email from NCC to GB	Attaching comments in relation to Scheme.
22/07/2022	Email from GB to BDC	Requesting that BDC display consultation materials on social media or public noticeboards.
22/07/2022	Email from BDC to GB	Confirming that BDC will distribute consultation material to members and local parish councils.
27/07/2022	Email between LCC (JA) and AECOM	Call received to request permission to share Gate Burton heritage baseline reports with external projects as examples of good practice.
05/08/2022	Email from BDC to GB	Attaching response to phase 2 statutory consultation PEIR document.
05/08/2022	Meeting with LCC, BDC (JA and MA) and AECOM	Meeting to discuss the results of the geophysical survey within the connection corridor and present methodology for trial trench evaluation within corridor. Provide update on the trial trenching within the main site and organise site monitoring

		visit. Follow up email received confirming acceptance of trial trenching WSI.
16/08/2022	Meeting with LCC, BDC (JA and MA) and AECOM	On-site monitoring visit to review progress of trial trenching.
09/09/2022	Email between LCC (JA) and AECOM	Email from LCC on behalf of BDC agreeing design of trial trenching within Grid Connection Corridor.
28/09/2022	NCC Email	Update of HER data after 12-month review
17/10/2022	Meeting with BDC, NCC and AECOM	Project update meeting discussing changes to the scheme layout, changes to the order limits and PPA
19/10/2022	Email from EM (AECOM) to B AS and CC (BDC) and JS and SP (NCC)	Email to request comments on the Cumulative Development Longlist.
19/10/2022	Email with LCC, BDC (JA, MA) and AECOM (JW)	Draft Cultural Heritage Desk-based Assessment, Gazetteer of known heritage assets, Aerial Photo and LiDAR Analysis report and Geophysical Survey report submitted to LCC and BDC for information
03/01/2023	Email with LCC, BDC (JA, MA) and AECOM (JW)	Draft fieldwork report for trial trench evaluation and geoarchaeological assessment report sent to LCC and BDC
12/01/2023	Meeting with LCC, BDC (JA, MA) and AECOM (JW)	Engagement meeting to discuss the proposed archaeological mitigation strategies for the Grid Connection Corridor
17/01/2023	Email from AECOM (JW) to LCC and BDC (JA, MA)	Email from AECOM providing a copy of the draft Archaeological Mitigation Strategy.
19/01/2023	Meeting with JW (AECOM), LCC and BDC (JA, MA)	Engagement meeting with BDC to review the draft AMS. LCC and BDC provided comments on the draft AMS.
23/01/2023	Meeting with JW (AECOM) LCC, and BDC (JA, MA) and follow up email from LCC	Engagement meeting to confirm the final Archaeological Mitigation Strategy including amendments following comments from LCC and BDC. Confirmation of acceptance of the final Archaeological Mitigation Strategy received via email from LCC on behalf of LCC and BDC.
24/01/2023	Email from EM (AECOM) to CC, BA-S (BDC), JS and SP (NCC)	Email to issue BDC and NCC with the draft SoCG requesting BDC's and NCC's comments.
09/03/2023	Meeting with BDC (JK and CC) and NCC (SP and JS)	Meeting to discuss updates to the project, the application process and the draft Statement of Ground
30/03/2023	Email between NW (NCC	Email responding to comments in 2.1, 5.6, 12.1 and 12.2 of this draft SoCG.

	Highways) and EM (AECOM)	
30/03/2023	Email from EM (AECOM) to NW (NCC Highways)	Email responding to NCC Highways comments on the draft SoCG.
24/04/2023	Email from NW (NCC) to EM (AECOM)	Email updating on NCC's review of initial draft SoCG submitted as part of the application.
27/06/2023	Email from EM (AECOM) to NW (NCC), CC and JK (BDC)	Email requesting comments on draft SoCGs ahead of D1.
18/07/2023	NCC and BDC LIR	BDC and NCC's LIRs submitted to the Gate Burton Examination.
04/08/2023	Email from NW (NCC) to EM (AECOM)	Email querying who was contacted as the Archaeological Advisor for NCC during the pre-application stage.
08/08/2023	Email from CC (BDC) to EM (AECOM)	Email requesting a PPA to be agreed between the Applicant and BDC.
11/08/2023	Email from EM (AECOM) to CC and BAS (BDC)	Email providing draft PPA to BDC for comment.
19/09/2023	Email from EM (AECOM) to NW (NCC) and CC (BDC)	Email to arrange joint LPA meeting to discuss proposed Order limit changes and request for RoW and Highways officers to be in attendance.
22/09/2023	Teams meeting with Gate Burton Energy Park host authorities.	Meeting to discuss proposed Order limit changes and views of the changes from the LPAs.
26/09/2023	Email from EM (AECOM) to CC and BAS (BDC)	Follow-up email regarding BDC returning comments on the draft PPA
06/10/2023	Email from NW (NCC) to EM (AECOM)	Email providing signed copy of PPA with NCC signature.
25/10/2023	Meeting with NCC (SP and NW), BDC (JK), AECOM (EM) and Arup (AL)	Meeting to discuss draft SoCG and agree matters before Deadline 5.
01/11/2023	Email from EM (AECOM) to SP and NW (NCC)	Email requesting review and comments of Applicant's response to ExQ3 questions Q3.1.9
06/11/2023	Email from SP (NCC) to EM (AECOM)	Email providing NCCs comments on Q3.1.9

06/11/2023	Email from SP (NCC) to EM (AECOM)	Email providing NCCs comments on Q3.1.9
06/11/2023	Email from AL (Arup) to SP (NCC)	Email summarising areas of agreement or disagreement on cumulative impacts regarding waste in Nottinghamshire.
06/11/2023	Email from SP (NCC) to AL (Arup)	Email providing final comments and confirming areas of agreement/ disagreement.
16/11/2023	Email from NW (NCC) to EM (AECOM)	Email to request further information on outstanding point of discussion in the SoCG.
16/11/2023	Email from JK (BDC) to EM (AECOM)	Email to confirm agreement on all matters outstanding.

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Appendix B: Relevant Local Planning Policy Documents

- Bassetlaw District Council Core Strategy (BCS) and Development Management Policies DPD, adopted 22 December 2011 (Ref 1-2);
- Bassetlaw District Council Draft Local Plan (Draft BLP) 2020-2038 (Ref 1-3);
- Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan, adopted March 2021 (Ref 1-4);
- Nottinghamshire Waste Local Plan, adopted 2002 (Ref 1-5);
- Nottinghamshire Waste Core Strategy, adopted 2013 (Ref 1-6);
- Treswell and Cottam Neighbourhood Plan, made February 2019 (Ref 1-7);
- Rampton and Woodbeck Neighbourhood Plan, made May 2021 (Ref 1-8); and
- Sturton by Stow and Stow Neighbourhood Development Plan, made July 2022.

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Appendix C: Figure 1 – The Order Limits and Local Authority Boundaries

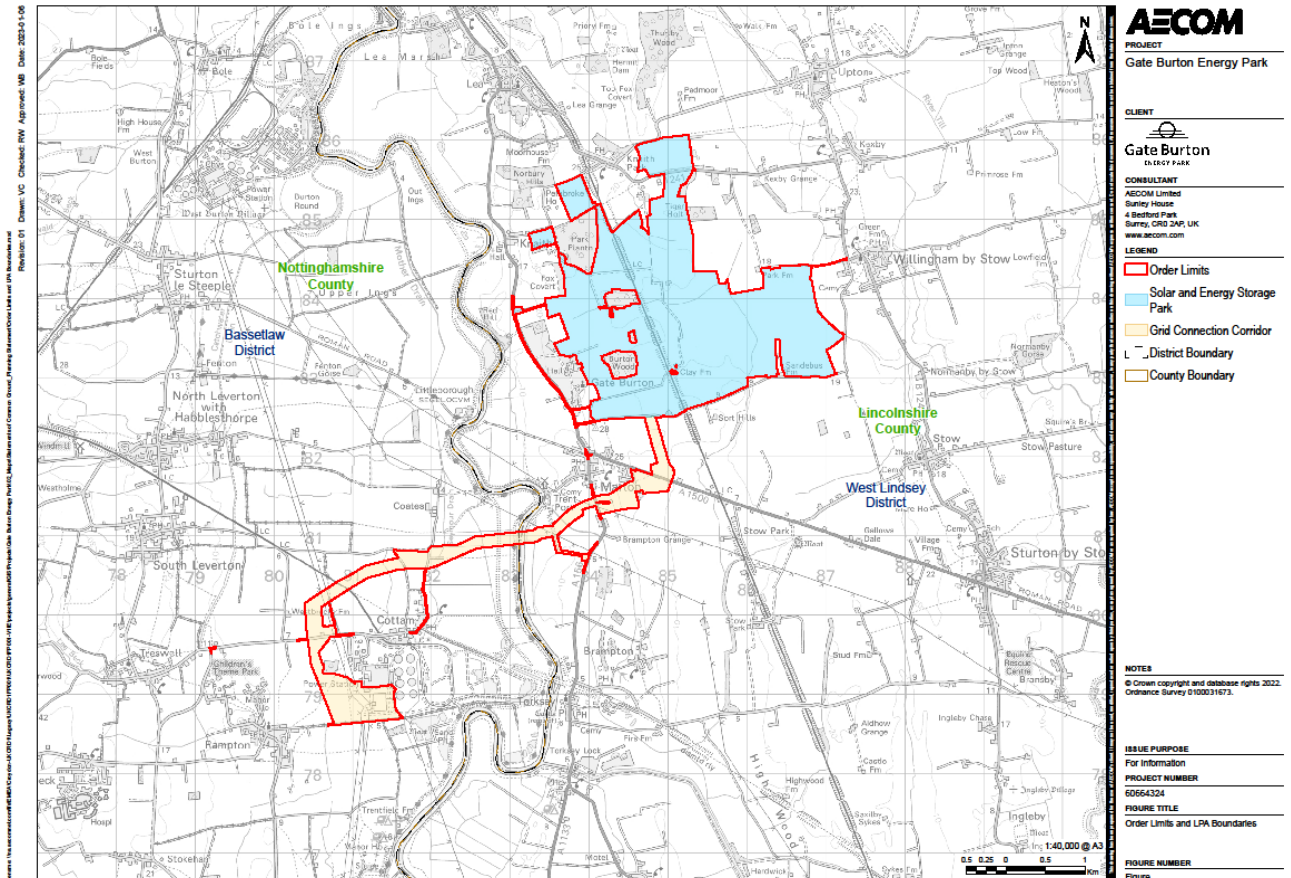


Figure 1 - The Order Limits and Local Authority Boundaries

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