

## Hannigan, Georgiana

---

**From:** Close, Sandra [REDACTED]@naturalengland.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 10 May 2024 16:40  
**To:** Gate Burton Solar Project  
**Subject:** EN010131-Gate Burton Energy Park  
**Attachments:** Gate Burton Solar request from PINS on SoS letter -NE Response - 10 May 2024.pdf  
**Categories:** EO, SoS Consultation Response

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]@naturalengland.org.uk. [REDACTED]

**Your ref: EN010131**

**Our ref: 474505**

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached the response from Natural England on your query regarding a letter from the Secretary of State published on the National Infrastructure Planning website regarding the above.

Kind regards

**Sandra Close**  
**Planning and Environment Lead Adviser**  
**Natural England**  
**East Midlands**

**Email:** [REDACTED]@naturalengland.org.uk

**Tel:** [REDACTED]



This message has been sent using TLS 1.2

This email and any attachments is intended for the named recipient only. If you have received it in error you have no authority to use, disclose, store or copy any of its contents and you should destroy it and inform the sender. Whilst this email and associated attachments will have been checked for known viruses whilst within the Natural England systems, we can accept no responsibility once it has left our systems. Communications on Natural England systems may be monitored and/or recorded to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes.

Date: 10 May 2024  
Our ref: 474505  
Your ref: EN010131



Gate Burton Solar Case Team  
The Planning Inspectorate  
Email: [GateBurtonSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:GateBurtonSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Hornbeam House  
Crewe Business Park  
Electra Way  
Crewe  
Cheshire  
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Sir/Madam

**NSIP Reference:** EN010131 – Gate Burton Energy Park

**Consultation:** EN010131 - 001709 - Gate Burton SoS Consultation letter 29 April 2024

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Please find Natural England's response, at Annex A below, to your request to advise on a letter from the Secretary of State which has been published on the National Infrastructure Planning website.

For any further advice on this consultation please contact the case officer Sandra Close and copy to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours faithfully

**SANDRA CLOSE**

Planning & Environment Lead Adviser

## Annex A - Request for Information

Question Reference	Question	Natural England response
EMF 9	<p>Natural England is invited to comment on whether it is satisfied with the methodology and conclusions of the 'Risk Assessment of EMF Impacts on Fish', under Appendix A of the Applicant's Responses to ExA's Third Written Questions [REP5-047].</p>	<p>Natural England accept the conclusion of the Risk Assessment of EMF Impacts on Fish and consider a significant impact on the features of the Humber Estuary SAC to be unlikely.</p> <p>Nonetheless, while accepting the Risk Assessment is based on current best available evidence, the Environment Agency has stated, and Natural England concur, that there is limited research on the risk posed to the fish population, which includes River Lamprey and Sea Lamprey, qualifying features of the Humber Estuary Special Area of Conservation. Natural England therefore advises there is a need to collect further data by adopting a programme of monitoring, to demonstrate best practise and inform the design and assessment of future development.</p> <p>It is noted that Cottam Solar Project have committed to producing a monitoring strategy for the effect of EMF from the cable crossing associated with Cottam, West Burton and Tillbridge Solar projects, which includes consideration of the effect of the projects cumulatively. A similar approach would be welcomed for this project; Natural England acknowledge that a collaborative monitoring strategy between the four projects (and any subsequent projects in the area) may be suitable to inform this current knowledge gap.</p>