

Sent by email to  
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Your Ref: EN010131

Date: 21 December 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

**SUBJECT: GATE BURTON ENERGY PARK**  
**Request for further information. Rule 17 Request**

Lincolnshire County Council is responding to the request for comment from ourselves and from Nottinghamshire County Council on the capacity of waste facilities now and in the future to handle the required waste arising from the Proposed Development and in combination with the other NSIP's schemes in the area. This relates to the further information request under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

In addition to answering the question specifically addressed to the Council regarding capacity of waste facilities, some comments are made on points addressed to the applicant.

**Capacity of waste facilities**

In the absence of any forecast from the applicant of the quantity of waste arisings, this is difficult to answer fully. It is hoped that such data will be included in a revised 'W1' assessment (see 'assessment methodology' comments below). Also, assessing the impacts 'in combination with the other NSIP's schemes in the area' is almost impossible given the number of projects currently in the pipeline and that many are not yet at the stage of presenting a forecast of their waste arisings.

In assessing any arisings figures provided by the applicant, please refer to the capacity forecasts in the Waste Needs Assessment which supports the preparation of the review of the Councils Minerals and Waste Local Plan - see [Waste needs assessment – Lincolnshire County Council](#). In particular, please note (see WNA Report 4, Hazardous Waste) that:

- (paragraph 6.2) 'The combined notional capacity of the principal sites receiving hazardous waste in Lincolnshire is around 67,000 tpa, indicating a theoretical

‘surplus’ of waste management capacity for the management of Lincolnshire's hazardous waste during the whole of the forecast period assuming all sites identified continue to offer capacity for the duration’.

- (Table 9) WEEE treatment capacity is forecasted as being over 42,000 tpa.
- (Table 7) WEEE arisings are forecasted to be around 6,000 tpa.

It should be noted, however, that:

- These forecasts only go up to 2045 whereas the lifetime of the project of ‘at least 60 years’ (Framework Decommissioning EMP, REP5-025, paragraph 2.1.1) places decommissioning well beyond that date.
- There is currently no capacity, and none proposed that we are aware of, in the LCC area for specialist recycling of solar panels. See also comments below on ‘solar panel recycling’.

### **Solar panel recycling**

The Council agrees with the Examination Authority concerns about the applicant’s assumption that specialist solar panel recycling capacity will appear during the lifetime of the project. This is a particular issue given the number of large-scale solar farms currently in the NSIP pipeline.

Thus, it is essential that the developer assesses the impact of the worst-case scenario of what they will do if such facilities are not available in time for the decommissioning of this project.

### **Assessment methodology**

It does seem a reasonable point that the applicant should, as other projects have, use the ‘more robust’ W1 method of assessing effects from waste.

### **Summary**

Without any forecast of the expected waste arisings from the proposal, the Council is unable to comment how the proposal, and the other NSIP schemes collectively, would impact on capacity requirements in the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire areas. The Council would welcome the applicant in their updated waste assessment to identify potential tonnages of waste expected. When assessing any arising figures, these should then be considered against the capacity forecasts in the Council’s Waste Needs Assessment. This would lead to a potential understanding of future waste arisings and capacity requirements, which the Council could consider in any future Waste Plans.

I trust this is helpful.

Yours faithfully



**Neil McBride**  
**Head of Planning**

