

West Burton Solar Project

Consultation Report Appendix 5.13: Section 42 Applicant Response

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Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Lincolnshire County Council	Agricultural Land	All arable land of whatever agricultural classification produces food, whether for animal feed or human consumption and this should be protected for its own sake. Within the project boundary there is land that is classed as the best and most versatile. The use of such land by this project would result in it being taken out of agricultural production for at least 40 years. Therefore, the use of the best and most versatile agricultural land by this project should be kept to an absolute minimum to reduce impact on UK food security.	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes this comment and appreciates the importance of agricultural land.</p> <p>The Applicant has undertaken detailed agricultural land classification (ALC) assessment of the Sites, as presented in Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19].</p> <p>The ALC results have informed the removal of some fields containing best and most versatile land from the Scheme.</p> <p>The Scheme will be decommissioned with no permanent loss of agricultural land extent or quality.</p>

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				<p>Some agricultural land may be retained during the operational phase, for example pasture grazed by sheep.</p> <p>Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] concludes that the 40 year lifetime of the project will facilitate a recovery in topsoil organic matter. This will enhance the functional capacity of the soil resource for future arable production.</p> <p>Paragraphs 19.5.2- 19.5.3 state (in respect of food security):</p> <p><i>"It should be noted that the above Lincolnshire County Council consultation response is incorrect when it states that "... all arable land of whatever agricultural classification produces food, whether for animal feed or human consumption..." Arable land can be and is used for growing energy</i></p>

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				<p><i>crops. Examples include fuel crops such as biodiesel and miscanthus grass, and energy substrate crops such as maize for anaerobic digestion, or grain for ethanol manufacture. There are no food security or planning policy constraints on growing these energy crops on arable land, just as there are no food security policy constraints on the use of agricultural land for solar PV. Studies have shown solar PV also produces more kWh per hectare than other renewable energy crops. This is also achieved with land remaining in agricultural production, fattening lambs, and without the environmental and land degradation hazards of the most popular energy crop, maize.</i></p> <p><i>Arable land is also used to produce non-food crops for markets including industrial oils, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and Christmas trees. Food security is not a material planning consideration. The relevant assessment for policy purposes is the ALC grade of the</i></p>

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				<i>agricultural land, not its current use or the intensity of that use."</i>
Lincolnshire County Council	General	This [cumulative impacts] is an important issue given the number of other NSIP projects currently programmed across Lincolnshire which includes six other solar energy parks, and the need for a full assessment of environmental and social-economic impacts of the cumulative effects of the West Burton Scheme in conjunction with these other projects. This must include all the other NSIPs in the West Lindsey District including the most recent Tillbridge Solar proposal that has not been taken into consideration in the preparation of the PEIR documents.	Yes	<p>Cumulative impacts of the Scheme have been addressed as a whole within the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.1 – WB6.2.21].</p> <p>Each topic chapter considers the impacts of Scheme; and the impact of the Scheme in conjunction with other large scale solar proposals and other committed developments within the County.</p> <p>Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18] addresses socio economic impacts including the impact on jobs and employment.</p>

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Lincolnshire County Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	In terms of skills LCC is seeking for Island Green Power to foster a local skills base in respect of renewable energy projects in this area which potential will host a number of energy related infrastructure projects in this local area and numerous energy related infrastructure projects across the County. Therefore, financial measures in respect of relevant skills training within the local area should be agreed. There must also be adequate assessment of the likely origins of the labour force (both local and non-local) especially in the context of other energy projects in the area with potentially overlapping construction periods.	Yes	<p>The Applicant is willing to support opportunities to develop the local skill base through practicable means during the construction and operation phase of development. Opportunities to support skill training in locally-based companies, and construction-based apprenticeships or educational opportunities have been explored in the Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.10] which is secured by a requirement under the draft DCO.</p> <p>Opportunities to support skill training in locally-based companies, and construction-based apprenticeships or educational opportunities have been explored in the Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.10].</p>
Lincolnshire	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and	Consideration needs to be given to community benefits and to consider	Yes	Direct community benefits are to be provided at West Burton 2, with the introduction of a

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County Council	Tourism and Recreation	legacy opportunities arising from the project.		<p>permissive path along the Codder Lane Belt. This is secured under Work No. 11 respectively in Schedule 1 of the Draft DCO [EN010132/APP/WB3.1].</p> <p>Opportunities to support skill training in locally-based companies, and construction-based apprenticeships or educational opportunities throughout the lifetime of the development have been explored in the Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.10] which is secured by a requirement under the draft DCO.</p> <p>In addition to on-site connectivity and biodiversity benefits, the Applicant continues to engage with Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Community Foundations to explore how best to provide funding for meaningful opportunities to local communities.</p>

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				<p>The Planning Statement [EN010132/APP/WB7.5] states at paragraph 4.8.1:</p> <p><i>"The Applicant has also committed to providing a Community Benefit Fund (CBF). The CBF does not form part of the DCO Application and this funding is not required to mitigate the impacts of the Scheme. Therefore, the SoS cannot, and must not, apply any positive weight to the CBF when balancing the positives and negatives of the Scheme. The CBF is therefore not taken into account in consideration of the planning balance within this Planning Statement. It will, however be available to fund local community projects."</i></p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	With respect to the West Burton PEIR report, are pleased by the progress which has been made and by our mutual engagement with finding a	Yes	Archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken that was considered sufficient to understand the archaeological potential of features identified through non-intrusive

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		<p>reasonable approach to undertaking sufficient archaeological field evaluation, however this position has not been reflected throughout the document. As it stands our response to this PEIR must reflect our concern particularly with the proposed mitigation approach which is ill advised and unworkable.</p>		<p>survey techniques (i.e. desk-based research, LiDAR survey data, aerial photographs, geophysical survey etc.), as well as the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As agreed with Lincolnshire Historic Environment Team, this equated to 2% (+2% contingency as required) of areas where possible concentrations of archaeological deposits had been identified.</p> <p>No agreement was made for regarding areas that are considered to have a negligible/low potential i.e. where baseline information had not identified any possible buried archaeological deposits. To test the results of the geophysical survey, several 'blank' areas adjacent to concentration of archaeology were also assessed at a 2% sample.</p> <p>Baseline information has successfully established the absence/presence/extent/form/preservation</p>

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				<p>of concentrations of buried archaeological remains within the Scheme, and has been used to identify areas where mitigation will be required (the majority of which were agreed on site with the Lincolnshire County Archaeologists).</p> <p>The mitigation strategy is detailed in a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation provided in ES Appendix 13.7, and is in line with national guidance and consistent with other solar-based developments of a similar nature.</p> <p>No agreement was made regarding areas that are considered to have a negligible/low potential i.e. where baseline information had not identified any possible buried archaeological deposits. To test the results of the geophysical survey, several 'blank' areas adjacent to concentration of archaeology were also assessed at a 2% sample.</p>

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				<p>The Applicant notes that baseline information has successfully established the absence / presence / extent / form / preservation of concentrations of buried archaeological remains within the Scheme, and has been used to identify areas where mitigation will be required (the majority of which were agreed on site with the Lincolnshire County Archaeologists).</p> <p>The mitigation strategy is detailed in a written Scheme of Investigation provided in Environmental Statement Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7], and is in line with national guidance and consistent with other solar-based developments of a similar nature.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Regarding the report itself, it would be helpful to have allocated reference numbers throughout the document including the tables to	Yes	The individual Site, Parcels and Fields that comprise the Scheme have all been given 'unique identifier' (UID) references. UIDs have also been provided for non-designated

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		allow for easier reference.		<p>archaeological remains in Table 13.10 - 13.16 of the Environmental Statement, and for non-designated historic buildings in Tables 13.24 - 13.27 of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].</p> <p>A UID has also been given to each individual area of proposed mitigation - see Section 6 of the Archaeological Mitigation WSI [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] and Table 13.8-2 in Appendix 13.8 of the ES [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.8].</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	In Table 31.1 Consultation Responses, the last Where Consultation Comment is Addressed on page 390 currently says 'Discussion with LCC regarding trial trenching are ongoing'. Have now agreed to a trial trenching percentage of 2% with a 2% contingency, with trench plans for	N/A	<p>A broad range of evaluation techniques were used to collect high-quality baseline information, and have successfully identified the presence/absence/extent/form/significance of potential concentration of archaeological features.</p> <p>Evaluation trenching for specific areas of the</p>

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		<p>individual parcels currently being discussed and agreed, ongoing. Our first Lincolnshire County Council (Historic Environment Officer) 25 February 2022 Consultee Response on page 391 states that a full suite of evaluation including competently assessed desk-based information, geophysical survey and a robust programme of trial trenching are required to provide evidence for the site-specific archaeological potential of the development. This has not been completed.</p>		<p>Scheme, where concentrations of archaeological features were identified by non-intrusive survey, was agreed with the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Team, equating to 2% (+2% contingency as required) of individual Fields. No agreement was made on 2% evaluation trenching of the whole Scheme. Evaluation trenching was undertaken to 'ground truth' the results of the non-intrusive surveys, and included 'blank' areas in which non-intrusive surveys had not identified any evidence for archaeological remains. There was shown to be a high correlation between the archaeological remains identified by non-intrusive surveys and those identified through evaluation trenching. Non-intrusive surveys were accurate in identifying both areas where archaeological sites were present, as well as 'blank' areas that were devoid of archaeological deposits. Where features were encountered in 'blank' areas that had not been recorded by non-intrusive</p>

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				<p>surveys, they were primarily found to be of a low archaeological interest (i.e. likely caused by post-medieval agricultural activity).</p> <p>The extensive scope of non-intrusive survey work and the correlation between the results of non-intrusive surveys and the evaluation trenching, are considered sufficient to be able to establish that the archaeological potential for 'blank' areas is negligible/low.</p> <p>Consequently a large-scale programme of untargeted evaluation trenching across 'blank' areas was considered unnecessary and unreasonable, given the evidence produced by non-intrusive surveys which was supported by targeted evaluation trenching.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	On page 292 in response to the Bassetlaw District Council (Historic Environment Officer) 1 March 2022, Where Consultation Comment is Addressed includes the statement	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included by the Applicant in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental

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		that 'Further information will be provided within and alongside the ES', the results of all evaluation and the completed desk-based assessments will need to inform an appropriate mitigation strategy as part of the ES which will be submitted with the DCO application.		Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	<p>Overall, however our greatest concern for Table 31.1: Consultation Responses is that there are a number of consultation comments for which the Where Consultation Comment is Addressed column simply refers us to Appendices 13.1, 13.2 and 13.4 despite the information not being included in those appendices.</p> <p>As a single example the Historic England scoping response includes</p>	Yes	<p>Consultation for the Scheme is detailed in table 13.1 of Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].</p> <p>The results of various assessments are detailed in appendices: Desk-Based Research (13.1) Geophysical Surveys (13.2), Geoarchaeological Surveys (13.3), Air Photo and LiDAR Assessment (13.4), Heritage Statement (13.5), Evaluation Trial Trenching (13.6), Mitigation Strategy (13.7), Impact Assessment tables (13.8) and Cultural Heritage</p>

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		<p>this statement: 'Noted the iterative approach to investigations set out in the report and will look forward to early sight of the results of cartographic, geophysical survey, lidar and aerial photographic analysis...'(page 388).</p> <p>The corresponding Where Consultation Comment is Addressed column says 'See Appendices 13.1, 13.2 and 13.4 for DBAs, Geophysical Survey reports and Geoarchaeological Assessment'. Apart from the geophysics, this analysis as required by HE has not yet been undertaken, rather the desk-based assessments are in a basic preliminary draft form consisting primarily of collation of information.</p>		<p>figures (13.9) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.1 – WB6.3.13.9].</p>

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Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Section 13.4.2 states that 'In addition, further assessment will be undertaken for those areas within the cable route options that extend beyond the study areas for the DBAs...Geophysical surveys are currently being undertaken within these areas, NMP, LiDAR and HER data will also be assessed in order to inform route options.' The full suite of evaluation is required for the full extent of the proposed development area including complete desk-based assessments with the required sources as quoted at the bottom of page 391. A programme of trial trenching along the cable routes is also required to ascertain the presence or absence of archaeology, to provide evidence to inform the route selection and to determine what mitigation will be required	Yes	<p>Full and detailed desk-based assessments have been completed and have been used to inform Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] and the production of a detailed mitigation strategy (WSI; Appendix 13.7) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7].</p> <p>These include assessment of the full range of cartographic sources, and all available archaeological records, including PAS, HLC, NHRE, NHLE, NMP and HER data, as well as the results of specifically commissioned LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis (ES appendices 13.1 and 13.4). These sources were all used in determining the location of trenches as part of the programme of archaeological evaluation trenching.</p> <p>Non-intrusive surveys have been undertaken along the cable corridor and have successfully identified the presence / absence of</p>

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		along the route.		archaeological remains. In line with national guidance and other Schemes of a similar nature, as well as with consideration to the high impact caused by the cable route, a programme of archaeological monitoring, including a watching brief and 'strip, map and sample' excavation where archaeological deposits are present, is considered appropriate 'additional' mitigation (WSI; Appendix 13.7) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] .
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Section 13.4.6 - assessments of significance should be undertaken for all designated assets to ensure any assets subject to proposed descopeing has an evidence base demonstrating the lack of direct or indirect impact upon the designated asset and its significance before it can be descoped.	No	<p>The assessment of significance for designated assets has been undertaken in accordance with the guidance enshrined in Historic England's Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets.</p> <p>This guidance recommends a staged approach whereby the assessment of the significance of heritage assets is undertaken following an initial assessment which identifies which</p>

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				heritage assets could be affected. It would not be proportionate to also assess the significance of heritage assets that would not be affected by the Scheme.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	<p>Section 13.4.7 - the proposed clustering of Grade II listed buildings is acceptable where they are, for example part of the same settlement or estate. Given the proposal in 13.4.8 to reduce the assessment area of listed buildings from 5km to 2km do not agree that individual listed buildings which do not exist in clusters should be assessed in clusters as the potential impact and any proposed mitigation may be specific to that building.</p> <p>Regarding section 13.4.9 the sources of information used to inform this PEIR include 'The draft DBAs that</p>	Yes	<p>The assessment of Grade II Listed Buildings within the 2km study areas has been undertaken in accordance with this comment (Environmental Statement Appendix 13.5) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.5].</p> <p>DBAs have been produced covering the whole Scheme, including the cable routes, comprising assessment of the full range of cartographic sources, and all available archaeological records, including PAS, HLC, NHRE, NHLE, NMP and HER data, as well as the results of specifically commissioned LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis, and geophysical surveys.</p>

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		have been produced for each of the West Burton 1-4 Sites.' DBAs will also need to include the cable routes and the substation.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Only the Historic England National Heritage list has been listed separately on the sources for this PEIR therefore all other required information should have been included in the draft DBAs. As seen in 13.6.2 this has not yet been done.	Yes	DBAs have been produced covering the whole Scheme, including the cable routes, comprising assessment of the full range of cartographic sources, and all available archaeological records, including PAS, HLC, NHRE, NHLE, NMP and HER data, as well as the results of specifically commissioned LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis, and geophysical surveys.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Section 13.6.1 states that 'Further research and evaluation at the West Burton 1, 2, 3 and 4 and substation Sites will provide a greater understanding of the baseline conditions and inform future	Yes	DBAs have been produced covering the whole Scheme, including the cable route, comprising assessment of the full range of cartographic sources, and all available archaeological records, including PAS, HLC, NHRE, NHLE, NMP and HER data, as well as the results of

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		<p>mitigation strategies in consultation with Historic England and the local authority's archaeological advisors. Agree that all of this information and assessment is required and disappointed that it has not been completed in timely fashion. Full desk-based information is required to inform trenching plans, any plans which are agreed before full DBAs are produced will need reassessment as this information may reveal new evidence. Please be advised this would result in unnecessary duplication of work and have potential knock-on effects for scheduling, budget and the production of an appropriate mitigation strategy which needs the full suite of evaluation results including trenching in order to be</p>		<p>specifically commissioned LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis, and geoarchaeological assessment.</p> <p>The location and position of evaluation trenches were informed by the results of the DBA, together with the geophysical survey results, and trench plans were revised, and areas of trenching added, as updated information became available.</p> <p>Based on the results of geophysical, air photo and LiDAR surveys, and supported by the results of the extensive programmes of targeted archaeological evaluation trenching, it was not considered that trenching was required across areas of the Scheme in which there is no evidence for archaeological activity.</p> <p>Non-intrusive assessment, backed up by the results of archaeological features and 'blank' areas ground-truthed through targeted</p>

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		reasonable and fit for purpose.		<p>trenching, is considered sufficient to inform the assessment of impact provided in the Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] and to allow for the determination of the issuing of a DCO.</p> <p>The results of the geophysical, air photo and LiDAR surveys and assessments, and targeted trenching, combined with the assessment of the differing potential impacts of the Scheme across its area, have been used to formulate a strategy of Post-Decision archaeological mitigation detailed in a Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7].</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Section 13.6.2 states that 'The draft DBAs for the three Sites will be completed, to include evidence from historic map regression, LiDAR analysis and aerial photo mapping. This evidence, alongside the	Yes	Full and detailed desk-based assessments have been completed and have been used to inform Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] and the production of a detailed mitigation strategy (WSI;

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		<p>geophysical survey and geoarchaeological assessment results, will inform a Scheme of further evaluation including targeted evaluation trenching.'. Fully analysed and assessed DBAs are required for West Burton 1, 2, 3, 4, the substation and the cable routes. There is no reference to the use of Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) data which is included in the list of required sources quoted at the bottom of p 391 which should also inform the trenching programme.</p>		<p>Appendix 13.7) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7].</p> <p>These include assessment of the full range of cartographic sources, and all available archaeological records, including PAS, HLC, NHRE, NHLE, NMP and HER data, as well as the results of specifically commissioned LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis (Environmental Statement Appendices 13.1 and 13.4). These sources were all used in determining the location of trenches as part of the programme of archaeological evaluation trenching.</p> <p>Non-intrusive surveys have been undertaken along the cable corridor and have successfully identified the presence / absence of archaeological remains. In line with national guidance and other Schemes of a similar nature, as well as with consideration to the high impact caused by the cable route, a programme of archaeological monitoring,</p>

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				including a watching brief and 'strip, map and sample' excavation where archaeological deposits are present, is considered appropriate mitigation.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Section 13.6.5 states that geophysical survey will be undertaken along the cable routes with appropriate desk-based research and bolstered by targeted trenching. Full evaluation including comprehensive desk-based assessment and trenching of the 'blank' areas will be required to obtain baseline evidence across the full impact zone including the cable routes.	Yes	<p>Desk-based research (HER, NHLE, NHRE, HLC, PAS and cartographical information), along with non-intrusive surveys (Assessments of LiDAR, aerial photographs and geophysical survey) has been undertaken to create a comprehensive suite of baseline information.</p> <p>Archaeological evaluation trenching has been undertaken within assessable areas of the 'Shared Cable Corridor'. Trial trench evaluation was considered appropriate within the 'Shared Cable Corridor' given the form / extent of archaeological features identified by baseline information and the higher level of impact that will potentially occur due to it being used by up to three or more cable routes belonging to the West Burton and</p>

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				<p>other proposed solar Schemes.</p> <p>No evaluation trenching was considered necessary for the remainder of the West Burton Cable Route where a single cable is proposed, and baseline information has suggested a minimal potential for archaeological features to be present as alternative mitigation was considered appropriate to safeguard against any potential loss of archaeological deposits present.</p> <p>Archaeological evaluation trenching has been undertaken by the Applicant within the 'Shared Cable Corridor', which has the potential to comprise three or more cable routes from the Scheme and other proposed solar Schemes, and so may have greater impact than for the majority of the Scheme cable route where just as single cable will be laid. Furthermore, a high vast concentration of archaeological features was identified by</p>

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				<p>baseline information within the shared cable route compared to the single cable route, where minimal potential archaeological features have been identified by non-intrusive surveys and assessment.</p> <p>Non-intrusive surveys have been undertaken by the Applicant along the cable corridor and have successfully identified the presence / absence of archaeological remains. In line with national guidance and other Schemes of a similar nature, as well as with consideration to the high impact caused by the cable route, a programme of archaeological monitoring, including a watching brief and 'strip, map and sample' excavation where archaeological deposits are present, is considered appropriate mitigation.</p>
Lincolnshire	Archaeology	Regarding the 'Future Baseline' discussed in sections 13.6.12 to 13.6.14, decommissioning must be	Yes	The Applicant has presented assessment of potential impacts to heritage assets during decommissioning in section 13.7 of the

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County Council		considered and do not agree that the impact will be minimal.		Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13], and mitigation proposals are presented in section 13.8 of the same chapter.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Section 13.7.1 and the proposals for dealing with 'on-site archaeological remains' by 'mitigation by design'. If what is meant by this in archaeological terms is 'preservation in situ' then it is not a case of simply not putting anchoring spikes or using concrete feet instead in these 'mitigation by design' areas. The full extent of the archaeological areas must be determined and each area must be fenced off and subject to a programme of monitoring throughout the construction and the decommissioning phases, and there will be no ground disturbance whatsoever which may disturb or	Yes	Mitigation by design using non-intrusive concrete ground anchors is a nationally recognised approach for safeguarding archaeological remains against the impacts caused by the installation of solar panels. Areas of high impact (i.e. the cable route) have been recommended for additional archaeological mitigation 'by record' either in the form of an archaeological watching brief or archaeological 'strip, map and sample'. It should also be noted that agricultural activity is causing a high level of destruction to buried archaeological features, as witnessed during the trial trench evaluation. Removing these sites from agricultural use, provides an opportunity to conserve archaeological

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		<p>affect the archaeological remains, including plant movement or storage. The proposal for the installation of concrete feet requires a full understanding of the depth, extent, importance and nature of the surviving archaeology across the site. Any proposal in archaeologically sensitive areas will require a firm evidence base proving that any proposed work including decommissioning will have no impact upon the archaeology including not only direct destructive impact through groundworks, compaction or reduction in the depth of soil necessary for protecting the archaeology but also through environmental changes which would be detrimental to the surviving archaeology.</p>		<p>remains in situ and prevent further damage being caused by current land use.</p> <p>Where the extensive assessment, survey and evaluation trenching programme has identified areas in which remains may be present that are particularly sensitive to impact (such as human burials), it has been recommended that archaeological excavation is used to 'mitigate by record'.</p> <p>The Applicant also notes that agricultural activity is causing a high level of destruction to buried archaeological features, as witnessed during the evaluation trenching. Removing these sites from agricultural use provides an opportunity to conserve archaeological deposits in situ and prevent further damage being caused by current land use during the lifetime of the Scheme.</p> <p>Details of the proposed mitigation for</p>

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				<p>potential direct impacts to archaeological remains caused by ground disturbance that may occur during the construction phase are provided by the Applicant in the WSI, presented as Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13], and in the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) [EN010132/APP/WB7.1].</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	A mitigation entirely "by design" may result in a significant number and amount of fenced off no-go areas within the redline boundary and cable routes. This would lead to significant ongoing constraints in the construction and decommissioning phases which would affect not only the number of solar panels but the development works themselves	N/A	Mitigation by design using non-intrusive concrete ground anchors is a nationally recognised approach for safeguarding archaeological remains against the impacts caused by the installation of solar panels. Where a high level of impact is likely to occur mitigation by record (i.e. archaeological monitoring) will be undertaken i.e. cable routes, substations and compound areas. No areas are recommended for 'fenced off no-go

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		<p>including plant activity, the placement of associated infrastructure such as compounds and access routes and in the construction management plan itself.</p>		<p>areas' as this is not considered to be a proportionate approach to mitigation.</p> <p>Where the extensive assessment, survey and evaluation trenching programme has identified areas in which remains may be present that are particularly sensitive to impact (such as human burials) it has been recommended that archaeological excavation is used to 'mitigate by record'. Where a high level of impact is likely to occur mitigation by record (i.e. archaeological monitoring) will be undertaken i.e. cable routes, substations and compound areas. Areas where there are multiple environmental constraints have been removed from the Scheme (i.e. including but not limited to archaeology, heritage, ecology, flood risk etc). No areas are recommended for 'fenced off no-go areas' as this is not considered to be a proportionate approach to mitigation.</p>

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Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	There are no references to the other standard archaeological mitigation response known as 'preservation by record' through archaeological investigation and recording (archaeological fieldwork) through a range of techniques from set piece excavation and archaeological strip map and record to archaeological monitoring.	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included by the Applicant in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. The WSI outlines the various mitigation options required to safeguard archaeological assets within the Scheme. The WSI details areas where 'preservation by record' will be required either in the form of 'strip, map and sample' or an archaeological watching brief.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Given the large scale of this development, a suitable mitigation programme which includes archaeological mitigation by archaeological fieldwork would be expected and expect this to be acknowledged and included in this document, certainly it must be included in the Environmental Statement as it is essential as part of	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		an effective, robust and reasonable mitigation strategy to deal with developmental impacts on archaeology.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	This document states that the full extent of the archaeological potential has not yet been established, the trenching programme is not complete and even the desk-based assessments have yet to be finished. Table 13.28 therefore with its proposed mitigation of either 'Targeted evaluation trenching and mitigation by design should this be warranted' or 'None' is entirely inappropriate and should be removed.	Yes	The Applicant notes that DBAs have been produced covering the whole Scheme, including the cable routes, comprising assessment of the full range of cartographic sources, and all available archaeological records, including PAS, HLC, NHRE, NHLE, NMP and HER data, as well as the results of specifically commissioned LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis and geophysical survey. A programme of evaluation trenching has been completed and confirmed the archaeological potential of features identified by non-intrusive surveys. The results of the evaluation assessments have been used to compile a detailed mitigation strategy (WSI), presented as Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the

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				Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. The WSI outlines where 'preservation by record' and 'preservation by design' are appropriate to safeguard archaeological assets within the Scheme. In low impact areas where baseline information, supported by the results of the evaluation trenching, has suggested a negligible/low potential for archaeological remains to be present, no further works are considered necessary/appropriate.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	The appropriate mitigation response cannot be determined without the results of the trenching.	Yes	A programme of evaluation trenching has been undertaken by the Applicant, with the assessment reports provided in Appendix 13.6 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.6] to the Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. The results of this assessment have been used to inform a detailed mitigation strategy (WSI; Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7]).

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	The list is not complete as the specific sites come from an early phase of the evaluation programme.	Yes	A full suite of archaeological assessment, survey and evaluation trenching has been undertaken by the Applicant. The results of which have been detailed in Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. Any former lists of sites have been updated with new information acquired from the various evaluation assessments.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	The two proposed mitigations are entirely insufficient (see above) archaeological fieldwork will also be required in the suite of mitigation.	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included by the Applicant in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13], that outlines where 'preservation by record' or 'preservation by design' is required to safeguard archaeological assets within the Scheme. The WSI has been informed by an extensive programme of desk-based research and field evaluations (including LiDAR survey data, aerial photographs, geophysical survey,

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				<p>and evaluation trenching), which have successfully established the form and extent of concentrations of buried archaeological remains within the Scheme, and have been used to identify areas where it is considered mitigation will be required (the majority of which were agreed on site with the Lincolnshire County Archaeologists).</p> <p>The mitigation approach detailed in appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13], is in line with national guidance and consistent with other solar-based developments of a similar nature.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	The phrase 'should it be warranted' is a dismissive tone for dealing with the archaeological impact with a proportionate and appropriate level	N/A	A full suite of archaeological assessment, survey and evaluation trenching has been undertaken by the Applicant and used to inform a WSI, presented as Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		of response		Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. The WSI identifies where archaeological mitigation is warranted and the form of mitigation that is appropriate to safeguard the loss of archaeological remains.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Given the size of the proposed development there will undoubtedly be much more archaeology across the sites which will require mitigation than is included in the table. The geophysics report alone has identified many more sites of interest, the trenching programme which has only just begun has started to reveal more, including burials.	Yes	<p>The archaeological evaluation targeted concentrations of features identified through non-intrusive surveys, as well as 'blank' areas, where baseline information suggested a negligible/low potential for archaeological features to be present. The results of which demonstrated the validity of non-intrusive surveys for identifying the absence / presence / extent of concentrations of archaeological features.</p> <p>Where features were encountered in 'blank' areas that had not been recorded by non-intrusive surveys, they were primarily found to be of a low archaeological interest (i.e. likely</p>

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				<p>caused by post-medieval agricultural activity). No additional sites considered to have a local/regional archaeological interest were identified exclusively from the trial trench evaluation.</p> <p>Where features were encountered in 'blank' areas that had not been recorded by non-intrusive surveys, they were primarily found to be of a low archaeological interest (i.e. likely caused by post-medieval agricultural activity). No additional sites considered to have a local/regional archaeological interest were identified exclusively from the trial trench evaluation.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	This table suggests that there will be absolutely no archaeological mitigation by fieldwork and indeed that there will be no further archaeological work after the trenching is complete. This is a	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included by the Applicant in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. The WSI outlines where 'preservation by record' or

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		fundamentally flawed approach which does not allow for a reasonable, proportionate or appropriate level of archaeological mitigation as discussed above.		'preservation by design' is required to safeguard archaeological assets within the Scheme. The WSI details areas where 'preservation by record' will be required either in the form of 'strip, map and sample' or an archaeological watching brief.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	Table 13.28 also lists surviving earthworks with completely inappropriate and irresponsible archaeological mitigation, for example the 'Deserted Medieval Village (DMV) Earthworks' under WB2 on page 432. Despite listing the Potential Impact as 'Possible direct impacts to buried archaeological remains from piles to secure for solar panels, cables and other Site infrastructure' the Proposed Mitigation is 'Targeted evaluation trenching and mitigation by design should this be warranted.' This is	Yes	<p>Pasture fields containing earthwork remains associated with North and South Ingleby Deserted Medieval Villages (West Burton 2) have been removed from the Scheme.</p> <p>Most of the ridge and furrow earthworks identified within the Scheme have now been levelled, including many that have been previously identified from air photographs (Appendix 13.4, para. 3.6.6). The LiDAR data indicates that those that do survive as earthworks are very low and denuded, and, as such, would be difficult to identify an accurately survey in the field, and would be more accurately represented by the LiDAR</p>

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		completely unacceptable. As with all earthworks which will be impacted by this development, full archaeological topographical survey and recording will be required in advance of any groundworks whatsoever and they will need to be reinstated if they are damaged or destroyed in whole or in part during associated groundworks. Thought will also need to be given for the decommissioning methodology to ensure the earthworks are protected.		data. Provision is made in section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] for future surveys during decommissioning to identify whether it would be feasible to reinstate any earthworks that might be visible.
Lincolnshire County Council	Archaeology	As detailed above, of significant concern is the very limited approach presented for archaeological mitigation of this Scheme as expressed in this PEIR which entirely excludes archaeological fieldwork mitigation. The choice of either preservation in situ or no mitigation	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included by the Applicant in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. The WSI outlines the various mitigation options required to safeguard archaeological assets within the Scheme i.e. 'preservation by record'

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		<p>at all is wholly inadequate and comprehensively excludes the fundamental core of mitigation techniques including the full suite of archaeological mitigation fieldwork which includes set piece excavation, strip map and record and monitoring as well as earthwork recording. In development terms such an approach would exponentially increase the constraints across the development and have an extensive and lasting impact on the construction and decommissioning phases. In archaeological terms the choice of either preservation in situ or nothing as the only choice for the range and extent of archaeology which has and will come up across such a large development is fundamentally erroneous and</p>		<p>or 'preservation by design'. The WSI details areas where 'preservation by record' will be required either in the form of 'strip, map and sample' or an archaeological watching brief. Where there is no evidence to suggest the presence of archaeological features, there is not considered a requirement for archaeological mitigation.</p>

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		unworkable.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Minerals	LCC is the planning authority for minerals and waste planning matters within Lincolnshire as well as for its own development which includes schools and highway developments.	N/A	Noted.
Lincolnshire County Council	Minerals	The Development Plan for the area affected by the project in Lincolnshire includes the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (currently under review) and also the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan also under review.	N/A	The identification and safeguarding of mineral resources within Lincolnshire has been acknowledged and the impact for any safeguarded resource fully assessed. Assessment is presented in Chapter 12 (Minerals) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.12].
Lincolnshire County Council	Minerals	For the PV sites, only a very small part of just one of the sites affects safeguarded mineral resources, and due to the nature of the proposals are satisfied that sterilisation would	N/A	Noted.

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		be negligible. There are no existing/allocated mineral sites in proximity to any of the PV sites so no issues here.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Cable Route	Regarding the cable corridors, again the PEIR for the Scheme notes the on-going assessment work in relation to the cable route and the document recommends that cable routes follow existing infrastructure corridors or landscape features where safeguarded mineral resources are affected. As above, this approach is supported and encouraged as per previous discussions with the developer.	Yes	The Applicant has further refined the Scheme Order Limits for cable routes following statutory consultation and continued to adopt the approach of seeking wherever possible to follow existing infrastructure corridors such as roads, railways, drainage routes or existing pipelines or cables routes or running along the edge of significant landscape features such as woods or ecologically sensitive habitats.
Lincolnshire County Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and	That based on the socio economic section of the Socio -Economics, Agriculture, and Tourism and	N/A	Noted.

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	Recreation	Recreation Chapter of the PEIR from a Growth perspective what is considered and the methodology in this section of the PEIR appears reasonable. Further comments will be provided as the project continues and the Environmental Statement is completed.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Transport and Access	Chapter 14 Transport and Access - the assessment included in this chapter is acceptable, it is based on reasonable assumptions of trip rates, construction duration and route assignment. The results show that the predicted construction traffic would not cause capacity problems on the local highway network. A Construction Management Traffic Plan (CTMP) is proposed to provide further details. These details will need to include access	N/A	Noted.

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		arrangements, delivery timings and routing controls, swept paths, parking, storage and plant areas and a Travel Plan for construction staff.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Chapter 10 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage - this PEIR chapter includes scoping comments from LCC on page 10, and these remain relevant and will need to be addressed in the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy to be undertaken for this project.	Yes	The Applicant notes that a Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1 – WB6.3.10.5] has been produced for each of the solar Sites which demonstrate that flood risk will not be exacerbated as a result of their installation and is likely to provide betterment over the existing surface water regime due to the reintroduction of natural land cover beneath the panels. Where additional infrastructure is proposed (e.g. battery sites), additional Drainage Strategies have been produced which indicate how SuDS will be provided on-Site to attenuate any increased runoff to greenfield rates.

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Lincolnshire County Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Hydrology and flood risk is covered in some detail in the supporting documents, acknowledging all sources of flood risk which is encouraging and siting relevant legislation. Note that 'a hydrological assessment has been undertaken to establish local drainage catchments and overland flow routes'.....and 'The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy to be submitted with the DCO application will include a review and summary of relevant legislation and national, regional and local planning policy relevant to the water environment'. The FRA will be a key document to be reviewed on submission of the DCO and Environmental Statement so await any detailed comment until then.	Yes	The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1] has been completed in line with local, National Planning Policies and appropriate guidance and best practice.

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Lincolnshire County Council	General	The review takes into account previous AAH comments, meetings/workshops held with Lanpro and detailed comments on methodology, study area, and landscape receptors issued to Lanpro 05th May 2022 via email. Subsequently, Lanpro have issued a "way forward" for several key documents via email on 11th July 2022. This includes several attachments which have comments and amendments (to those contained within the PEIR) which have also been considered in this review.	N/A	Noted.
Lincolnshire County Council	General	The comments provided are intended to assist in guiding the next (final) stage of the process development, refinement of the content of the LVIA chapter and the	N/A	Noted

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		overall development proposals. It is not a review of any of the preliminary findings or initial assessments.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	<p>The proposed development is subject to EIA, and a Scoping Report was issued by the developer: West Burton Solar Project, Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report, Prepared by Lanpro, January 2022 which contained a section on LVIA. Subsequently a Scoping Report Review was carried out by AAH on Landscape and Visual matters (February 2022) which was appended to the Scoping Opinion issued by PINS dated: 02nd March 2022.</p> <p>Overall the PEIR and subsequent scope of the LVIA is generally aligned with the scoping report and scoping opinion, as well as other AAH</p>	N/A	Noted.

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		<p>comments (AAH TM01 and AAH TM02), meetings/workshops held with Lanpro and AAH detailed comments on methodology, study area, and landscape receptors issued to Lanpro 05th May 2022 via email. The information provided to date by Lanpro, including at meetings and workshops, has been thorough and well presented.</p>		
<p>Lincolnshire County Council</p>	<p>Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>As outlined within Chapter 4 of the PEIR, the development proposals are still being developed and finalised. This includes the type of panel and location of taller/larger elements such as substations and battery storage. Expect these elements to be fixed for the final ES and extents/parameters of the development be clearly set out, such as heights and locations that have</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The effects associated with the panels and associated infrastructure such as fencing and cameras, and substation and battery storage are presented in Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p> <p>The extents/parameters of the Scheme are set out Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the</p>

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		<p>been used in the assessment, which if there are still some outstanding design and layout elements to be finalised would be based on a “worst case” scenario to ensure any effects are not underplayed.</p>		<p>Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4], which includes dimensional data such as heights and locations that have been used in the assessment and have been assessed based on maximum parameters to ensure a robust (worst-case scenario) assessment has been undertaken.</p> <p>The Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) are presented on all figures also include theoretical visibility for both the panels and battery storage, and separately for the substation. This approach ensures a clearer presentation of the theoretical visibility of these elements to ensure a representative and proportionate approach to the assessment whilst assessing a worst-case scenario.</p>
Lincolnshire	Landscape and Visual	It is requested that further landscape and visual consultation is carried out	Yes	This consultation has been undertaken as a number of meetings and workshops as set out

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County Council	Impact	between AAH and District Authority landscape specialists and the developer team (Lanpro) following the conclusion of this statutory consultation phase. This would likely cover the PEIR comments as well as development proposals and mitigation Scheme, including the cable route corridor (particularly river crossing) and location of any larger structures or buildings such as the sub stations, extent of vegetation loss for highways works, and also subsequent knock-on effects such as any requirement for additional viewpoints or AVRs.		in Section 8.2 and Appendix 8.4 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.8.4] of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8]. The consultation has enabled a consensus on the approach to the assessment over aspects of the approach to the assessment and the methodologies to be adopted. At this stage no tree removal is proposed to be undertaken to facilitate the Scheme.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	As stated in previous correspondence (refer to paras. 2, 3 and 4 of AAH TM02) at this stage do not have details on the final location and appearance/extent of	Yes	As outlined within Chapter 4 of the PEIR, these elements were to be fixed for the final Environmental Statement. The Applicant notes that if there are still some outstanding design and layout elements to be finalised this would

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		<p>taller/larger elements that form part of the development. Table 4.1 within Chapter 4 of the PEIR usefully provides details of the design parameters used for the PEIR, and chapter 4.2.2 of Chapter 4 states: "The ES will employ a maximum design scenario approach reflecting the principle of the 'Rochdale Envelope'. This approach allows for a project to be assessed on the basis of maximum project design parameters i.e., the worst-case scenario...".</p>		<p>be based on a "worst case" scenario to ensure any effects are not underplayed.</p> <p>The Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2] employs a maximum design scenario approach reflecting the principle of the 'Rochdale Envelope'. This approach allows for a project to be assessed on the basis of maximum project design parameters for example, the worst-case scenario in order to provide flexibility and take advantage of technological improvements, assessing all potentially significant effects (positive or adverse) within the EIA process and reported in the Environmental Statement. Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8], clearly sets out the details of the design elements including extents and parameters, such as heights and locations that have been used in the</p>

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				assessment.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	While this will likely be a reasonable approach for the solar arrays, have concerns in regards to the larger and taller elements, such as sub stations (up to 13m in height), and more conspicuous elements such as energy storage and conversion units/inverters. The final location and layout of these elements will have likely greater visual effects in this flat, rural landscape than PV panels.	Yes	The Applicant notes that a worst-case scenario has been undertaken as part of the assessment which considers the effect of all elements on site. The ZTVs presented on all ZTV figures also include theoretical visibility for both the panels and battery storage, and separately for the substation. This approach ensures a clearer presentation of the theoretical visibility of these elements to ensure a representative and proportionate approach to the assessment whilst assessing a worst-case scenario.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Expect the location and extent (footprint) of these elements to be identified for the LVIA to allow for a better understanding of the potential landscape and visual effects, an updated ZTV based upon these	Yes	The parameters of the panels and associated infrastructure such as fencing and cameras, and substation and battery storage have been fixed for the Environmental Statement and extents/parameters of the Scheme are presented in Chapter 4 (Scheme Description)

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		parameters and an understanding of the likely requirement for additional viewpoint photographs to capture views of the taller/larger elements.		<p>[EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4].</p> <p>This includes dimensional data such as heights and locations that have been used in the assessment and have been assessed based on maximum parameters to ensure a robust (worst-case scenario) assessment has been undertaken. The ZTV's presented on all figures also include theoretical visibility for both the panels and battery storage, and separately for the substation. This approach ensures a clearer presentation of the theoretical visibility of these elements to ensure a representative and proportionate approach to the assessment whilst assessing a worst-case scenario.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Regarding Overhead/ground lines: Could it be clarified if any above ground lines and associated poles are proposed. It is clearly stated that as part of the cable connection	Yes	The Applicant notes that runs of overhead lines between components or to connect underground cables is not proposed. All cables will be underground, and no new overhead lines and associated poles will be

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		cables will be underground (paras. 4.3.15 and 4.3.19), however it is not clear if within the site any additional short runs of overhead lines will be installed between components or if these would also be connected by underground cables. Additional lines and poles would likely be visible in this landscape above boundary vegetation.		required. Assessment and evaluation of the impacts and effects of the cable routes is set out within Appendix 8.2 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.8.2] and Appendix 8.3 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.8.3] of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	The extents of any vegetation loss to facilitate construction access, or the permanent site access points is not identified. Also, any vegetation loss to facilitate any potential wider highways works is not identified. Encourage existing agricultural access points are be utilised for access, however it is likely even these may need widening or cut back for sight lines. Expect this all to be	Yes	Due to the nature of the Scheme, it is considered that existing vegetation on the Sites would be retained. At this stage no tree removal is proposed to be undertaken to facilitate the Scheme. Where this is not possible, the mitigation associated with any such tree or hedgerow loss associated with the Scheme is included in the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures forming part of the LVIA with details shown on Figures 8.16.1 to 8.16.10 and the report at

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		<p>clearly illustrated and included within any assessment as this has the potential to remove existing features (that make up the character area) and open up views into or across the site. Expect any proposed vegetation removal to be surveyed to BS:5837 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction to Construction so it is clear what the arboricultural value is known (to aid assessment) and subsequently is appropriately mitigated against.</p>		<p>Section 8.8 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8]. The Applicant and its LVIA consultants at Lanpro have worked closely with the ecology consultant throughout the application process to inform the LVIA and associated mitigation plans.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	<p>A refinement of the cable route corridor has been carried out from the scoping stage, and the PEIR at para. 5.5.2 identifies "the crossing of the River Trent, with a preferred location chosen to the southwest of Marton", which seeks to combine this crossing with Gate Burton and</p>	Yes	<p>In relation to the cable route crossing the Trent, the Applicant recognises that this has always been included in the Scheme. The refinement of the position since PEIR still sits within the identified cable corridor.</p>

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		<p>Cottam Solar developments. This crossing is indicative at this stage and subject to micro siting, and due to the context has likely landscape and visual effects, as well as potential ecological effects. It is requested AAH and LCC, as well as other relevant stakeholders, are involved and consulted further in regard to the crossing, and cable corridor, once further design and surveys have been carried out. Also, subject to the final design solution and location of the crossing and cable corridor, additional viewpoints, and potentially AVRs of the crossing, may need to be included within the LVIA to assess and illustrate any potential visual effects.</p>		
Lincolnshire	Landscape and Visual	While the scoping report in para. 7.5.1 states that visual study beyond	Yes	Additional views suggested by Lincolnshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
County Council	Impact	<p>5km has been scoped out, it was observed on site that there are potential long-distance views to Lincoln Cathedral and Lincoln Castle. Comments issued to AAH/LCC by Lanpro on 11th July 2022, confirm that: "LVIA Chapter (where inter visibility captures listed buildings and monuments), this would be considered as part of the visual baseline where appropriate. Additional views have been suggested by LCC and NCC that take account of locations where heritage assets may be affected".</p>		<p>Council that take account of locations where heritage assets may be affected are taken into account by the Applicant within the Section 8.2 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p> <p>Detailed overlap and consultation with the Heritage topic areas has also been undertaken when developing the landscape and visual baseline and in identifying landscape and visual effects for the LVIA Chapter. No other additional viewpoints have been assessed as being necessary as long distance views are not affected by the Scheme either to or from Lincoln Castle and Cathedral.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	<p>The PEIR identifies a range of landscape and visual receptors within the Study Area. The visual receptors and viewpoints were previously discussed and agreed with</p>	Yes	<p>The effects associated with the panels and associated infrastructure such as fencing and cameras, and substation and battery storage have been fixed for the final Environmental Statement and extents/parameters of the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		AAH, as were the locations of Photomontages. However as stated and noted in previous correspondence, at this stage do not have details on the location and appearance/extent of taller/larger elements that form part of the development which would likely have visual impacts that may require additional viewpoints beyond those initially identified.		Scheme are set out in Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4]. This includes dimensional data such as heights and locations that have been used in the assessment and have been assessed based on maximum parameters to ensure a robust (worst-case scenario) assessment has been undertaken. The ZTV's presented on all figures also include theoretical visibility for both the panels and battery storage, and separately for the substation. This approach ensures a clearer presentation of the theoretical visibility of these elements to ensure a representative and proportionate approach to the assessment whilst assessing a worst-case scenario.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Thirteen potential landscape receptors at varying scales are identified for consideration in the LVIA within section 8.7 (paras.	Yes	The LVIA includes an assessment of landscape effects at a range of scales, including a finer grain landscape assessment that includes the Sites, Cable Routes and Substations, their

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>8.7.103 to 8.7.113). The correct National, Regional and Local Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been referred to within the PEIR and cover a range of scales, and there is potential to scope out character areas that would not be affected by the development. Typically National Character Areas, and often LCA at a regional level, are at a large scale, large geographic area of land and typically provide context only, as opposed to being a receptor to be assessed. A finer-grained, site-level character assessment and identification of individual elements or features of the landscape have not been identified at this stage, which we would expect to be included within the LVIA. However comments issued to AAH/LCC by Lanpro on 11th July</p>		<p>immediate area and the wider landscape setting. This finer grained assessment considers individual contributors under the topics of land use, topography, communications and infrastructure, settlement, industry, commerce and leisure, public rights of way and access, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens and Ancient Woodlands and natural designations.</p> <p>The assessment and evaluation of the potential impacts and effects of these individual contributors is set out within Appendix 8.2 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.8.2] and Appendix 8.3 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.8.3] of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		2022, confirm that the LVIA Chapter will include "a finer grained assessment that includes the Site and immediate area, including individual landscape elements such as trees hedgerows, woodlands, ponds/water features, or historic landscape features."		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	<p>As requested by AAH/LCC, comments issued by Lanpro on 11th July 2022, confirm that the LVIA Chapter will include reference to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Historic landscape characterisation project: The Historic Character of The County of Lincolnshire (September 2011); and HLF funded Landscape Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Trent Vale Landscape Conservation 	Yes	The LVIA includes reference to these publications and guidance and takes them into account in the assessment process.

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		<p>Management Plan (June 2013).</p> <p>o Trent Vales Landscape Character Assessment:</p>		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	<p>The methodology notes in para 1.1.1 that the assessment methodology follows GLVIA3 and also follows guidance from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment (October 2014); • Landscape Institute (17th September 2019) Technical Guidance Note 06/19 Visual Representation of Development Proposals. • 'Outside national designations', May 2021 is also of relevance and 	N/A	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The LVIA references these publications including the 'Technical Guidance Note (TGN) 2/21 Assessing landscape value outside national designations', May 2021 and also 'Technical Information Note 01/21 GLVIA Webinar Q&As'. These documents are recognised as being relevant guidance and are taken account of in the assessment process within the LVIA, including the GLVIA Webinar.</p>

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		Technical Information Note 01/21 'GLVIA Webinar Q&As' also provides relevant information and should be referred to.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	To aid clarity, para. 1.2.1 may benefit from some minor restructuring – effects are determined through consideration of the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change. Sensitivity is judged through consideration of the value of the landscape or view, and the susceptibility of the receptor to change.	Yes	Noted. The LVIA Methodology at paragraph 1.2.1 is restructured as follows: "The significance of landscape and visual effects are determined through consideration of the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change. Sensitivity is judged through consideration of the value of the landscape or view, and the susceptibility of the receptor to change."
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Para. 1.3.8 now contains additional potential receptors as requested. Users of roads are listed to include walkers and horse riders, and we would expect country lanes to	Yes	The Applicant notes this has been included within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		include these as receptors, as well as cyclists (leisure and commuting).		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Should the title "Evaluating Visual Susceptibility to Change" added after para. 1.5.3 be "Evaluating Landscape Sensitivity"?	Yes	The LVIA Methodology wording after paragraph 1.5.3 is updated as follows: "Evaluating Landscape Sensitivity to Change".
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Under Landscape Value (paras. 1.5.6 to 1.5.8), it is potentially implied that only designated landscapes may have a medium or high value. This is not the case and GLVIA paragraph 5.19 states that "value can apply to areas of landscape as a whole, or to the individual elements, features and aesthetic or perceptual dimensions which contribute to the character of the landscape" and that "the value attached to undesignated landscapes also needs to be carefully considered	N/A	The LVIA references 'Technical Guidance Note (TGN) 2/21 Assessing landscape value outside national designations', May 2021 and also 'Technical Information Note 01/21 GLVIA Webinar Q&As'. These documents are recognised as being relevant guidance and are taken account of in the assessment process within the LVIA including the GLVIA Webinar. The LVIA Methodology at paragraph 1.5.7 has added clarity as follows: "GLVIA3 paragraph also recognises that

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>and individual elements of the landscape – such as trees, buildings or hedgerows – may also have value.". Para. 1.5.8 and Table 8.1.2 also need updating to consider new guidance and suggested factors used within: 'Technical Guidance Note (TGN) 2/21 Assessing landscape value outside national designations', May 2021. Table 8.1.1: Landscape Receptor Value should be updated as required following incorporating this more recent guidance.</p>		<p>relative value is attached to different landscapes, and at paragraph 5.19 states that "value can apply to areas of landscape as a whole, or to individual elements, features and aesthetic or perceptual dimensions which contribute to the character of the landscape." And that "the value attached to undesignated landscapes also needs to be carefully considered and individual elements of the landscape – such as trees, buildings or hedgerows – may also have value."</p>
<p>Lincolnshire County Council</p>	<p>Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>In regards to Landscape Sensitivity, criteria are provided in Table 8.1.4, however how value and susceptibility are combined (which would have already been defined within Tables 8.1.1 and 8.1.3), potentially as a matrix, to assess Sensitivity may be more useful and would remove</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The LVIA Methodology has been updated to provide the additional Table 8.1.5: Matrix for Determining Landscape Sensitivity.</p> <p>This is presented within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		reference to Landscape Capacity, which is likely not relevant in this context. While not a requirement, including a matrix, which would guide professional judgement, would assist in transparency and provide a consistent approach as to how the Sensitivity of a receptor has been arrived at rather than relying on the pre-determined criteria within Table 8.1.4.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	For consistency, query why Table 8.1.6 Magnitude of Landscape Change does not have separate description columns for Size, Scale and Nature; Geographical Extent; and Duration and Reversibility as Table 8.1.10 does.	Yes	<p>The LVIA Methodology is updated at Table 8.1.7 to show that Magnitude of Landscape Change has a separate description column for Size, Scale and Nature, Geographical Extent and Duration & Reversibility.</p> <p>This is presented within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	In regard to Visual Effects, paragraph 1.6.11 is titled: "Evaluating Visual Susceptibility to Change", however goes on to explain/introduce the general process of developing the visual baseline: it appears the title should be more aligned with an overview of assessing sensitivity, as para.1.6.14 is more focussed on susceptibility.	Yes	<p>The LVIA Methodology is updated at paragraph 1.5.4 with a title: Overview to Assessing Landscape Sensitivity'. The LVIA Methodology is updated at paragraph 1.6.11 with a title: 'Overview to Assessing Visual Sensitivity'.</p> <p>This is presented within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	In regard to Visual Sensitivity, criteria are provided in Table 8.1.9, however how value and susceptibility are combined (which have already been defined within Tables 8.1.7 and 8.1.8), potentially as a matrix, to assess Sensitivity would be more useful. The characteristics shown mix the value of the view, and the susceptibility of the receptor: Table 8.1.9 attributes value to the receptor	Yes	<p>The LVIA Methodology is updated to provide the following additional Table 8.11: Table 8.1.11: Matrix for Determining Visual Sensitivity.</p> <p>This is presented within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>and susceptibility to the view, so removing this would aid in clarity. While not a requirement, including a matrix, which would guide professional judgement, would assist in transparency and provide a consistent approach as to how the Sensitivity of a receptor has been arrived at rather than relying on the predetermined characteristics within Table 8.1.9.</p>		
<p>Lincolnshire County Council</p>	<p>Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>Section 1.9 covers Cumulative Effects. However, Appendix 8.1.3 also provides a Cumulative Effects methodology which is different to that included within section 1.9. Suggest just one Cumulative Effects methodology is included.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The LVIA Methodology summarised in the LVIA chapter has been updated to align with the methodology within Appendix 8.1 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.8.1] LVIA Methodology.</p> <p>This is presented within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	The methodology references that it has been prepared in accordance with, Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note TGN 2/19: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment.	N/A	Noted.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Para. 1.1.9 references a RVAA study area as being "limited to those properties within 1 km of the proposed convertor station, which appear on the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale map". Have assumed this is a typo, and the study area should be clarified in the ES. Any properties outside the 1km study area also identified with direct, extensive and/or open views towards the development, particularly larger and taller elements or large open expanses of PV arrays should also be identified and included if	Yes	<p>The Review of Visual Assessment of Residential Properties Methodology is updated at paragraph 1.1.9 to note that the Study Area is clarified in Section 8.4 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8]. The LVIA includes clear justification at Section 8.4 regarding the extent of the Study Area for residential receptors as being:</p> <p>"The study area for the residential receptors is limited to properties within a 1km radius. Any properties outside the 1km study area also identified with direct, extensive and/or open views towards the development, particularly</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		appropriate.		larger and taller elements or large open expanses of PV arrays, should also be identified and included if appropriate."
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Appendix 8.1.3 covers Cumulative Effects. However, Section 1.9 of Appendix 8.1 also provides a Cumulative Effects methodology which is different to that included within Appendix 8.1.3. Suggest just one Cumulative Effects methodology is included and that the methodology reflects the site and study area.	Yes	The Cumulative Effects methodology is updated to include one methodology within Appendix 8.1.3 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.8.3].
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Para. 1.1.9 , 1.1.10 and 1.1.15 reference consultation with SDC – should this be West Lindsey, Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire County and Lincolnshire County?	Yes	The Cumulative Methodology is updated at Paragraphs 1.1.6, 1.1.7, and 1.1.9 to exclude the following text: "West Lindsey, Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire County and Lincolnshire County"

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>The LVIA includes clear justification at Section 8.4 regarding the extent of the Study Area for cumulative assessment.</p> <p>This is presented within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Para. 1.1.10 references the incorrect site and suggests a study area has been agreed. It is assumed this is a typo, and would subsequently be agreed with relevant stakeholders.	Yes	<p>The Cumulative Methodology is updated at Paragraphs 1.1.6, 1.1.7, and 1.1.9 to exclude the following text:</p> <p>“In consultation with the West Lindsey, Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire County and Lincolnshire County the geographic extent (or study area) over which the cumulative effects will be agreed with the relevant stakeholders”.</p> <p>The LVIA includes clear justification at Section 8.4 regarding the extent of the Study Area for</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>cumulative assessment.</p> <p>This is presented within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Para 1.2.10 references pg. 132 of GLVIA3, the quoted text is on page 131 of GLVIA3.	Yes	<p>The Cumulative Methodology is updated at Paragraphs 1.2.10 to include: "P131".</p> <p>This is presented within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	The methodology describes the ZTV has been prepared to inform the visual assessment. The parameters any ZTV are generated upon are needed to be clearly stated within the LVIA, and whether taller elements have, or have not been included, as the omission of these	Yes	<p>Section 8.5 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] sets out the parameters that the ZTVs are generated upon and that additional ZTVs are run to take account of all works elements including battery storage and/or substations.</p>

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		elements will likely underplay the extent of visibility of the development. Comments issued to AAH/LCC by Lanpro on 11th July 2022, confirm that the LVIA Chapter will include "Additional ZTVs will be run to take account of all works elements including battery storage and/or sub stations."		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Tables of the identified published Landscape Character Areas have been included, which break down each landscape character area key characteristics. However, at this point it is unclear as to what the full aim of the tables is, and some clear introductory narrative and more detail on column/row labelling would assist in clarity. It is assumed that this is to illustrate what the key characteristics are, which plot	Yes	<p>The aim of the tables, which have been updated for Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8], is to set out the baseline position for the landscape receptors.</p> <p>The LVIA includes updated tables at Appendix 8.2 and explains their purpose at section 8.5:</p> <p>"The Landscape Character Tables at Appendix 8.2 break down each landscape character area's key characteristics. The purpose of the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		contains the key characteristics and the identification of likely significant effects.		tables are to illustrate what the key characteristics are and provide an understanding of the landscape in the area that may be affected, for example, which land area contains constituent elements, features, aesthetic and perceptual factors that contribute to it, its character and the way this varies spatially, its geographic extent, its history, its condition, the way the landscape is experienced and the value attached to it."
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Tables of the identified key viewpoints have been included, which break down each viewpoint and provide more detailed information and usefully provide an indication of which plot or plots are potentially visible and a brief narrative. The viewpoints listed now include those identified at earlier consultation stages. These have been indicated with an "LCC", "BH", and	N/A	Noted.

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		"VL" prefix representing viewpoints identified by Lincolnshire County Council, Heritage Officers and Nottinghamshire County Council.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Several viewpoints are missing from this list and we would assume all would be included within the LVIA Chapter	N/A	The LVIA Chapter includes the full suite of viewpoints agreed with the Council and their development team through a series LVIA workshops during March, April and August 2022.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	The PEIR identifies those consultations that have been carried out and AAH have held meetings and workshops with Lanpro and other relevant stakeholders. Appendix 8.4 of the PEIR includes copies of email correspondence and submitted information on the methodology, study area and viewpoints.	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	It is requested that further landscape and visual consultation is carried out between AAH/LCC and District Authority landscape specialists and the developer team (Lanpro) following the conclusion of this second formal consultation phase. This would likely cover the PEIR comments as well as development proposals and mitigation Scheme, including the cable route corridor (particularly river crossing) and location of any larger structures or buildings such as the sub stations. Comments issued to AAH/LCC by Lanpro on 11th July 2022, confirm that: "Mitigation will be covered during further consultation with LCC and NCC. The PEIR provides a section on Policy Compliance to understand where the proposed mitigation meets with policy expectations and	Yes	The Applicant notes that further consultation continued from the PEIR stage with LCC and NCC at additional workshops during July and August 2022, on the location and appearance/extent of taller/larger elements that form part of the Scheme. The consultation also included detailed presentations on the mitigation measures, which would likely have visual impacts and that may require additional mitigation measures beyond those initially identified.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		other guidance within landscape character assessments and published best practice data.”		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Generally: Figures are well presented and read well.	No	Noted.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Figure 8.6: West Burton 1, 2, 3 & 4: Landscape Receptors; and Figure 8.7: West Burton 1, 2, 3 & 4: Visual Receptors: These figures present a lot of useful, pertinent information, and as such, providing additional plans at a scale closer to 1:40,000, split over 2 sheets, would be useful to see the detail at a site scale.	Yes	Further to the PEIR stage, all figures presented in Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] provide additional plans to see the detail at a scale proportionate to the Sites, Cable Route/s and Substations.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Figure 8.16: Technical Photography Methodology and Viewpoint Photography: A full methodology of photography has been provided.	Yes	Noted. The full details/parameters of the elements that have been modelled (Solar Arrays, substation etc.) are set out in the Concept Design Parameters and Principles

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Comments issued to AAH/LCC by Lanpro on 11th July 2022, confirm that the LVIA Chapter will ensure that “visualisations are supported by a full technical methodology, which aligns with LI TGN 06/19.” This should include full details/parameters of the elements that have been modelled (Solar Arrays, sub station etc.).</p>		<p>document [EN010132/APP/WB7.13] and Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4], which accompany the DCO application.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	<p>Comments in regards to the viewpoint photography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, the images presented for the viewpoints are of a resolution that does not allow for clarity of medium or long distance views with elements in the mid-distance appearing hazy and elements in the long distance often not being distinguishable, so as to not appear in the view at all. Have assumed 	Yes	<p>The Applicant has noted this comment and ensured that full resolution images have been provided for the final LVIA, as presented through Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		these are interim low resolution images for the PEIR and would expect full resolution images for the final LVIA to allow.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP02: We assume this image will be extended (additional sheet?) to the left (west) to include view of WB2?	Yes	View is now updated to show this image extended to the left (west) to include view of West Burton 2. The Viewpoint Verified Photography and Photomontages are provided within Chapter 8 of the LVIA at Figure 8.13.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP03: Please clarify if this view is just of WB1, and no views available of WB2 (which would be further to the left of the view (west)).	Yes	View is now updated to extend further left to establish to illustrate potential visibility of West Burton 1 and West Burton 2.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP09: Image shows view looking south, rather than South East as labelled. This viewpoint may also	Yes	View is now updated to be looking south, rather than southeast as labelled. The view is also extended to the right (west) to include

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		benefit from being extended to the right (west) to include WB2, which is likely to be visible in this view.		West Burton 2.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP12: Location of VP along Thorpe Lane not shown on Figure 8.12.	Yes	Figure 8.12 is now updated to show location of VP12.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP15: While a long distance view, this viewpoint provides a panoramic view of West Burton from a recognised viewing area (Tillbridge Lane Viewpoint) and the view likely includes Cottam and Gate Burton, so important for cumulative effects. The image included within the PEIR does not provide clarity of this long distance view and beyond approximately 1 to 2km appears very hazy and pixelated. This is likely due to the resolution; however expect this viewpoint image to pick up views	Yes	Full resolution images are provided for the final LVIA, Chapter 8.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		of these sites, and Cottam Power Station beyond, which on the current image would likely be indistinguishable;		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP016: Would this view include WB2? If so, the image should be extended/rotated to the left (west).	Yes	View is now updated to be extended to the left (west) to establish likely visibility of West Burton 2.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP017: Viewpoint would include potential views of WB1 and WB2 and assume this will be extended (additional sheet) to the left (west) to include view of WB2?	Yes	View is now updated to be extended to the left (west) to establish likely visibility of West Burton 2.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP20: Image shows view orientated North West. View would include views of development rotated around to the south east – We assume this will be extended (additional sheet?) to the left	Yes	View is now updated and rotated to capture views south/southeast to include southern extent of West Burton 2.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		(south/south-east) to include view of southern extent of WB2?		
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP22: Image shows view orientated North west.	Yes	View is now updated.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP27: Assume this will be extended (additional sheet) to the right (east) to include view of WB2 east of B1241?	Yes	View is now amended to capture West Burton 2 east of the B1241.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP28: Assume this will be extended (additional sheets) to the left (east) to include view of WB2 east of B1241? This view is surrounded by development and would benefit from portraying this.	Yes	View is now amended to capture West Burton 2 east of the B1241.
Lincolnshire	Landscape and Visual	VP30: Assume view of WB3 is focus of this viewpoint, however are views south to WB2 also possible from this	N/A	View is of West Burton 3 and also views south to establish likely visibility of West Burton 2

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
County Council	Impact	location?		from this location.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP32: Assume view of WB2 is focus of this viewpoint (looking south east), however are views west to WB3 also possible from this location?	N/A	View is of West Burton 2 and also views west to establish likely visibility of West Burton 3 from this location.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP34: Assume view of WB2 is focus of this viewpoint (looking south east), however are views west to WB3 also possible from this location?	N/A	View is of West Burton 2 and also views west to establish likely visibility of West Burton 3 from this location.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP42: Image shows view orientated west.	Yes	View is now updated.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	VP52: View may benefit from being rotated to the left (north) to include more of WB3.	Yes	View is updated to establish likely visibility of West Burton 3 from this location.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Additional LCC viewpoints have been located on Figure 8.13 as agreed, however these photographs have not been included within the PEIR, but are available online as 360 degree panoramas and AAH will review providing comments directly to Lanpro.	Yes	Noted. The additional Lincolnshire County Council viewpoints are covered and have been discussed in more detail during continued consultation with the local authority. Viewpoint assessment sheets are provided for each of the viewpoints and panoramas/level of AVR are agreed for each and set out within LVIA at Appendix 8.3.1 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Figure 8.17: Cumulative Sites: The plan identifies the main NSIP developments in the local area. A list of potential sites to be considered as part of the cumulative assessment has been forwarded to West Lindsey Council who are better placed to provide more detailed information.	N/A	The Applicant notes that a list of potential projects to be considered as part of the cumulative assessment has been forward to West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) who are better placed to provide more detailed information. Feedback from WLDC has not been received to date. Nottinghamshire County Council provided final comment the list on cumulative developments in their email

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				1 September 2022.
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Figure 8.18: Strategic Landscape Mitigation Measures: This plan illustrates the site proposals and mitigation areas in the context of existing landscape character and ecological objectives for the Study Area. Indicative cross sections of boundary treatments and offsets/buffers from residential properties, PROW and ecological features are provided. The mitigation buffer zones illustrated on Figure 8.17 are set out in Paragraph 8.8.21 of chapter 8 of the PEIR. The Environmental Statement should clearly state if the final Strategic Mitigation plan and mitigation buffer zones illustrated on the sections and identified within chapter 8.8.24 of the PEIR are indicative to allow for	Yes	<p>The mitigation associated with the Scheme is included in the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures forming part of the LVIA with details shown on Figures 8.16.1 to 8.16.10 and at Section 8.8 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p> <p>The Applicant and its LVIA consultants at Lanpro have worked closely with the ecology consultant throughout the application process to inform the LVIA and associated mitigation plans. The mitigation proposals allow for flexibility, but they can also be fixed, where appropriate and applicable.</p>

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		<p>flexibility, or if fixed. If indicative, the LVIA needs to clearly state what layout and mitigation it has been based upon, as different mitigation strategies will likely alter potential effects, and also a strategy to secure the mitigation should be provided. Comments issued to AAH/LCC by Lanpro on 11th July 2022, confirm that: "The LVIA Chapter will also include a dedicated section with supporting detailed plans to reflect appropriate local and regional aims where applicable. These mitigation measures will aim to deliver design that accords with green infrastructure objectives at the regional and local level " and goes on to state: "The mitigation measures within the LVIA will be supported by a LEMP."</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Lincolnshire County Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	<p>Due to the evolving nature of the layouts, there are currently no Landscape and Visual Comments. However, it is requested that additional meetings and workshops be held with AAH/LCC to discuss these landscape and visual comments prior to the final ES and Scheme submission, and also that a continued dialogue is maintained in regard to the development proposals including the cable route corridor and location of any larger structures or buildings such as the sub stations. Sub Stations are shown on the Preliminary Layouts plans for all four plots (1, 2, 3, & 4) and Substation Area and Energy Storage Area is shown on the Substation and Energy Storage Area v2 plan. If these locations are likely to be taken forward for these elements, it would</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes that due to the evolving nature of the layouts, additional meetings and workshops have continued with AAH/LCC to discuss the landscape and visual comments prior to the final Environmental Statement and Scheme submission. A dialogue continues in regards to the Scheme proposals, including the Cable Route Corridor and location of any larger structures or buildings such as the substations. The ZTV's presented on all figures also include theoretical visibility for both the panels and battery storage, and separately for the substation. This approach ensures a clearer presentation of the theoretical visibility of these elements to ensure a representative and proportionate approach to the assessment whilst assessing a worst-case scenario.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		be advisable to run an updated ZTV and re-assess potential views of the taller more conspicuous elements, particularly in relation to sensitive receptors.		
Lincolnshire County Council	General	No comments at this stage but note that a fire prevention plan will be submitted with the Environmental Statement to address measures to address fire risk in the battery storage system.	N/A	Noted.
Lincolnshire County Council	Public Rights of Way	No comments to make at this stage.	N/A	Noted.
Lincolnshire County Council	Public Health	No comments to make at this stage.	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	The plant sits on 1,300ha of land with an expected output power of 480MW. Land allocated fits the requirement of 2ha for every 1 MW of PV size.	N/A	Noted.
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	<p>Energy output in the 1st year is estimated at 583,500MWh. Estimates from other solar resource assessment tools put the yearly energy output at 452,000MWh. See Figure 2 for a comparison with energy output from the Global Solar Atlas platform (GSA).</p> <p>West Burton has provided options on the type of tracking technology to be adopted; tracking or fixed. Solar panel type has been stated as bifacial monocrystalline in both considerations observed. As shown in Figure 2 in both configurations the</p>	Yes	The Applicant notes that the energy calculations have been completed and provided based on the most up-to-date available data. This is further addressed in Chapter 7 (Climate Change) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.7].

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		<p>energy output seems to be overestimated. A report from Longi Solar shows energy yield improvements of 5% in fixed bifacial mirrors and 30% in a single axis tracking system.</p> <p>Yearly energy output of 583,000 MWh as stated by the Scheme seems overestimated from 480MW plant.</p>		
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	What type of tracking is considered in the design, and how much of an increase in efficiency and energy yield is expected?	N/A	The DCO application will retain the option to build either fixed mounting structures; or tracking mounting structures. Tracking mounting structures present a worst case scenario from a Climate Change perspective as additional materials are required compared to a fixed structure and therefore have been assessed in the Environmental Statement. The current design is based on tracking mounting structures with backtracking technology, bifacial high

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>efficiency modules. All these updated components will increase the energy output of the PV projects.</p> <p>Single-axis tracking technology will be used as part of the design – axis oriented N-S with modules rotating E-W tracking with backtracking strategy for tracking arrays: when the mutual shadings begin, the tracking angle does not follow the sun anymore, but it instead goes back (decreases) so that no shading occurs. Generally, a solar panel system with a single-axis solar tracker installed sees a performance gain of anywhere between 10 to 30 percent compared to a fixed mounting system.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	Battery capacity has also not been stated in the PIER document, however, definite land size of 0.8ha has been allocated. Allocation of land size does not equate to the number	Yes	There are proposed to be 54 BESS Battery units. Through consultation with the battery supplier, a value of 100kgCO ₂ e per kwh was provided as a realistic worst case for the purposes of this assessment. The assessed

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>of battery cabins that can be installed and the capacity of the BESS unit. For instance, a 2 MW BESS unit occupying 48m² could accommodate 25 BESS units (400MWh of storage capacity) if only 15% of the land area allocated in the PIER is used , see Fig 3. Batteries carry a lot of weight in the overall GHGs calculations due to their embodied carbon and decommissioning methods. Figure 3 shows the total embodied emissions (assuming an intensity of 150kgCO₂/kWh) from different estimations of BESS capacity.</p>		<p>MWh battery storage has been assumed to be: 159MWh Based on the above assumptions the total CO₂e from batteries is: 15,984tCO₂e</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	<p>How are the batteries going to be decommissioned considering they will be replaced several times over the plant's lifespan?</p>	Yes	<p>Following consultation with typical battery suppliers, for the purpose of the calculation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, the batteries have been assessed as being replaced once over the anticipated 40-year lifespan of the Scheme. The batteries will be recycled insofar</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>as practical and with the technology available at the time of replacement.</p> <p>The Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.2] explains that this will be secured via the Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	What is the total battery capacity? Especially knowing that a given land area can accommodate well 25 BESS units (conservative estimate).	Yes	<p>There are proposed to be 54 BESS Battery units. Through consultation with the battery supplier, a value of 100kgCO₂e per kWh was provided as a realistic worst case for the purposes of this assessment. The assessed MWh battery storage has been assumed to be:</p> <p>159MWh.</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	Analysis of GHG emissions GHG emissions in PV plants are typically categorised into Construction, Operation and Decommissioning	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes these were not included within the PEIR due to information not yet being available for these details but are included within the Chapter 7 (Climate</p>

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		<p>stages. A wholesome value from the construction stage is taken as the representative emissions from the plant over its entire life in the Scheme. The emissions source highlighted during the construction stage does not fully state other possible emissions sources: water use, fuel use, switch gears, fencing, module structure, cables and batteries. The operational and decommissioning stages have not been provided with an estimate of the associated GHGs.</p>		<p>Change) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.7].</p>
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	<p>Although the total GHGs from the construction stage are mentioned as the worst case scenario in the PIER (7.8.13), what other sources of emissions (aside from table 7.12) have been considered in the 'worst-</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes sources of emissions during construction considered within the Environmental Statement include emissions from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Products (PV arrays including mounting)

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		case' estimate?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Products (Transformers) · Products (High voltage cables) · Products (Low voltage cables) · Products (Batteries) · Transportation of Materials · Worker Transportation · Waste · Water Usage · Energy Usage for Construction Period · Packaging <p>These assessments are presented in Chapter</p>

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				7 (Climate Change) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.7].
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	What are the possible emissions during the operation stage? What is the replacement rate for the sources of emissions identified in the operations stage?	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes emissions sources considered during the operational phase include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Maintenance trips · Replacement batteries · Replacement PV modules · Water Usage · Operational Waste · Energy Usage for Operational Period <p>These assessments are presented in Chapter 7 (Climate Change) of the Environmental</p>

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				Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.7].
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	What are the emissions sources and total carbon emissions in the decommissioning stage?	Yes	<p>While it is unknown at this stage to what extent emissions will be representative during decommissioning in 40 years, for the purpose of assessment within the Environmental Statement the following sources of emissions have been considered during the decommissioning stage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Worker Transportation · Removal of onsite materials · Water Usage · Energy Usage for Decommissioning Period <p>These assessments are presented in Chapter 7 (Climate Change) of the Environmental</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.7].
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	<p>What is the replacement rate of the batteries during the operational stage? Analysis of Grid decarbonization The UK's grid has been witnessing gradual decarbonisation over the years, with 60% decarbonisation achieved in 10 years (between 2009 and 2109). The Future Energy Scenarios (FES 2022) sets out credible ways that the UK can achieve Net Zero by 2050, as well as the UK Government's commitment to a decarbonised electricity system by 2035. Based on extensive stakeholder engagement, research and modelling, each scenario considers how much energy we might need; where it could come from; and how we maintain a system</p>	Yes	<p>Following consultation with typical battery suppliers, for the purpose of the calculation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, the batteries have been assessed as being replaced once over the anticipated 40-year lifespan of the Scheme. The batteries will be recycled insofar as practical and with the technology available at the time of replacement.</p> <p>The Outline Decommissioning Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.2] explains that this will be secured via the Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		that is reliable.		
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	Without grid decarbonisation considered in the Scheme GHG savings calculation, offset of construction emissions is achieved in the 6th year, and a net savings of about 3.5 million tonnes of CO2 can be achieved over the project's lifespan.	N/A	Noted.
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	When 'Falling Short' projections from FES are considered, the net savings from the plant is calculated to be about 250,000tCO2 and offset now pushed to the 12th year for the bifacial and tracking PV system (Figure 6). Please note Figure 6 also considers operation GHGs emissions and battery replacements.	N/A	Noted.

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Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	Is grid decarbonisation considered in the GHG emissions estimations and what is the total net savings from the plant with a decarbonising grid?	N/A	Decarbonisation has not specifically been accounted for within the total calculations as the values used are based on base-year CO2 emissions from the Scheme.
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	What are projections of grid decarbonisation over the lifespan of the project?	N/A	The Scheme has not accounted for grid decarbonisation beyond the project itself being a form of grid decarbonisation.
Lincolnshire County Council	Climate Change	GHG Intensity comparison with other forms of Energy Generation Technologies is broad. Can an estimate of the net GHG savings of an equally rated power plant (as West Burton) be made?		A comparison with other forms of energy generation is included within Chapter 7 (Climate Change) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.7]. The findings show that the Scheme will be comparable with other renewable energy sources such as wind.
National Grid	General	Due to the proximity of some of our assets, NGET wishes to express their interest in further consultation while	N/A	Noted. Appropriate protective provisions are in discussion and will be included within the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		the impact on our assets is still being assessed.		DCO.
National Grid	General	Where the Promoter intends to acquire land, extinguish rights, or interfere with or work within close proximity to any of NGET's apparatus and land, this will require appropriate protection and further discussion on the impact to its apparatus and rights.	N/A	Noted. Appropriate protective provisions are in discussion and will be included within the DCO.
National Grid	General	National Grid Electricity Transmission has high voltage electricity overhead transmission lines and substations within or in close proximity to the order boundary. The overhead lines and substations form an essential part of the electricity transmission network in England and Wales.	N/A	Noted. Appropriate protective provisions are in discussion and will be included within the DCO.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
National Grid	General	National Grid's Overhead Line/s is protected by a Deed of Easement/Wayleave Agreement which provides full right of access to retain, maintain, repair and inspect our asset	Yes	Noted. Appropriate protective provisions are in discussion and will be included within the DCO. Easements have been adhered to within the Scheme.
National Grid	General	Statutory electrical safety clearances must be maintained at all times. Any proposed buildings must not be closer than 5.3m to the lowest conductor. National Grid recommends that no permanent structures are built directly beneath overhead lines. These distances are set out in EN 43 – 8 Technical Specification for overhead line clearances Issue 3 (2004).	Yes	Noted. The Scheme design meets these standards.
National Grid	General	If any changes in ground levels are proposed either beneath or in close	Yes	Noted. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (outline

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		proximity to our existing overhead lines, then this would serve to reduce the safety clearances for such overhead lines. Safe clearances for existing overhead lines must be maintained in all circumstances.		CEMP) [EN010132/APP/WB7.1] sets out outline management measures at Table 3.14.
National Grid	General	The relevant guidance in relation to working safely near to existing overhead lines is contained within the Health and Safety Executive's (www.hse.gov.uk) Guidance Note GS 6 "Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Electric Lines" and all relevant site staff should make sure that they are both aware of and understand this guidance.	Yes	Noted. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (outline CEMP) [EN010132/APP/WB7.1] sets out outline management measures at Table 3.14.
National Grid	General	Plant, machinery, equipment, buildings or scaffolding should not encroach within 5.3 metres of any of	Yes	Noted. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (outline CEMP) [EN010132/APP/WB7.1] sets out

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		our high voltage conductors when those conductors are under their worse conditions of maximum "sag" and "swing" and overhead line profile (maximum "sag" and "swing") drawings should be obtained using the contact details above.		outline management measures at Table 3.14.
National Grid	General	If a landscaping Scheme is proposed as part of the proposal, we request that only slow and low growing species of trees and shrubs are planted beneath and adjacent to the existing overhead line to reduce the risk of growth to a height which compromises statutory safety clearances.	Yes	<p>The Landscape Environmental Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] sets out at paragraph 4.6.11 that the creation of flower rich pollinator strips is focussed on areas within the Sites where development is constrained by overhead and underground utilities.</p> <p>Within areas under this treatment, a low growing, floristically rich habitat will be created. In order to create this habitat, a flower rich seed mix will be utilised. The habitat would be mowed once on an annual basis, in September to avoid impacts on</p>

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				nesting birds.
National Grid	General	Drilling or excavation works should not be undertaken if they have the potential to disturb or adversely affect the foundations or "pillars of support" of any existing tower. These foundations always extend beyond the base area of the existing tower and foundation ("pillar of support") drawings can be obtained using the contact details above	Yes	<p>Noted. Appropriate protective provisions are in discussion and will be included within the DCO.</p> <p>The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (outline CEMP) [EN010132/APP/WB7.1] sets out outline management measures at Table 3.14.</p> <p>Appropriate protective provisions are in discussion and will be included within the DCO.</p>
National Grid	General	National Grid Electricity Transmission high voltage underground cables are protected by a Deed of Grant; Easement; Wayleave Agreement or the provisions of the New Roads and Street Works Act. These provisions	N/A	Noted. Appropriate protective provisions are in discussion and will be included within the DCO.

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		<p>provide National Grid full right of access to retain, maintain, repair and inspect our assets. Hence, we require that no permanent / temporary structures are to be built over our cables or within the easement strip. Any such proposals should be discussed and agreed with National Grid prior to any works taking place.</p>		
National Grid	General	<p>Ground levels above our cables must not be altered in any way. Any alterations to the depth of our cables will subsequently alter the rating of the circuit and can compromise the reliability, efficiency and safety of our electricity network and requires consultation with National Grid prior to any such changes in both level and construction being implemented.</p>	N/A	<p>Noted. Appropriate protective provisions are in discussion and will be included within the DCO.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Bassetlaw District Council	General	The sites for built development and are identified as West Burton 1, 2, 3 and 4 which will connect to West Burton Power Station and offer 480 MW of electricity to the grid. It is positive to see that a description of each of the sites has been included and sets out the key constraints as this will set the basis for the final ES.	N/A	Noted. The Applicant has also applied this approach to the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2].
Bassetlaw District Council	General	It is noted that the exact type of solar panels is not yet decided and that the options have been separated into 'Option A - Tracking panels' and 'Option B - Fixed panels'. Further assessment of the potential implications of the design should be considered and assessed in the ES when this option has been decided. The majority of the project will be situated in West Lindsey but West Burton 4 and the grid connection	Yes	Both Tracking and Fixed panels have been assessed in the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2]. The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety. This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		infrastructure and energy storage located within the administrative boundary of Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.		design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Bassetlaw District Council	General	The updated PEIR report still appears to have not finalised whether 'Option A' or 'Option B' has been selected. There does not appear to be a substantial material difference in the design of each of these options from a planning perspective. However, the greater height of the 'Tracking Panels' at 4.5 metres as opposed to 3.5 metres for the 'Fixed Panels'. The greater height of the former may have the possibility of more significant visual impacts (depending on the prevalence of panels at their maximum height). There are not any specific comments to make on the	No	Where final elements are undetermined, a "worse case" assessment following the Rochdale envelope has been undertaken. ZTVs have been updated to reflect final proposals.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		ancillary elements of the proposed development in a general sense. The site security, battery storage and other ancillary elements appear to be within standard measurements and are essential to support the operation of the proposed development.		
Bassetlaw District Council	General	Like any proposal, appropriate consideration should be given to the potential impacts of the proposed development against the relevant policies in the development plan alongside relevant material planning considerations.	N/A	Noted. The relevant national and local policies, as well as applicable legislation, has been set out within each Environmental Statement chapter and assessed in the Planning Statement [EN010132/APP/WB7.5] supporting the DCO application.
Bassetlaw District Council	General	It is difficult to make more precise comments about the cabling as the exact routing of the cables is not yet known. Once these details become	No	Noted. Table 5.13: Main Stages of Refinement for the Cable Route Corridor within Chapter 5

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>clearer, it will be easier to make a better judgement on the constraints that will be most likely to be impacted. The route has since been narrowed, but it is difficult to make specific comments. Any route should look for the least sensitive route unless unavoidable and appropriate mitigation should be put in place where the impacts of the cable route are potentially significant. The narrow scale in terms of the final width of the cable routes will clearly reduce their potential harms.</p>		<p>(Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.5] explains how the cable route has been refined. The initial cable corridor search area included whole fields with multiple river crossing options. This was then narrowed to a target route, predominantly 100m in width, which was fully surveyed by geophysical surveys, ecological surveys, and landscape assessments to generate options within the target route. The final cable corridor is 50m in width over the majority of its length. Greater width is provided in specific locations where required for accesses and laydown areas and in the area where the route is shared with Gate Burton and Cottam NSIP projects and greater working width is required.</p> <p>Two cumulative scenarios have been considered within the Environmental Statement for the shared cable route: These</p>

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				are firstly the construction of all three projects' ducts and cables at the same time, within the same construction programme. The Environmental Statement assumes an 18 months duration for this. Secondly, the installation of each projects' ducts and cables, sequentially over a 5-year period, has been assessed.
Bassetlaw District Council	General	There are no further comments to be made at this stage as the main justification for this was set out in the original EIA Scoping Report. However, it is considered optimal that a full consideration of alternative sites should be provided prior to the submission of the ES, although it acknowledged that this to some extent is carried out through the initial stages of the proposal (even before the process enters the pre-application stage in some	Yes	Noted. The Applicant has followed a step-by-step site selection process which confirms the location of the Scheme is suitable for a large scale solar farm. This has included the avoidance of sensitive landscape and environmental designations in confirming site suitability and consideration of alternative sites. Details of the process are set out in Appendix 5.1: Site Selection Assessment of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5.1]. Chapter 5

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		instances) in order to 'screen out' in order to find some of the least constrained parcels of land that are appropriate for solar development.		(Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5] explains in further detail the alternatives that were considered and the design evolution process for the Scheme.
Bassetlaw District Council	General	There are no further comments at this stage. The Local Planning Authority worked closely with the Applicant and agent by providing feedback during the drafting of the Statement of Community Consultation.	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council	General	The proposal appears to broadly outline all of the relevant legislation, national policy and local policy documents. Some policies such as DM4 of the Bassetlaw Core Strategy (Design and Character) and Policy 12	Yes	These and other relevant policies are assessed within the Planning Statement and its Appendix 4: Local Planning Policy Accordance Table [EN010132/APP/WB7.5]. Policy DM4 is considered within Chapter 8

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>of the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan (Energy efficiency, renewable energy and climate change) appear to have not been assessed. Policy DM4 is especially relevant when considering landscape, visual impacts and layout which is a critical consideration in the DCO process. It is positive that appropriate references have been made to specific policies in the NPPF. Section 14 of the NPPF clearly provides great weight to renewable energy development alongside the recent Energy Security Strategy.</p>		<p>(Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p> <p>An assessment of the Scheme against the relevant planning policies is contained within Appendix C: Local Planning Policy Accordance Table of the Planning Statement [EN010132/APP/WB7.5].</p>
Bassetlaw District Council	General	<p>More broadly, the PEIR is viewed favourably by the Local Planning Authority as it is much more substantial than the original EIA Scoping Report and appears to include greater assessment of the</p>	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>policies and enhanced mitigation. It is difficult to comment on certain aspects of the proposal at this stage as the final design of the solar panels has not yet been selected and the final cable route is not yet known.</p>		
<p>Bassetlaw District Council</p>	<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>Climate change (including the impact of the development itself) has been scoped into the PEIR which is welcomed by the Local Planning Authority. The chapter within the PEIR itself appears comprehensive and assesses key baselines. Although the development itself will inevitably produce some carbon emissions, especially during the construction and decommissioning phases, it is clear that these will be more than mitigated for by the provision of 480 MW of clean energy per annum. Nevertheless, efforts to reduce</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Applicant notes that reference to this policy has been included within Chapter 7 (Climate Change) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.7].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>carbon emissions produced by the project should be carried forward.</p> <p>Policy 12 of the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan may also be relevant due to the presence of the cable route.</p>		
Bassetlaw District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	<p>It is positive to see that the PEIR has made references to policies that were missing in the original EIA Scoping Report such as paragraph 174 of the NPPF and policies within the Emerging Bassetlaw Local Plan (2020-2037) – these will carry progressively more weight as the Local Plan moves through examination which is likely to coincide with the submission of the DCO. Policy DM4 of the adopted Bassetlaw Core Strategy also appears to have not been included. This is</p>	Yes	<p>Due to the evolving nature of the layouts, the Applicant held additional meetings and workshops post PEIR with Nottinghamshire County Council to discuss the landscape and visual comments prior to the final Environmental Statement and Scheme submission. A continued dialogue continues in regard to the Scheme proposals, including the policy matters supporting critical design and landscape character.</p> <p>The mitigation associated with the Scheme is included in the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures forming</p>

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		our critical design and character policy which broadly mirrors critical policies within Section 12 of the NPPF.		<p>part of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8], with details shown on Figures 8.16.1 to 8.16.10 and at Section 8.8.</p> <p>The LVIA picks up the delivery of landscape mitigation to address biodiversity net gain through the enhancement of existing habitats and green infrastructure proposals. The landscape measures also include the preparation of a Landscape and Environmental Management Plan (LEMP) which prescribes how the landscape and ecology mitigation measures identified and proposed would be implemented and managed to ensure the effectiveness and certainty in achieving the objectives.</p>
Bassetlaw District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	This is one of the most important and sensitive considerations for the District. It should be made clear that any response received from	Yes	Due to the evolving nature of the layouts, the Applicant held additional meetings and workshops post PEIR with Nottinghamshire County Council to discuss the landscape and

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Nottinghamshire County Council will form the basis for our comments and as such should be taken into account as well. This was the case for the EIA Scoping Report and this will continue to be the case going forward.</p>		<p>visual comments prior to the final ES and Scheme submission. A continued dialogue continues in regard to the Scheme proposals, including the policy matters supporting critical design and landscape character. The mitigation associated with the Scheme is included in the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures forming part of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8], with details shown on Figures 8.16.1 to 8.16.10 and the report at Section 8.8.</p> <p>The LVIA picks up the delivery of landscape mitigation to address biodiversity net gain through the enhancement of existing habitats and green infrastructure proposals. The landscape measures also include the preparation of a Landscape and Environmental Management Plan (LEMP) which prescribes how the landscape and</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				ecology mitigation measures identified and proposed would be implemented and managed to ensure the effectiveness and certainty in achieving the objectives.
Bassetlaw District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	It is positive to see that the cumulative impacts alongside other large scale development has been considered. It is also positive that the LVIA as part of the ES will include other material considerations such as biodiversity and cultural heritage due to the interaction between these material considerations.	Yes	The Applicant notes this. Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] and supporting appendices consider likely significant effects of views from heritage assets. The mitigation associated with the Scheme is included in the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures forming part of the LVIA with details shown on Figures 8.16.1 to 8.16.10 and the report at Section 8.8 . The LVIA picks up the delivery of landscape mitigation to address biodiversity net gain through the enhancement of existing habitats and green infrastructure proposals. The landscape measures also include the preparation of a Landscape and Ecological

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>Management Plan (LEMP) [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] which prescribes how the landscape and ecology mitigation measures identified and proposed would be implemented and managed to ensure the effectiveness and certainty in achieving the objectives. The Applicant and its LVIA consultants at Lanpro have worked closely with the ecology and heritage consultants throughout the application process to inform the LVIA and associated mitigation plans. The mitigation proposals allow for flexibility, but they can also be fixed, where appropriate and applicable.</p>
Bassetlaw District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	With regards to the cabling, it is more difficult to assess at this stage as the final route of the cabling is not yet known.	Yes	The assessment of both the landscape and visual effects of the final route of the cabling is set out within the LVIA within the detailed receptor sheets at Appendix 8.2 and Appendix 8.3 to Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				[EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].
Bassetlaw District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	West Burton 4 borders a minor green corridor in the form of the Trent Valley Way (Policy ST39: Green and Blue Infrastructure). Furthermore, the proposed location of West Burton 4 is located within 2.5KM of the Sutton & Lound Gravel Pits SSSI, as well as the Chesterfield Canal SSSI. Local Wildlife Site designations can also be found over Chesterfield Canal (Site reference - 1/82), Lovers Lane – Clayworth (Site reference 2/464), Lancaster Lane Hedge – Clayworth (Site reference 2/465).	Yes	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Bassetlaw District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	<p>The need for 10% net gain is welcomed and this should be scoped into the assessment. The Environment Act 2021 promotes biodiversity net gain in new development, albeit from 2023. However, the NPPF recommends securing net gains now. Reflecting the principles of national planning policy and the emerging provisions of the Act we would strongly recommend that the proposal secures at least 10% net gain in biodiversity to ensure that the value of the development exceeds the pre-development on site habitat value by at least 10%. The fact that the PEIR outlined that the proposal is likely to provide a significant net gain is welcome, although this will need further consideration when the final calculation is provided as part of the</p>	Yes	<p>The finalised BNG Assessment is provided in Appendix 9.12 to Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		DCO submission.		
Bassetlaw District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	The assessment of primary ecological designations and protected species appears comprehensive. Although these policies are referenced in different sections of the PEIR, they appear absent from this chapter of the PEIR. It is reiterated that the relevant policies in Section 15 of the NPPF, Policy DM9 of the Bassetlaw Core Strategy, the Emerging Bassetlaw Local Plan and the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan should be considered when the DCO is submitted.	Yes	The identified policies and neighbourhood plans are referred to in Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9] and therefore now form part of the assessment.
Bassetlaw District Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Further detail on flood impacts and drainage solutions would be welcome especially in the context of	Yes	The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1 – WB6.3.10.5] has been produced for each of

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>the small rural settlements of Gringley on the Hill and Clayworth. It is noted that the original consultation response from the LLFA has been summarised in this section of the report. Although a lack of direct reference has been given to these settlements, it is acknowledged that the potential impacts with respect to this chapter are likely to be less significant than other material considerations. This chapter also contains significant information on mitigation which is welcomed by the Local Planning Authority.</p>		<p>the solar Sites which demonstrate that flood risk will not be exacerbated as a result of their installation and is likely to provide betterment over the existing surface water regime due to the reintroduction of natural land cover beneath the panels. Where additional infrastructure is proposed (e.g., battery sites), additional Drainage Strategies have been produced which indicate how SuDS will be provided on-Site to attenuate any increased runoff to greenfield rates.</p> <p>Regarding specific reference to the settlement of Gringley on the Hill, the Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Bassetlaw District Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Given the nature of the application for West Burton it does not appear to seek to significantly increase the impermeable area. More than 90% of the site is situated within Flood Zone 1 which is considered to be at a low risk of flooding.	No	Noted and agreed.
Bassetlaw District Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	As previously noted, with West Burton 1, 2 and 3 being located outside the county boundary, and due to the nature of the proposals, the Flood Team has no comment to make on these. However it is noted that 'West Burton 4' is located next to	Yes	Noted. The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Clayworth and that the Toft Dyke flows through the site.</p> <p>Given that Clayworth has previously suffered flooding and the concern around flooding in the area, in previous discussions with the Applicant they have confirmed that they will be exploring the potential for Natural Flood Management (NFM) measures on the site. The use of NFM on the Toft Dyke and/or Tributaries could reduce the volume and rate at which flows reach Clayworth and therefore potentially reduce the frequency and/or extent of flooding.</p> <p>The details given here, and on the website do not appear to make any reference to these, however the flood team would still welcome</p>		<p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		potential NFM works and be happy to continue discussions with the Applicant on these.		
Bassetlaw District Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Given the Toft Dyke runs through the site and falls in the area the IDB cover, they may also wish to consult/communicate with the IDB.	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Please also refer to our comments to the original EIA Scoping Report.	N/A	Noted
Bassetlaw District Council	Ground Conditions and Contamination	It is considered that the information in this topic is acceptable, including the provision of a CEMP as part of the development proposal.	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council	Minerals	The County Planning Authority at Nottinghamshire County Council has drawn attention to Policy SP7 in the emerging Minerals Local Plan due to		The view of Nottinghamshire County Council as the Minerals Planning Authority has been taken into account. The identification and safeguarding of mineral resources within

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>the potential risk of mineral unnecessary mineral sterilisation. The County Planning Authority also drew attention to Adopted Minerals Local Plan March 2021 (Policy MP2c) and Policies Map Inset 4. Although the project is only for a temporary period, attention should be drawn to the Sturton le Steeple Quarry. Please find below the response from the County Planning Authority.</p>		<p>Nottinghamshire has been acknowledged and the impact for any safeguarded resource fully assessed. Assessment is presented in Chapter 12 (Minerals) of the Environmental Assessment [EN010132/APP/WB6.12].</p>
<p>Bassetlaw District Council</p>	<p>Minerals</p>	<p>Please find below the response from the Coal Authority:</p> <p>I have checked the site location plan against our coal mining information and I can confirm that the northern part of the site (area to the south of Gringley on the Hill to the north of North Wheatley only) falls within the coalfield, however it is located</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>outside the Development High Risk Area as defined by the Coal Authority. Accordingly, whilst coal mining activity may have taken place beneath this site, there are no recorded coal mining legacy hazards at shallow depth that could pose a risk to land stability for the redevelopment of this site.</p> <p>Accordingly, there is no requirement for you to consult the Coal Authority on any formal planning application submitted at this site, however it is requested that if planning permission is approved, our Standing Advice is added to the Decision Notice.</p>		
Bassetlaw District	Cultural Heritage	The West Burton Solar Project includes proposals for 4 separate sites, 3 of which are in Lincolnshire	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 site in Bassetlaw and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council		(West Burton 1, 2 and 3) and 1 is in Bassetlaw (West Burton 4, located between Clayworth and Gringley on the Hill). During the phase 1 consultation, Conservation raised concerns with the West Burton 4 site, and specifically its impact on the setting of a range of heritage assets in Clayworth and Gringley on the Hill.		Scheme in its entirety. This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	Phase 2 - Following the Phase 1 comments, I attended a consultation event with Lanpro to discuss how those concerns could be mitigated. The result of that discussion, and of consultations with other agencies, is that the West Burton 4 site has been significantly reduced, around its northern, western and southern boundaries. This has effectively seen a strip of fields around much of the	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 site in Bassetlaw and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety. This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>perimeter removed from the Scheme. It is evident from both site visits and the new photographic viewpoints survey that the majority of the proposed panels would not now be visible in a heritage context. The most notable part of Phase 1 was that a range of panels would be visible from the road between Clayworth and Gringley on the Hill, affecting the open countryside setting to both settlements. This is now no longer the case. Enhanced landscaping would also be provided in key locations around the perimeter.</p>		<p>Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
<p>Bassetlaw District Council</p>	<p>Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>The only above-ground heritage concern that remains is that some of the panels would be visible from the Chesterfield Canal tow path, to the south of Clayworth (see image VP72,</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 site in Bassetlaw and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		page 674 of the PEIR Volume 2 Appendices). Whilst of concern, that has to be balanced against the public benefits of the proposal, which weigh heavily in favour of the Scheme. In addition, those views would be some way in the distance and are only found from this isolated location within the Conservation Area.		This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	It is evident that some panels would be visible from public vantage points, notably along the footpaths through the site. However, these impacts are considered to be of a general landscape nature, and would not affect the setting of any of the nearby heritage assets.	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 site in Bassetlaw and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				environmental assessments.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	The proposal also provides more details of a battery facility adjacent to West Burton Power Station. Conservation has no concerns with that part of the Scheme, as no above-ground heritage assets would be affected.'	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that the West Burton Substation site (which was shown as hosting the battery facility site adjacent to the West Burton Power Station) has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	Whilst it is acknowledged that a minor degree of harm will be caused as a result of the proposal, it is considered that this is outweighed by the considerable public benefits as a result of the proposal. This is when considered against the requirements of Policy DM8 of the Bassetlaw Core Strategy, Section 16 of the NPPF (specifically paragraph 202) and Section 66(1) of the Planning (Listed	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990.		
Bassetlaw District Council	Transport and Access	There are no further comments to be made in relation to the transport and access section of the PEIR. Please refer to our response to the EIA Scoping Report.	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council	Transport and Access	Bassetlaw District Council refers to the feedback raised by Nottinghamshire County Council regarding Public Rights of Way (PRoW).	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council	PRoW	How these are affected by the solar installation, such as width and surface of PROW corridors within or adjacent to the site, views of the installations affecting amenity or the rural route, ensuring that views are		The Strategic Landscape Mitigation Measures have evolved since the PEIR submission, and more detail is now provided on Figure 8.18.1 to Figure 8.18.3 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures. These drawings take account of the offsets and

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		still available.		buffers from the residential properties, PROW and ecological features
Bassetlaw District Council	PROW (Landscape and Visual)	How PROW within the buffer zones will be affected visually, what methods will be employed to screen the sites from view, will the geography assist.		The Strategic Landscape Mitigation Measures have evolved since the PEIR submission, and more detail is now provided on Figure 8.18.1 to Figure 8.18.3 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8]. These drawings take account of the offsets and buffers from the residential properties, PROW and ecological features
Bassetlaw District Council	PROW (Transport and Access)	Vehicular access – if PROW are used as access how will the public safety be managed (will this requires a temporary TRO), how is the surface to be managed to take the traffic, restoration and repair after	Yes	There are instances on the cable route corridor where the haul road will cross an existing PROW. To manage this, an Outline Public Right of Way Management Plan has been prepared and is shown at Appendix 14.3 [EN010132/APP/C6.3.14.3]. The following

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>installation and future maintenance for the duration of the development;</p>		<p>measures are included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The provision of banksmen to hold vehicles if a PRow user is present and advise PRow users of the potential for construction vehicles to be present; - Speeds to be limited to 10mph; - Drivers will stop and give-way to any PRow user that they encounter; - Appropriate signage will be installed along the PRow to make PRow users aware of the construction activity. This will include information on construction times; - The PRow will be kept clear of construction vehicles and apparatus outside of permitted construction hours so far as is practicable to do so; - Any damage to the surface of the footpath will be repaired as soon as practical. The surface will be returned to its original condition following construction. <p>It is expected that PRows will remain open</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>throughout the construction period with management to ensure the safety of all PRoW users so far as is practicable to do so. It is not anticipated that any temporary PRoW diversions will be required for the Sites. However, in the unlikely case that a temporary diversion is required for health and safety reasons, areas within the Order Limits for a potential diversion have been identified. Where a temporary stopping up/diversion of a PRoW is required, prior notices to the PRoW officers at the local highway authority will be provided so far as possible.</p>
<p>Bassetlaw District Council</p>	<p>PRoW (Transport and Access)</p>	<p>Potential Increased connectivity of the PROW network is noted in para 4.4.8. Any plans will need to be shared at an early stage with PROW team for consideration. Will these be permissive routes for the duration of the site and removed on</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) looks to provide landscape mitigation that seeks to enhance the public right of way (PRoW) network and also the permissive routes. These enhancements look to deliver community benefits and the LVIA has carried forward from the PEIR, the intention to</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		decommissioning or dedicated in perpetuity;		enhance the permissive and public right of way network associated with the Sites, where appropriate, noted as secondary mitigation for Public Rights of Way. These measures potentially recommend increasing accessibility, but also measures to increase understanding of the local landscapes and the solar project. The LVIA promotes for example information boards at vantage points, where appropriate as tertiary mitigation. The LVIA also draws out ecological enhancement measures along these routes to provide a wider public understanding of the project and encourage public access to nature.
Bassetlaw District Council	PRoW (Glint and Glare)	Glint and glare – how is this being assessed with regard to walkers and equestrians. Although identified in para 16.1.1, no further consideration or assessment has been given.	No	Walkers and equestrians have not been included within the assessment because they are receptors with “low” sensitivity which means the receptor is tolerant of change without detrimental effect, is of low or local importance.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Bassetlaw District Council	PRoW	<p>With regard to the cabling, with potentially up to twenty Public Rights of Way impacted, it would be difficult to comment until the specific route has been identified. Trenching underground cabling, requiring a 25m working corridor, would invariably affect PROW in the short term during the construction phase and it is requested that these closures, wherever practicable, 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), which is managed by Nottinghamshire County Council as Highway Authority.'</p>	Yes	<p>A Public Rights of Way Management Plan has been prepared (Appendix 14.3) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14.3], which sets out how Public Rights of Way will be managed for the duration of the construction phase.</p>

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Bassetlaw District Council	Noise and Vibration	With specific regard to vibration, it is accepted that the impact from vibration to the occupiers of neighbouring dwellings from the installation of the solar panels, (e.g. pile driving of the support posts) is unlikely to be significant, and will be very limited in duration. However, as the siting of the electrical transformers and battery storage facilities (which could take up to 24 months to complete), and the cabling routes have not yet been finalised, it is difficult to fully comment.	Yes	Chapter 15 (Noise and Vibration) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.15] evaluates the likely significant effects of the Scheme on nearby noise and vibration sensitive receptors during construction, operation and decommissioning.
Bassetlaw District Council	Noise and Vibration	It is noted that additional mitigation is not required at this stage as the impacts are not expected to be significant. Although it is stated that this is explored in the ES, full justification should be given, should no additional mitigation be	Yes	Chapter 15 (Noise and Vibration) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.15] evaluates the likely significant effects of the Scheme on nearby noise and vibration sensitive receptors during construction, operation and decommissioning. The Scheme has been designed so that there

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		proposed.		are no significant effects relating to noise and vibration.
Bassetlaw District Council	Glint and Glare	Please see the response from the Public Rights of Way Officer above regarding potential impacts arising from Glint and Glare.	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council	Glint and Glare	It should also be noted that Gamston Airport, sited to the south of Retford at approximately 11km to the south east of the West Burton 4 site, is within the 15km assessment area proposed within the Scoping Report and should, therefore, be considered in the Assessment.	N/A	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 site in Bassetlaw and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety. This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				range of environmental assessments.
Bassetlaw District Council	Electromagnetic Fields	It is regrettable that the PEIR has stated that this has been ultimately scoped out of the ES. However, it is welcome that a technical report will be provided as part of the DCO submission to demonstrate that the relevant requirements have been met.	Yes	Electromagnetic Fields is addressed in Chapter 21 of the ES 'Other Environmental Matters' [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21].
Bassetlaw District Council	Light Pollution	This should be addressed within relevant chapters of the ES where there is a potential for significant effects.	Yes	This is addressed in the Ecology [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9], Landscape and Visual [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] and Other Environmental Matters [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21] chapters of the Environmental Statement.
Bassetlaw District Council	Major Accidents and Disasters	No further comments are required at this stage.	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Bassetlaw District Council	Air Quality	The scope for this topic is agreed providing that mitigation measures are reported in the CEMP.	N/A	Noted. The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (outline CEMP) [EN010132/APP/WB7.1] sets out outline management measures at Table 3.14.
Bassetlaw District Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	No further comments are required at this stage.	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council	Agricultural Land	It is considered that this is an important issue for the District, especially when considering these proposals cumulatively with other similar proposals. It therefore should be fully considered in the ES. If this approach is not taken then it is	N/A	Noted. Impacts upon agricultural land have been assessed within Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19].

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		crucial that it is addressed elsewhere in another topic.		
Bassetlaw District Council	Waste	Please refer to Nottinghamshire County Council's response.	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council	Telecommunications, Utilities and Television Receptors	There are no further comments at this stage.	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council	General	Note that Conservation defers to the views of our Archaeologist on the matter of below-ground heritage impact.	N/A	Noted.
Bassetlaw District Council (Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust)	General	The Scheme comprises four solar array Sites, West Burton 1, 2, 3 and 4 as well as the site of the proposed West Burton substation. There is also to be an associated cable route to cover approximately 20km between	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		the Sites and West Burton Power Station which will be the point of connection. Our comments relate to West Burton 4, West Burton substation and associated cable routes.		This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Bassetlaw District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	Three statutory designated sites (National Importance) were identified within 5km and fifteen non-statutorily designated sites (County Importance) were identified within 2km of West Burton 4. Two statutory designated sites (National Importance) were identified within 5km of West Burton substation. Seven designated sites were located within the West Burton Cable Route Search Area. These comprised Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) of County	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety. This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Importance. No statutory designated sites were located within the Cable Route Search Area. Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits SSSI, Idle Valley Nature Reserve LWS and River Idle Washlands SSSI are all located within 2km west of West Burton 4. They support important aggregations of birds during the breeding and wintering periods. The Site lies within the Natural England SSSI Impact Risk Zone for Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits SSSI.</p>		<p>range of environmental assessments.</p>
<p>Bassetlaw District Council</p>	<p>Ecology and Biodiversity</p>	<p>Ecology and Biodiversity- We understand that a comprehensive suite of ecological surveys is largely complete, with analysis and reporting in progress. Surveys are more progressed for the array sites than they are for the cable route at the time of writing the report.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Specific surveys for priority habitats, bats, breeding and wintering birds, otters, water voles, badgers and great crested newts have been carried out. Habitats have been assessed for other notable species groups, including reptiles, invertebrates, and small mammals. In addition, a desk study to examine the presence of third-party records of protected species and the whereabouts of local and statutory sites designated for nature conservation has been undertaken. We can confirm that the proposed Field Survey Methodologies and Scope relating to the location of solar arrays, substation and cable routes is satisfactory.</p>		
Bassetlaw District	Ecology and	Breeding Birds - Following preliminary survey information	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council	Biodiversity	analysis, species recorded on or adjacent to the array sites considered most vulnerable to habitat loss would be ground-nesting species of open habitats, principally skylark, lapwing and yellow wagtail as they largely nest within the arable fields. Skylark and yellow wagtail territories were recorded regularly across all sites, with approximately 250 skylark territories recorded across the entire site. There were no records of nesting lapwing within West Burton 4. We understand from discussions with the Applicant's ecologist that measures to mitigate for the displacement effects on skylark, yellow wagtail and lapwing from the array sites are being explored. These are likely to consist of implementing management practices on suitable land which have		<p>infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>the aim of increasing the carrying capacity to 'absorb' a significant proportion of territories from the site. We agree that implementing such measures, in conjunction with enhanced foraging habitat within the site could reduce residual effects on these species. We are looking forward to assessing these measures when they are at a more developed stage. Should suitable mitigation measures be achieved then this should set a benchmark for other solar energy projects. These mitigation sites should be managed under the prescriptions contained within a LEMP, which should be secured through the planning system.</p>		
Bassetlaw District	Ecology and	Overwintering Birds - The PIER states that West Burton 4 is not considered	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council	Biodiversity	to be of particular value for nesting or foraging purposes by any of the species for which the nearby sites have been designated, over the breeding and overwintering bird survey work analysed to date. It is considered that the intensive arable cultivation, enclosed fields, and the undulating topography of parts of the Site reduces its attractiveness to swans, geese and waders. Preliminary wintering bird survey results, however, indicate that the sites are of some value to waders, and wildfowl. We believe that further assessment is required when all the survey data has been analysed.		<p>infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
Bassetlaw District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	The PIER also considers species migrating or dispersing over West Burton 4 when flying to and from the designated sites. The report states	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		that the current assessment of evidence and industry advice on potential impacts of solar installations indicates that disturbance impacts on flightpaths are likely to be negligible. We have no reason to challenge that statement.		Scheme in its entirety. This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Bassetlaw District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	Potential Ecological Impacts - The PIER states that there is a very low likelihood of downstream contamination occurring resulting from refuelling of maintenance vehicles during the operational phase. We note that due to the extent of the designated sites within proximity to West Burton 4, mitigation measures will be adopted during the construction period which	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety. This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>will avoid as far as possible the chance of sediment mobilisation and release of contaminants into the ditches and watercourses surrounding the site which will be included in the CEMP. A CEMP should be secured through the planning system. We note that Natural England has stated that the Environmental Statement would need to show any potential effects on site designations, including impacts via noise, air quality or other disturbance which may damage or destroy the interest features for which these Sites of Special Scientific Interest have been notified. Impacts would need to be considered at all stages of the proposed development i.e. construction, operation and de-commissioning. It should also detail the mitigation required to avoid any</p>		<p>design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		identified impacts on designated sites. We fully support that approach.		
Bassetlaw District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	Cable Route Corridor - The cable route corridor is referred to as the 'Cable Route Search Area' (CRSA) and forms the scope of the ecological desk study for the cable route used at PEIR stage, within which ecological records (notable species and habitats and designated sites) will be searched for. We note that the final location of the cable route elements will be refined through use of the desk study, supported by further ecological survey and consideration of responses to statutory consultation, prior to submission of the DCO application. We consider this process to be satisfactory. There should be a presumption against development within Local Wildlife	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Sites (LWS). LWSs, previously known in Nottinghamshire as 'Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation' are a local, non-statutory designation, that sits below (but complements) the national suite of statutorily designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). They are of substantive value for the conservation of biodiversity and are home to rare and scarce species or represent the best surviving examples of habitats that were once widespread and typical of the Nottinghamshire landscape. Collectively, these sites form an essential ecological network and act as wildlife corridors and steppingstones, allowing species to migrate and disperse between sites. The continued existence of these sites is vital to safeguard wildlife</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>from the pressures of development, intensive agriculture, and climate change. The LWS network is comprehensive (meaning that every site which qualifies as a LWS is designated as one), whereas SSSIs are representative of the best sites in an area, such that that not all sites which meet the SSSI selection criteria have been, or will be, designated as a SSSI. Because of this, a number of LWS would potentially qualify as SSSIs, meaning that LWS are best described as sites that are of at least county-level importance for their flora and/or fauna. Cabling operations should be carried out according to a PMW or Ecological Method Statement in the presence of an Ecological Clerk of Works to supervise and advise during the process to avoid direct impacts upon</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		protected and notable species.		
Bassetlaw District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Landscape and Visual Impact - The Idle Valley Nature Reserve (IVNR) is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), the eastern part of which is located slightly beyond the 2 km Landscape Study Area (see Figure 8.6 West Burton 1, 2, 3 & 4 Landscape Receptors). The IVNR is included in the zone Views of the Development that may be visible (see Figure 8.11 West Burton 4 Bare Earth ZTV). We believe that an additional Viewpoint Location assessment is necessary, undertaken from the Nature Reserve to assess the level of visual intrusion that visitors to the reserve will experience.	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Coal Authority (On behalf on Bassetlaw District Council)	General	I have checked the site location plan against our coal mining information and I can confirm that the northern part of the site (area to the south of Gringley on the Hill to the north of North Wheatley only) falls within the coalfield, however it is located outside the Development High Risk Area as defined by the Coal Authority. Accordingly, whilst coal mining activity may have taken place beneath this site, there are no recorded coal mining legacy hazards at shallow depth that could pose a risk to land stability for the redevelopment of this site.	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
Coal Authority (On behalf on Bassetlaw District	General	Accordingly, there is no requirement for you to consult the Coal Authority on any formal planning application submitted at this site, however it is requested that if planning	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council)		permission is approved, our Standing Advice is added to the Decision Notice.		
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	The West Burton PEIR addresses Cultural Heritage in Chapter 13. The project is split into four main sites, a substation site and cable connection routes. The bulk of the project is located within Lincolnshire, however the West Burton 4 site, the substation and the cable connection will run through Bassetlaw District connecting to the hub at the site of the former power station at West Burton. Consequently, this response concerns the proposals for the elements located within Bassetlaw and excludes sites at West Burton 1, 2 and 3.	N/A	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure, and the battery facility site adjacent to the West Burton Power Station have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	<p>In terms of progress with gathering baseline data on Cultural Heritage, the PEIR does not accurately reflect the current situation on the ground. Sufficient progress is being made with regard to on-going desk-based research and the geophysical survey has been completed at West Burton 4 and is underway along the cable route. Data from evaluation trenching will also be required to support the Environmental Statement (ES) at the West Burton 4 site, the substation and along the entire cable corridor route and this has yet to be agreed. As it stands, my response to this PEIR reflects what has been presented within the document and also my concern particularly with the proposed mitigation approach which is</p>	Yes	<p>A programme of geophysical survey (Appendix 13.2) was undertaken on the cable route in Bassetlaw, which as agreed with Lincolnshire Historic Environment Team.</p> <p>A trial trench evaluation (Appendix 13.6) was undertaken within the 'Shared Cable Corridor', and sampled 1 - 1.1% of accessible areas.</p> <p>The results of these field evaluations, along with desk based research (including LiDAR survey data, aerial photographs), has been used to inform a detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) which is included by the Applicant in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] to the Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure, and the battery facility site adjacent to the West Burton Power Station have been</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		fundamentally flawed.		<p>removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	The PEIR notes that the initial response to the scoping opinion has been supported by the Planning Inspectorate and that trial trenching and geophysics survey should be used to inform the potential for direct impacts on heritage assets and that the 'The extent of trial trenching activity should be agreed as part of a Written Scheme of Investigation'. This is currently being reviewed for the	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure, and the battery facility site adjacent to the West Burton Power Station have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>Desk-based research (including LiDAR survey data, aerial photographs, Appendix 13.1) has identified areas where there is a potential for archaeological remains to occur within the West Burton cable route corridor running</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		main West Burton 4 site and has yet to be agreed for the cable route and substation.		between the River Trent and the West Burton Power Station. A programme of geophysical survey (Appendix 13.2) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.2] was undertaken along the cable route corridor to further understand the absence / presence / extent / form of buried archaeological remains. Baseline information has been used to inform the final cable route, including micro-siting away from areas considered to have a high potential for substantial archaeological remains to be present.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	The Planning Inspectorate also considers that the above methods should be used to inform the design evolution of the route corridors. The Applicant's response is that geophysical survey of the route corridors is underway and the results should be used to help inform the final routes. We await the finalisation	Yes	Desk-based research (including LiDAR survey data, aerial photographs, Appendix 13.1) has identified areas where there is a potential for archaeological remains to occur within the cable route corridor. A programme of geophysical survey (Appendix 13.2) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.2] was undertaken along the cable route corridor to further understand the absence / presence / extent /

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		of the geophysical survey report.		form of buried archaeological remains. Baseline information has been used to inform the final cable route, including micrositing away from areas considered to have a high potential for substantial archaeological remains to be present.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	The cable route corridor geophysics results will also need to form a significant element of the baseline data for the ES Chapter and inform the overall mitigation strategy.	Yes	Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] and mitigation strategy (WSI) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7], including for the cable route corridor, are informed by a full suite of archaeological assessments including desk-based research, aerial photographs, LiDAR data, geophysical survey, and evaluation trenching.
Bassetlaw District	Cultural Heritage	In response to our comments on the Scoping Report (March 2022) in the	Yes	Archaeological evaluation trenching has been undertaken within assessable areas of the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council		<p>'Comment Addressed' column (Table 13.1; p392), the Applicant states 'Further information will be provided within and alongside the ES'. In this case, the results of all evaluation including geophysics and trial trenching of all areas of impact including the full length of the cable route corridor should be presented in the ES.</p>		<p>'Shared Cable Corridor'. Evaluation trenching was considered appropriate within the 'Shared Cable Corridor' given the form / extent of archaeological features identified by baseline information and the possible higher level of impact that will potentially occur due to it being used by up to three or more cable routes belonging to the West Burton and other proposed solar Schemes.</p> <p>No evaluation trenching was considered necessary for the remainder of the West Burton Cable Route where a single cable is proposed, and where baseline information has suggested a minimal potential for archaeological features to be present as alternative mitigation was considered appropriate to safeguard against any potential loss of archaeological deposits present.</p> <p>Information collated by desk-based research and non-intrusive survey work, the validity of</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>which has been proven by the results of the evaluation trenching, is considered sufficient to be able to establish that the archaeological potential for 'blank' areas is negligible/low. Consequently a comprehensive programme across all 'blank' areas is not considered necessary.</p>
<p>Bassetlaw District Council</p>	<p>Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>Of significant concern is the reference to Appendices 13.1, 13.2 and 13.4 where these do not adequately address the comments raised for the Scoping Report. While I appreciate the gathering of baseline data is an ongoing process, a certain level of attainment is expected at each stage to inform the next. The data from the Desk-Based Assessment, LiDAR & AP Assessment and Geophysical Survey should be largely completed and combined prior to the trenched evaluation so</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>A full suite of archaeological assessment, survey and evaluation trenching has been undertaken as part of the Scheme. These assessments have been undertaken using a staged approach so that each phase of assessment works could inform the next (i.e. the location of evaluation trenches was based on information acquired through desk-based research and non-intrusive surveys). To maximise the knowledge and understanding attained through the various assessments and field evaluations, initial interpretation of baseline information has been re-examined using the results of subsequent works (i.e. the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		trenches can be targeted where necessary.		desk-based assessments were updated with the results of subsequent surveys). Data collected from desk-based research, non-intrusive surveys and the trial trench evaluation has been fully detailed and assessed in Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	Section 13.4.2 states that geophysical survey will be undertaken on the currently proposed cable routes and that HER information will be obtained for them. The full suite of evaluation is required for the full extent of the proposed development area including evaluation trenching.	Yes	<p>Desk-based research (HER, NHLE, NHRE, HLC, PAS and cartographical information), along with non-intrusive surveys (assessments of LiDAR, aerial photographs and geophysical survey) has been undertaken to create a comprehensive suite of baseline information.</p> <p>Archaeological evaluation trenching has been undertaken within assessable areas of the 'Shared Cable Corridor'. Evaluation trenching was considered appropriate within the 'Shared Cable Corridor' given the form / extent of archaeological features identified by baseline</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
<div style="background-color: #004a99; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>				<p>information and the higher level of impact that will potentially occur due to it being used by up to three or more cable routes belonging to the West Burton, and other, proposed solar Schemes.</p> <p>No evaluation trenching was considered necessary for the majority of the West Burton Cable Route in Lincolnshire where a single cable is proposed, and baseline information has suggested a minimal potential for archaeological features to be present as alternative mitigation was considered appropriate to safeguard against any potential loss of archaeological remains which could be present.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure, and the battery facility site adjacent to the West Burton Power Station have been</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				removed from the Scheme in its entirety.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	Section 13.4.9 the sources of information used to inform this PEIR include 'The draft DBAs that have been produced for each of the West Burton 1-4 Sites.' DBAs will also need to include the cable routes and the substation.		DBAs have been produced covering the whole Scheme, including the cable routes, comprising assessment of the full range of cartographic sources, and all available archaeological records, including PAS, HLC, NHRE, NHLE, NMP and HER data, as well as the results of specifically commissioned LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	Sections 13.6.1 and 13.6.2 As above, the desk-based elements should be broadly completed as soon as possible to inform the next stage of field evaluation. This is especially pressing in the route corridor and substation areas. For the DBA, additional sources (not currently listed) such as the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) data should		Full and detailed desk-based assessments have been completed and have been used to inform Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] and the production of a detailed mitigation strategy (WSI; Appendix 13.7). These include assessment of the full range of

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		be included.		<p>cartographic sources, and all available archaeological records, including PAS, HLC, NHRE, NHLE, NMP and HER data, as well as the results of specifically commissioned LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis and geophysical surveys (ES Appendices 13.1 and 13.4). These sources were all used in determining the location of trenches as part of the programme of archaeological evaluation trenching.</p> <p>Geophysical, air photo and LiDAR surveys and assessments have been undertaken along the cable corridor and have successfully identified the presence / absence of archaeological remains. In line with national guidance and other Schemes of a similar nature, as well as with consideration to the high impact caused by the cable route, a programme of archaeological monitoring, including a watching brief and 'strip, map and sample' excavation where archaeological deposits are</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				present, is considered appropriate mitigation.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	Section 13.6.5 states that 'geophysical survey will be undertaken along the cable routes with appropriate desk-based research and bolstered by targeted trenching'. As above, full evaluation including comprehensive desk-based assessment and trenching of the 'blank' areas will be required to obtain baseline evidence across the full impact zone including the cable routes.	Yes	<p>Desk-based research (Appendix 13.1), air photo and LiDAR mapping (Appendix 13.4) and geophysical survey (Appendix 13.2) were undertaken on the cable route in Bassetlaw. The Geophysical survey was undertaken across the Scheme, as agreed with Lincolnshire Historic Environment Team.</p> <p>A trial trench evaluation (Appendix 13.6) was undertaken within the 'Shared Cable Corridor', and sampled 1 - 1.1% of accessible areas.</p> <p>No evaluation trenching was considered necessary for the remainder of the West Burton Cable Route where a single cable is proposed, and where baseline information has suggested a minimal potential for archaeological features to be present as alternative mitigation was considered appropriate to safeguard against any potential</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>loss of archaeological deposits present.</p> <p>Information collated by desk-based research and non-intrusive survey work, the validity of which has been proven by the results of the evaluation trenching, is considered sufficient to be able to establish that the archaeological potential for 'blank' areas is negligible/low. Consequently a comprehensive programme across all 'blank' areas is not considered necessary.</p>
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	Regarding the 'Future Baseline' discussed in sections 13.6.12 to 13.6.14, decommissioning must be considered, and we do not agree that the impact will be minimal.	Yes	Potential impacts to heritage assets during decommissioning is discussed in section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13], and mitigation proposals are discussed in section 13.8.
Bassetlaw District	Cultural Heritage	Regarding section 13.7.1 and the proposals for dealing with 'on-site	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7]

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council		<p>archaeological remains' by 'mitigation by design'. This implies significant levels of 'preservation in situ' which is not possible in regard to the cable routes. It is further unlikely to provide a workable solution for much of the West Burton 4 and substation sites. Further details are required to clarify 'mitigation by design', however in anticipation of the response the following should be considered:</p> <p>1. Preservation in situ with constitute the determination of the extent of archaeologically sensitive areas which will require fencing off and be subject to a programme of monitoring through an archaeological clerk of works throughout the construction and the decommissioning phases, and there</p>		<p>that outlines where 'preservation by record' or 'preservation by design' is required to safeguard archaeological assets within the Scheme. The WSI details areas where 'preservation by record' will be required (i.e. in high impact areas such as the cable route), and the form that it should take based on the potential for archaeological remains to be present (i.e. 'strip, map and sample' or an archaeological watching brief).</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure, and the battery facility site adjacent to the West Burton Power Station have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>will be no ground disturbance whatsoever within these areas which may disturb or affect the archaeological remains, including plant movement or storage.</p> <p>2. Preservation through construction design through the installation of concrete feet requires a full understanding of the depth, extent, importance and nature of the surviving archaeology across the site. Any proposal in archaeologically sensitive areas will require a firm evidence base proving that any proposed work including decommissioning will have no impact upon the archaeology including not only direct destructive impact through groundworks, compaction or reduction in the depth of soil necessary for protecting the</p>		<p>advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>archaeology but also through environmental changes which would be detrimental to the surviving archaeology.</p> <p>3. A mitigation entirely through preservation in situ may result in a significant number and amount of fenced off no-go areas within the redline boundary and cable routes. This would lead to significant ongoing constraints in the construction and decommissioning phases which would affect not only the number of solar panels but the development works themselves including plant activity, the placement of associated infrastructure such as compounds and access routes and in the construction management plan itself.</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	Archaeological mitigation within the corridor routes is likely to require archaeological excavation and there is no reference in the document to the other standard archaeological mitigation response known as 'preservation by record' through archaeological investigation and recording (archaeological fieldwork).	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] that outlines where 'preservation by record' or 'preservation by design' is required to safeguard archaeological assets within the Scheme. The WSI details areas where 'preservation by record' will be required (i.e. in high impact areas such as the cable route), and the form that it should take based on the potential for archaeological remains to be present (i.e. 'strip, map and sample' or an archaeological watching brief).
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	Given the large scale of this development, a suitable mitigation programme which includes archaeological mitigation by archaeological fieldwork would be expected and I would expect this to be acknowledged and included in this document, certainly it must be included in the ES as it is essential as	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7].

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		part of an effective, robust and reasonable mitigation strategy to deal with developmental impacts on archaeology.		
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	<p>This document states that the full extent of the archaeological potential has not yet been established, the trenching programme is not complete, and the desk-based assessments have yet to be finished. Table 13.28 therefore with its proposed mitigation of either 'Targeted evaluation trenching and mitigation by design should this be warranted' or 'None' is entirely inappropriate and should be removed or revised significantly to reflect the full suite of mitigation techniques available. Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The appropriate mitigation 	Yes	<p>DBAs have been produced covering the whole Scheme, including the cable routes, comprising assessment of the full range of cartographic sources, and all available archaeological records, including PAS, HLC, NHRE, NHLE, NMP and HER data, as well as the results of specifically commissioned LiDAR and aerial photographic analysis and geophysical survey. A programme of evaluation trenching has been completed and confirmed the archaeological potential of features identified by non-intrusive surveys. The results of the evaluation assessments have been used to compile a detailed mitigation strategy (WSI, Appendix 13.7) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] that outlines where 'preservation by record' and</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>response cannot be determined without the results of the trenching.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The list is not complete as the specific sites come from an early phase of the evaluation programme. · The two proposed mitigations are entirely insufficient (see above) archaeological fieldwork will also be required in the suite of mitigation. <p>The phrase 'should it be warranted' is not warranted in this context as by the definition of mitigation it will be.</p>		<p>'preservation in design' are appropriate to safeguard archaeological assets within the Scheme. In low impact areas where baseline information, supported by the results of the trial trench evaluation, has suggested a negligible/low potential for archaeological remains to be present, no further works are considered necessary/appropriate.</p>
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	<p>The approach to surviving earthworks in Table 13.28 is also inappropriate and cannot be agreed. Any earthworks impacted by this development will require full archaeological topographical survey</p>	Yes	<p>Provision is made in section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] for future surveys during decommissioning to identify whether it would be feasible to reinstate any earthworks that might be</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		and recording in advance of any groundworks whatsoever and they will need to be reinstated if they are damaged or destroyed in whole or in part during associated groundworks. Thought will also need to be given for the decommissioning methodology to ensure the earthworks are protected.		visible.
Bassetlaw District Council	Cultural Heritage	As detailed above, the very limited approach presented for archaeological mitigation of this Scheme as expressed in this PEIR is flawed and cannot be agreed at this time.	Yes	A detailed mitigation strategy (WSI) is included in Appendix 13.7 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7] that outlines where 'preservation by record' or 'preservation by design' is required to safeguard archaeological assets within the Scheme. The WSI details areas where 'preservation by record' will be required either in the form of 'strip, map and sample' or an archaeological watching brief.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Bassetlaw District Council	Agricultural Land	<p>Whilst Policy DM10 of the Bassetlaw Core Strategy only seeks to avoid development on the best quality of agricultural land (Grades 1 and 2), the current version of the NPPF includes land classified as 3a within this definition as well. There are some concerns that given that the proposal would lead to a long-term temporary loss of over 200 ha of agricultural land, this would result in a level of conflict with the requirements of paragraph 174 of the NPPF. The selection of such a large amount of BNV land therefore does raise some concerns about the long-term loss of food production despite the clear benefits of renewable energy. It would be expected that should this land remain as part of the application when submitted that the selection of</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>this land is fully justified against the potential alternatives. This is especially pertinent given that West Burton 4 is geographically isolated from the other sites in West Lindsey.</p> <p>However, it is recognised that this harm should be balanced against the benefits arising from the proposal and with other relevant policies within the NPPF and the development plan. It is also noted that the proposal would result in a substantial level of renewable energy generation and Biodiversity Net Gain.</p>		
Nottinghamshire County Council	Flood Risk	As previously noted, with West Burton 1, 2 and 3 being located outside the county boundary, and due to the nature of the proposals, the Flood Team has no comment to	YES	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>make on these.</p> <p>However it is noted that 'West Burton 4' is located next to Clayworth and that the Toft Dyke flows through the site.</p> <p>Given that Clayworth has previously suffered flooding and the concern around flooding in the area, in previous discussions with the Applicant they have confirmed that they will be exploring the potential for Natural Flood Management (NFM) measures on the site. The use of NFM on the Toft Dyke and/or Tributaries could reduce the volume and rate at which flows reach Clayworth and therefore potentially reduce the frequency and/or extent of flooding.</p>		<p>extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>The details given here, and on the website do not appear to make any reference to these, however the flood team would still welcome potential NFM works and be happy to continue discussions with the Applicant on these.</p> <p>Given the Toft Dyke runs through the site and falls in the area the IDB cover, they may also wish to consult/communicate with the IDB.</p>		
Nottinghamshire County Council	Minerals	The adopted Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Replacement Waste Local Plan, Part 1: Waste Core Strategy (adopted 10 December 2013) and the saved, non-replaced policies of the Waste Local Plan (adopted 2002), along with the adopted Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (adopted March 2021),	Yes	The identification and safeguarding of mineral resources within Nottinghamshire has been acknowledged and the impact for any safeguarded resource fully assessed. Assessment is presented in Chapter 12 (Minerals) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.12].

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>form part of the development plan for the area. As such, relevant policies in these plans need to be considered. In addition, Minerals Safeguarding and Consultation Areas (MSA/MCA) have been identified in Nottinghamshire and in accordance with Policy SP7 of the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan, these should be taken into account where proposals for non-minerals development fall within them.</p> <p>From the point of the Scoping Report, Chapter 11: Minerals, draws attention to the Minerals Safeguarding Area policies within the respective Minerals Local Plans. West Burton 4 being the only site within Nottinghamshire. Contact has already been made by the consultants to source the</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>appropriate GIS constraint mapping for MSA's and existing minerals sites. The County Council would draw attention to the 'Cable Route Corridor Search Areas', as identified in Figure 3.6. and reference is drawn to the detailed response in the following sections of these comments.</p>		
Nottinghamshire County Council	Minerals	<p>As the Mineral Planning Authority, it is the responsibility of Nottinghamshire County Council to form policies and determine applications relating to mineral development. One of the key responsibilities of both the County Council but also the District and Borough Councils is to safeguard mineral resource (PPG, Paragraph 005, 2014). As minerals are a finite resource that can only be worked</p>	Yes	<p>The identification and safeguarding of mineral resources within Nottinghamshire has been acknowledged and the impact for any safeguarded resource fully assessed. Assessment is presented in Chapter 12 (Minerals) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.12].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>where they are found, the emerging Minerals Local Plan contains a policy, SP7, Adopted Minerals Local Plan Nottinghamshire County Council which seeks to safeguard mineral resource from unnecessary sterilisation from non-mineral development and so establishes Mineral Safeguarding and Consultation Areas (MSA/MCA).</p> <p>As a two-tier authority, the Minerals Local Plan forms part of the overall Development Framework for Bassetlaw District Council. The entire western side of the River Trent lies within a Sand and Gravel Mineral Safeguarding Area, but that given relatively small land take we do not foresee any problems.</p> <p>There is an area of concern however.</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>The northern cabling route option, the buffer zone for which, runs through or at least very close to the permitted sand and gravel site at Sturton Le Steeple quarry (1/46/06/00014/). This site is operated by TARMAC. As this site is not presently active, it may not have been picked up as part of the initial scoping exercise. NCC would draw attention to Adopted Minerals Local Plan March 2021 (Policy MP2c) and Policies Map Inset 4. Adopted Minerals Local Plan Nottinghamshire County Council</p> <p>Sturton le Steeple Quarry is an important source of sand and gravel and is a significant contributor to the resource landbank, as identified within the Adopted Nottinghamshire</p>		

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		Minerals Local Plan March 2021.		
Nottinghamshire County Council	Waste	In terms of the Waste Core Strategy, there are no existing waste sites within the vicinity of the site whereby the proposed development could cause an issue in terms of safeguarding existing waste management facilities (as per Policy WCS10).	N/A	Noted.
Nottinghamshire County Council	PRoW	The Rights of Way Team welcome the provisions set out in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report for the protection and enhancement of the network of Public Rights of Way within the proposed development site. The focus is on both the physical installation of solar panels and the cabling corridor. Only one of the four solar panel sites are	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>within the Nottinghamshire boundaries (West Burton 4) and all comments will relate to this site only.</p> <p>The PIER recognises some of the Public Rights of Way within and abutting the development site, namely the Trent Valley Way (Gringley on the Hill Footpath No.16 & Clayworth Footpath No.9) and Clayworth Bridleway No.7. Two other PROWs cross the landholding (Gringley on the Hill Footpath No.5 & Clayworth Footpath No.11), although there does not currently appear to be plans to install equipment on this part of the proposed development site.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how these are affected by the solar 		<p>included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

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		<p>installation, such as width and surface of PROW corridors within or adjacent to the site, views of the installations affecting amenity or the rural route, ensuring that views are still available,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how PROW within the buffer zones will be affected visually, what methods will be employed to screen the sites from view, will the geography assist • vehicular access – if PROW are used as access how will the public safety be managed (will this requires a temporary TRO), how is the surface to be managed to take the traffic, restoration and repair after installation and future maintenance for the duration of the development 		

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Increased connectivity of the PROW network is noted in para 4.4.8. Any plans will need to be shared at an early stage with PROW team for consideration. Will these be permissive routes for the duration of the site and removed on decommissioning or dedicated in perpetuity. • Glint and glare – how is this being assessed with regard to walkers and equestrians. Although identified in para 16.1.1, no further consideration or assessment has been given. <p>With regard to the cabling, with potentially up to twenty Public Rights of Way impacted, it would be difficult to comment until the specific route has been identified. Trenching underground cabling, requiring a</p>		

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		<p>25m working corridor, would invariably affect PROW in the short term during the construction phase and it is requested that these closures, wherever practicable, 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), which is managed by Nottinghamshire County Council as Highway Authority.</p>		
<p>Nottinghamshire County Council</p>	<p>Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>The VIA EMD Team have no further comments to make on the West Burton Solar Project PEIR Assessment Consultation at this time. The EMD Team provided comments on the scoping opinion in May 2022 following a workshop with</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

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		<p>Lanpro on 7th April 2022 in consultation with Oliver Brown of AAH consultants working for Lincolnshire County Council which are incorporated into the PEIR Volume 2 Appendices chapters as Appendix 8.4.</p> <p>Following full reviews of both the document and the appendices relating to Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, the following are noted:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of underground cables in the cable route corridors is confirmed (PEIR Document paragraph 8.8.3) • Solar panels will not be located in fields immediately alongside settlement edges or residential 		

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		<p>properties (PEIR Document paragraphs 8.9.83, 8.9.87, and 8.9.143)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar panels will not be located in fields immediately alongside Public Rights of Way (PEIR Document paragraph 8.9.104 and 8.9.108) • Solar panels will not be located in fields in the more elevated parts of the site alongside Gringley on the Hill (PEIR Document paragraph 8.9.143) • The correct National, Regional and Local Landscape Character areas have been referred to (section 8.7 - Existing Baseline – 8.7.103, 8.7.110, and 8.7.113) • A strategic mitigation plan Figure 8.18 has now been provided which 		

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		<p>shows the proposals for all 4 sites over laid onto existing landscape character and ecological objectives for the whole area, this drawing also formalises the offset arrangements for residential properties and ecological features. The mitigation buffer zones are also set out in PEIR Document paragraph 8.8.21.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LVIA will include a Landscape Environmental Management Plan LEMP - (PEIR Document section 8.5 – Assessment methodology) • The LVIA will include a Residential Visual Amenity assessment (PEIR Methodology Appendix 8.1.2) <p>The revised drawing (Drawing – West Burton 4 Solar Project – Preliminary Layout) confirms recent discussion</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>on 7th April about the project between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] with Lanpro, where as a result of the consultations with various parties including VIA EMD and the Bassetlaw Heritage officer, the solar panels have been pulled back from the adjacent residential areas in Gringley on the Hill as described above.</p> <p>Having reviewed the information provided VIA EMD are satisfied the Applicant has clarified/addressed all our observations and comments regarding Landscape and Visual Impact at this point in the application process.</p>		
Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor comments	The loss of this significant agricultural acreage from food production.	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is impossible to mitigate the visual impact of any solar array on this sloping site of significant acreage. No amount of planting can achieve the height and mass needed to obscure this array. • That this site should not be included in the overall WB plans, given that the remaining (Lincolnshire based) solar arrays will connect to the grid at WB along a single shared cable route crossing the Trent. The WB4 site will require a separate cable route and should therefore be disaggregated from the larger proposal. • The cable corridor is not yet clearly defined and poses the threat of sterilisation of further agricultural acreage well beyond the proposed 		<p>Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>lifetime of the solar arrays.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WB4 coverage has been reduced from circa 600 acres to circa 400 acres, but the expected power yield in relation to NSIPs threshold is not now clear. • The proposed construction traffic routing is of concern; particularly the need for HGVs to turn right across the A631 dual carriageway to enter the narrow junction mouth of the B1403 Clayworth Rd (acknowledging that routing through Clayworth would be even worse). • The plans appear to reference bringing some major infrastructure in by river, without explaining the "final legs" of road routing. 		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Canal and River Trust	General	The Trust is Navigation Authority for the River Trent and also has freehold landowner interests with respect to the riverbed. The river is classified as a commercial waterways and can accommodate large freight carriers as well as smaller vessels. The Trust also owns and operates the Fossdyke Canal which is located to the south of the project area and the Chesterfield Canal to the west of the project area. It appears unlikely that there would be any impacts on either the Fossdyke Canal or the Chesterfield Canal.	N/A	Noted.
Canal and River Trust	General	The Trust is Navigation Authority for the River Trent and has freehold landowner interests with respect to the riverbed. The river is classified as a commercial waterway and can accommodate large freight carriers	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>as well as smaller vessels. The Trust also owns and operates the Fosdyke Canal and the Chesterfield Canal as navigations which are in proximity to this proposal.</p> <p>The River Trent falls within the development boundary of the West Burton Solar Park as it is included within the cable corridor search area. Due to the need for a cable connection to West Burton Power Station a crossing of the river is required as part of the project.</p>		
Canal and River Trust	Cable Route	The PEIR identifies a cable route corridor which includes a stretch of the River Trent approximately 1.5km in length to the south of Trent port, Marton. We note that assessment work is ongoing and the final route of the corridor has not yet been	Yes	The application Works Plans [EN010132/APP/WB2.3] show a significantly reduced cable route corridor. The environmental impacts of the river crossing have been assessed in the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.1 –

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		finalised.		WB6.2.21] accompanying the application.
Canal and River Trust	Cable Route	We note that two other similar projects are being progressed in the locality and that the cable route corridor identified partially overlaps with Gate Burton Energy Park's 'Grid Connection Corridor Options' and the Cottam Solar Project Cable Corridor options. All three projects identify the same stretch of the River Trent for the cable crossing.	Yes	Noted. The impacts of multiple cables have been assessed in the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.1 – WB6.2.21] accompanying the application.
Canal and River Trust	Cable Route	We further note that the PEIR states that the developers have worked collaboratively on design development and environmental avoidance mitigation to maximise opportunities for reducing overall environmental and social effects, in particular on communities in	Yes	The Applicant notes that additional measures regarding the need to liaise with Canal & River Trust prior to finalisation of or undertaking of drilling beneath the River Trent are needed. This has been added to the Outline Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy (EPMS) [EN010132/APP/WB7.17] .

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>proximity to the grid connection corridor and on known ecological and archaeologically sensitive areas adjacent to the River Trent and we consider that this is an appropriate approach. We strongly recommend that the Trust is included in future discussions over the location of the cable crossing and whether a single crossing point can be agreed by the respective project promoters so we can advise on any potential issues likely to affect navigational safety or our interests as an affected landowner. The PEIR indicates that the cable crossing of the river will be underground and we consider that this will assist in minimising visual impacts on the river and potential impacts on use of the Navigation.</p>		<p>An assessment of the impacts from the Scheme on recreational use of navigable waterways and waterbodies has been undertaken in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Canal and River Trust	Cable Route	Any crossing of the river is likely to require the prior consent of the Trust. Please be advised that the Trust is a statutory undertaker and has specific duties to protect its waterways. We would therefore resist any proposed use of compulsory purchase powers which may affect our land or undertakings. We reserve the right to seek protections under S16 of the Acquisition of Land Act 1981 should any proposals affect land which has been acquired for the purposes of our undertaking. Accordingly, we advise that the acquisition of any Trust land or rights over Trust land should be secured by agreement and we strongly recommend early contact with the Trust's Utilities Team to commence discussions over the terms of such an agreement	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		ahead of submission of the DCO application. [The consultee provided specific contact details for further advice].		
Canal and River Trust	Cable Route	As the proposal will involve works affecting the Trust's waterways, in our capacity as landowner, we will also require the Applicant/developer to comply with the Trust's current Code of Practice for Works Affecting the Canal & River Trust and recommend early discussion with the Trust's Infrastructure Services Team over all works likely to affect Trust property. [The consultee provided specific contact details for further advice].	N/A	Noted.
Canal and River	Ground	The stretch of river identified in the PEIR lies immediately south of two	Yes	Ground Conditions and Contaminated Land Response - The historical and ongoing

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Trust	Contamination	<p>areas of land in the Trust's ownership, located on either side of the river. This land has been used as dredging tips (and the site to the east of Coates Lane is still in use for this purpose) and any use of this land for routing cables could reduce the ability of the Trust to carry out future dredging activities on the River Trent, which is particularly important to facilitate continued navigation of the river by commercial vessels. We therefore recommend that, in considering the final cable route, this land is avoided. The Environmental Statement should nonetheless consider any potential impacts on existing dredging tips, including consideration of the potential for them to contain elevated levels of contamination.</p>		<p>dredging operations have been identified within the cable route corridor Preliminary Risk Assessment (PRA) which supports Chapter 11 (Ground Conditions) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.11]. The PRA is included as [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.11.4] which concludes a very low risk with respect to the dredging operations and the cable development.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Canal and River Trust	Transport	<p>The installation of new solar farm equipment could involve the importation of significant indivisible heavy loads. The River Trent is a commercial waterway, where the transport of equipment may be possible which could help to minimise the need to utilise the Highway Network. We note that PIER Vol 2 Transport & Access at page 57 includes the potential use of the River Trent to bring in components for the West Burton Sub-station to the EDF Energy Berth at Cottam Power Station. We advise that the use of the Trent should continue to be included within the Transport and Access chapter of the Environmental Statement, so as to ensure that every possibility to reduce the impact on the highway network is considered.</p>	N/A	<p>Noted. Use of the River Trent is considered within Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Canal and River Trust	Noise and Vibration	Works to install a cable crossing beneath the River Trent have significant potential to generate noise and vibration impacts and these effects on the river and users of the river should be considered within the Environmental Statement. In particular, works in proximity to the river need to be carefully managed to minimise the risk of significant vibration or loading that could adversely affect the stability of the riverbank.	Yes	Chapter 15 (Noise and Vibration) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.15] evaluates the likely significant effects of the Scheme on nearby noise and vibration sensitive receptors during construction, operation and decommissioning.
Canal and River Trust	Ecology and Biodiversity	Para. 9.6.169 of the Ecology and Biodiversity chapter of the PEIR states that the cable installation process which is likely to be required to cross underneath rivers, will utilise directional drilling methods. It is suggested that there will be a small risk of vibrations leading to sediment	Yes	The Applicant notes that the potential for release of sediment during drilling operations will be minimised by careful siting of drilling entry and exit pits, suitable depth control and visual monitoring by an Ecological Clerk of Works (see paragraphs (9.7.210-9.7.215 of Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement

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		mobilisation, or the emission of pollutants, although such impacts are considered likely to be minor to moderately adverse in the short to medium term. We consider that directional drilling can cause sediment discharges and problems arising from mud toxicity due to vibrations below the river. Impacts on fish species and invertebrates found in the water and their likely sensitivity to potential sediment movement should therefore be considered within the Environmental Statement.		[EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9].
Canal and River Trust	Ecology and Biodiversity	Temporary construction lighting along the cable corridor route in the vicinity of the River Trent will have the potential to disturb wildlife. We note that mitigation measures to minimise such impacts are proposed	Yes	The Applicant notes that Lighting impacts on retained habitats, bats and freshwater fish are reduced through measures within the Outline Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy (EPMS) [EN010132/APP/WB7.17] to minimise the need for lighting and the timing of its

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		to be incorporated into a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (para 9.6.96).		usage, during all project phases.
Canal and River Trust	Landscape and Visual Impact	The sites for the solar panels are within proximity of the River Trent, the Fosdyke Navigation and the Chesterfield Canal. As such, the landscape and visual impact assessment should fully consider users of these routes from both land and water perspectives (i.e. considering impacts for both walkers on any towpath/river walk or designated trail and boaters) and where necessary appropriate mitigation measures should be applied. Additional viewpoints were previously suggested but no further detail has been provided within the PIER Vol 2 Landscape & Visual	Yes	Navigable waterways surrounding the development have been considered within the Glint and Glare Study at a high-level; they have not been included for technical modelling because they are receptors with "low" sensitivity which means the receptor is tolerant of change without detrimental effect, is of low or local importance.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Impact. Figures 8.13-8.15 show the areas in blue as Views of the Development may be visible which include parts of our navigable waterways. The PINS Scoping Opinion states that the Environmental Statement should assess glint and glare impacts to river users where significant effects are likely to occur. The River Trent is designated as a commercial waterway carrying freight and the Trust are navigation authority for all three waterways. It is therefore important that visual impacts (including impacts from glint and glare) on our waterways do not result in any harm to navigational safety.</p>		
Canal and River	Landscape and Visual	The Trust notes the comments at para 16.4.35 of the Glint and Glare	N/A	Navigable waterways surrounding the development have been considered within

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Trust	Impact	chapter, but we do not consider that potential impacts on waterway users can be discounted without providing evidence to support such a position. The Environmental Statement should therefore provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate that significant visual impacts will not occur and the potential for adverse impacts on navigational safety should be considered within the glint and glare assessment. In view of the potential risk to navigational safety should there be any adverse impacts, the Trust considers that this matter should be explicitly considered in order to ensure that it can be discounted.		the Glint and Glare Study at a high-level; they have not been included for technical modelling because they are receptors with "low" sensitivity which means the receptor is tolerant of change without detrimental effect, is of low or local importance.
Canal and River	Landscape and Visual Impact	The Environmental Statement should also consider the potential visual impact of construction operations	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Trust		along the cable route corridor, which extends to, and includes part of, the River Trent. In particular, the siting of construction compounds should be considered within the LVIA and river users should be considered as potential receptors. It is important that visual impacts are assessed within the context of the river being a navigable waterway and also designated as a commercial waterway carrying freight. It is important that visual impacts on the river do not result in any harm to navigational safety.		
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	We have been instructed by Tarmac Aggregates Limited ("TAL") to submit a response to the current Phase Two Consultation on the West Burton Solar Project ("the solar project"), specifically in the context of	N/A	The importance of the Sturton le Steeple Quarry as part of the Nottinghamshire's aggregate supply is acknowledged. The access to the Sturton le Steeple Quarry is within the boundary of the Scheme.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>permitted minerals development at Sturton le Steeple ("the quarry"), which TAL operates under a Leasehold interest.</p> <p>The quarry is situated in the project's cable route search corridor ("the cable corridor") and immediately south of West Burton Power Station.</p>		
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	<p>In terms of further background on the permitted minerals development referred to above, TAL benefit from planning permission under reference 1/22/00047/CDM for the extraction of sand and gravel, including erection of processing plant, ancillary buildings and wharf facility with restoration to agriculture, woodland and water areas for amenity and nature conservation after-uses.</p>	N/A	<p>The existence of the permitted area of Sturton Le Steeple Quarry and its importance as part of Nottinghamshire's aggregate supply is acknowledged.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	The approved phasing plan for the permitted development is enclosed and from comparison with the plans contained within the consultation materials for the solar project, it appears that the quarry access road is located within the cable corridor.	N/A	Noted. The access road to the Sturton Le Steeple Quarry is within the boundary of the Scheme
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	The quarry access road has been designed to support up to 192 two-way HGV movements per day. The design of the road has had to consider the presence of other utility assets mainly to and from the adjacent power station.	N/A	Noted. The cumulative impact of additional traffic using the access road is considered in Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	It is noted that the cable corridor extends westwards beyond the quarry, as well as covering wider land to the north, east and south, such that it may be possible to entirely	No	Noted. Following refinements to the route of the cable corridor the Scheme does not include land that would avoid the quarry access road.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		avoid the quarry access road and associated infrastructure.		
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	It is understood that within the cable corridor, all cable infrastructure associated with the solar project would be located underground, with only one cable trench expected to be required for the majority of each route, up to a maximum easement width of 15 metres.	No	Noted. Following refinements to the route of the cable corridor the Scheme does not include land that would avoid the quarry access road.
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	With this in mind, given the extent of the search area, Tarmac would respectfully request that the cable trench is designed to avoid the access road and any associated quarry infrastructure located within the cable corridor.	No	Noted. Following refinements to the route of the cable corridor the Scheme does not include land that would avoid the quarry access road. No other quarry infrastructure is affected by the Scheme.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	Notwithstanding, should the developer/West Burton Solar Project Limited deem it essential that the cable infrastructure will need to cross the access road, albeit underground, appropriate further discussions will be required with TAL to provide adequate opportunity for consideration of the final design proposals, as well as discussions with the freeholder for the site.	Yes	The cable connection between West Burton Power Station and West Burton 3 will need to cross the Sturton Le Steeple Quarry access road. In order to leave the road undisturbed and not interrupt quarry traffic the cable ducting will be installed using horizontal directional drilling technique beneath the access road thus maintaining uninterrupted access for quarry related traffic.
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	Appropriate indemnities would ultimately need to be put in place to protect TAL's (and the freeholder's) position and the permitted minerals development at the quarry. Access will be required to the quarry at all times in association with the permitted development.	Yes	Noted to leave the road undisturbed and not interrupt quarry traffic the cable ducting will be installed using horizontal directional drilling technique beneath the access road thus maintaining uninterrupted access for quarry related traffic.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	With regard to other aspects of the permitted development at the quarry, it appears that the approved working/extraction phases are located outside of the cable corridor as well as the plant site and soil storage areas (refer to the enclosed plan), and access to the wharf.	N/A	Other than the quarry access the remainder of the permitted area of Sturton Le Steeple Quarry lies outside the Scheme.
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	If for any reason the cable corridor is extended, alternative cable corridors considered or if any aspect of the solar project has the potential to adversely impact the extraction of mineral within the approved working phases (refer to the enclosed plan), TAL reserves its position such that further consultation with TAL will be necessary.	N/A	Other than the quarry access the remainder of the permitted area of Sturton Le Steeple Quarry lies outside the Scheme.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	For the avoidance of doubt, any cable infrastructure will need to avoid any working phase and soil store, the plant site, permitted conveyor routes, lagoons, recharge trenches and barge loading facilities given the nature of the quarrying operations and the potential for restricted access to any underlying cable infrastructure that would be imposed throughout the quarry operations.	N/A	Other than the quarry access the remainder of the permitted area of Sturton Le Steeple Quarry lies outside the Scheme.
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	If for whatever reason the cable route was to inhibit or prevent TAL from undertaking the approved development, TAL would seek to reserve the right to recover any loss of profit or capital expenditure incurred via a compensation claim. It is expected that such terminology would be included in any deed of	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		easement.		
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	It should be noted that there are various statutory undertakings located within the vicinity of the quarry and wider cable corridor, which will also need to be considered by the solar project developer when determining final routes for the proposed cable infrastructure.	N/A	Noted.
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	There is also an extensive network of drains within the area which are the responsibility of the Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board, which will need to be considered on the same basis as the above.	N/A	Noted.
Tarmac Aggregates	Minerals	In terms of other comments affecting wider land in the locality, it is essential that the potential presence	N/A	Consideration has been given to the Schemes potential impact on safeguarded mineral resources as part of the Minerals Resource

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Limited		of mineral resources is given adequate consideration, particularly within the cable corridor, which is located/partially located within Minerals Safeguarding Areas identified within the Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire Minerals/Minerals and Waste Local Plans. This is necessary to avoid any unnecessary sterilisation of minerals.		Assessment, included within Chapter 12 (Minerals) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].
Tarmac Aggregates Limited	Cable Route	Finally it should be noted that on a general level and in the context of climate change mitigation/reduction, TAL is supportive of increases in renewable energy generation and projects which seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions/mitigate the impacts of climate change.	N/A	Noted.

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Historic Railways Estate	Cultural Heritage	I can confirm that HRE do not have any structures in the vicinity of your proposed plans. However, there are some disused railway structures around West Burton 3 (Brampton) which were sold to Railway Paths Ltd. Please contact Railway Paths for further information.	N/A	Noted.
Natural England	Landscape and Visual Impact	The proposed development is not located within, or within the setting of, any nationally designated landscapes. As a result, Natural England have no specific comments to make on the landscape implications. We welcome the reference made to Natural England's National Character Areas, and advise that the development should complement and where possible enhance local distinctiveness. We would also like to stress the	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		importance of cumulative landscape impacts from the development; welcome the assessment of the developments listed within Table 8.6.		
Natural England	Landscape and Visual Impact	Public Rights of Way and Access - Natural England note the intention to minimise impacts on, and enhance, the footpath network associated with the site, noted in paragraphs 8.9.90-110 of the PEIR. Where footpaths directly cross the site, as at West Burton 3 and 4, we welcome the intention to ensure panels are set back by at least 15m, and welcome the suite of primary, secondary and tertiary mitigation measures proposed to retain the value of these Prow. Where PRow enhancements are proposed, or other permissive routes are proposed, we would recommend that ecological	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>enhancements in these areas could form the backbone of a network of Green Infrastructure throughout the sites. We particularly welcome the intention to create a new permissive path at West Burton 2 from Sykes Lane to Codder Lane Belt and onwards to create a new circular route.</p>		
<p>Natural England</p>	<p>Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>Providing interpretation through signage or public consultation is noted within PRow 'Tertiary Mitigation' for West Burton 1-4 (PEIR paragraphs 8.9.90-110). However little detail is provided. We would encourage the implementation of such measures, for example along circular routes which are anticipated to be used more frequently. The ecological enhancement measures which are being undertaken as part</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Noted. The LVIA has carried forward the landscape mitigation from the PEIR, to Sections 8.6 and 8.8 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8], the intention to enhance the footpath network associated with the Sites, where appropriate, noted as secondary mitigation for Public Rights of Way. These measures potentially recommend increasing accessibility and connectivity of PRow, but also measures to increase understanding of the local</p>

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		of the project could be summarised on information boards to provide public understanding of the project and encourage access to nature.		landscapes and the solar project. The LVIA also draws out ecological enhancement measures to provide a wider public understanding of the project and encourage public access to nature.
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Designated Sites - The PEIR has assessed potential impacts to the Humber Estuary SPA. As discussed within PEIR paragraph 9.6.2, Natural England have provided advice regarding the potential for impacts to this site. We agree with the conclusion of no residual effects likely, and consider that the survey information indicates the site is not critical to, or necessary for, the ecological or behavioural functions of the qualifying features of the SPA, thus, is not functionally linked to the SPA. We also note that the retention of existing boundary features, along	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		with the various enhancement works under and around the solar panels will retain the potential low level of use of the site by the qualifying features of the SPA; there is little evidence to show solar farms pose a risk to birds in terms of either confusion of panels with water or collisions.		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Within our EIA Scoping response, impacts to Doddington Clay Woods SSSI, Chesterfield Canal SSSI, River Idle Washlands SSSI and Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits SSSI, were noted as possible. The PEIR also includes assessment of potential impacts Scarborough Tunnel SSSI and Lea Marsh SSSI. Below we have reviewed the assessment regarding impacts to these sites:		<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				range of environmental assessments.
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits SSSI & River Idle Washlands SSSI: Of the six SSSIs, the proposed development only triggers one Impact Risk Zone, for the River Idle Washlands SSSI. We note that PEIR paragraph 9.6.24 states that an IRZ is not triggered for the River Idle Washlands, but is triggered for Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits SSSI. This is incorrect, and the IRZ triggers are the inverse. Nevertheless, the assessment of impacts has not been impacted by this. We welcome the assessment of these two SSSIs together, due to the similar nature of the sites and their interest features.		<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	PEIR paragraph 9.6.25 notes that West Burton 4, the closest of the development parcels to these two SSSIs, has not been noted during any survey work to be of particular value for sheltering, nesting or foraging purposes by any of the species for which the sites have been designated. We agree with the indication that this deems the site to be of little value as functionally linked land. We also agree that the impact of solar installations on flightpaths are likely to be negligible; there is little evidence to show solar farms pose a risk to birds in terms of either confusion of panels with water or collisions. Paragraph 9.6.26 notes there is potential for operational phase impacts from sediment mobilisation and fuel/oil spills, however the likelihood of these are	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		very low. We consider that when embedded mitigation is considered, i.e. vegetative cover beneath panels and buffer areas surrounding the site, impacts on these two SSSIs during the operational phase are unlikely.		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	During construction, West burton 4 and some of the western areas of the cable corridor lie within the surface water catchment of the River Idle Washlands; as such, there is potential for impacts from sediment and other contaminants reaching this SSSI. PEIR paragraphs 9.6.27 & 28 indicate the intention to implement a detailed CEMP which will include measures to avoid sediment mobilisation and release of contaminants into the water environment. We note the extensive	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		list of potential measures to be included in the CEMP (detailed in Table 3.3 & 3.4 of Appendix 4.3: Outline CEMP)and would encourage as many of these to be implemented across West Burton 4 in particular, and across all sites to prevent avoidable pollution events causing adverse effects in the wider environment. Where a CEMP is implemented, we consider impacts from construction to be unlikely.		
Natural England	Soils	The only area we feel the CEMP does not propose to cover is measures to protect the soil resource during construction. Appropriate soil management not only protects the soil resource, but reduces sediment runoff dust mobilisation and can help new habitat to develop, i.e. by avoiding compression of soils which	Yes	The application will include an outline Soil Management Plan (SMP) covering measures to protect the soil resource at the site. Protection measures will aim to both avoid loss of soil resource from the site, and avoid the loss of soil functional capacity for supporting agricultural production. Measures in the outline SMP will adopt the guidance given in the Defra Construction

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		inhibits growth. Defra has published a Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites which provides advice on the use and protection of soil in construction projects, including the movement and management of soil resources, which we strongly recommend is followed.		Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites to minimise loss and/or degradation of the soil resource both for soil that is stripped and stored, and for the majority of the soil that will remain undisturbed.
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	PEIR paragraph 9.6.29 indicates that habitat management could be tailored to benefit the species associated with these SSSIs; we would be happy to provide advice regarding these specific measures throughout existing DAS contract.	N/A	Noted. The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Chesterfield Canal SSSI :Despite the development not triggering an IRZ for Chesterfield Canal, the SSSI lies	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>approximately 300m from the nearest point of West Burton 4, and is within the surface water catchment of the site. As noted within PEIR paragraph 9.6.3, this gives rise to concerns regarding impacts from sediment, dust and other contaminants reaching the SSSI. To mitigate this construction phase impact we once again welcome the intention to implement a CEMP; consider the need for dust suppression/prevention measures to be higher as a result of the proximity of this SSSI (and other Local Sites). Where this CEMP is implemented, we consider impacts from construction to be unlikely.</p>		<p>Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	<p>During operation, PEIR paragraph 9.6.6 once again mentions there is potential for impacts from accidental</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>discharge of pollutants from vehicles, however the likelihood of these are very low. The nature of the interest features of the SSSI mean that impacts are limited to effects on the Canal itself. We consider that when embedded mitigation is considered, i.e. vegetative cover beneath panels and buffer areas surrounding the site, impacts on the SSSI during the operational phase are unlikely.</p>		<p>Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
<p>Natural England</p>	<p>Ecology and Biodiversity</p>	<p>Doddington Clay Woods SSSI, Clarborough Tunnel SSSI and Lea Marsh SSSI: Neither the proposed development sites, nor cable route corridor, trigger any Impact Risk Zones for these three SSSIs. The distances between these SSSIs and the development sites remove a likelihood of adverse effects as a</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		result of the development.		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Local Wildlife Sites - Natural England have no specific comments to make regarding the other locally designated sites the report has assessed, but are broadly welcoming of the measures which have been proposed to prevent impacts and enhance these sites. We recommend consultation with the relevant site owners/managers, i.e. Wildlife Trusts, who have extensive local knowledge of these sites.		Noted. Environmental Statement Appendix 9.1 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.9.1] details the consultation that took place with various Ecological bodies including Natural England, RSPB, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Protected Species - Natural England have no specific comments to make regarding protected species. However, we refer you to our Standing Advice for Protected Species, and the advice previously	Yes	Noted. This guidance was taken into account within Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9].

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		<p>provided as part of our DAS (Discretionary Advice Service), dated 5thMay 2022and 2ndJuly 2022. Further advice regarding Species and licencing can be provided via the existing DAS contract.</p>		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	<p>Decommissioning Effects (PEIR Chapter 9.7 & Appendix 4.4: Decommissioning Statement) - The impacts of decommissioning are largely similar to those of construction; we welcome the intention to create a Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP)to prevent adverse impacts. The appropriate wording of a DCO requirement to ensure the DEMP contains measures as set out in Decommissioning Statement Section 3,should render impacts to designated sites to be</p>	N/A	<p>The Applicant notes that decommissioning phase effects are discussed within Section 9.8 of Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9] and are likely to be largely similar to the construction phase effects. A commitment to update ecological survey is made and approaches to follow the mitigation hierarchy will be made.</p>

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		<p>unlikely.</p> <p>The loss of created habitats in order to revert to agriculture after 40 years of operation will inevitably have a negative impact on biodiversity and the habitats, and species associated with these, which have established in the operational period. We acknowledge the difficulty in pre-planning for a scenario 40 years into the future, but welcome the intention to ensure new surveys are undertaken to identify any protected species present on the site to enable additional mitigation/compensatory measures to be implemented prior to any works occurring (PEIR paragraph 9.7.4). We would also encourage the retention of areas of particular biodiversity value, i.e. widened field boundaries/buffer</p>		

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		<p>areas, and/or compensatory habitat being provided off-site. It may be possible for areas of the site to be retained and managed under an Agri-Environment Agreement, or sold as Biodiversity Net Gain credits, however the status of such Schemes in 40 years' time is clearly unknown; thus consideration of options closer to the decommissioning phase is recommended.</p>		
<p>Natural England</p>	<p>Ecology and Biodiversity</p>	<p>Biodiversity Net Gain (PEIR Chapter 9.9) - We welcome the intention of the Scheme to demonstrate a Biodiversity Net Gain using the Biodiversity Metric 3.1, or the latest version available at the time of assessment. We also concur with the anticipation that the calculations will illustrate a significant Net Gain. We understand that the LEMP will</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Applicant notes that Appendix 9.12 to Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.9.12] provides the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment for the Scheme. The assessment shows how the Scheme will likely result in a net percentage gain in Habitat Units of 86.80%, with a 54.71% gain of Hedgerow Units and a 33.25% net gain in River Units. All three elements exceed the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>provide the management strategy for all of the ecological enhancement across the site, and would recommend that the management of the habitats for the lifetime of the development is secured. This would ensure the habitats are maintained beyond the anticipated mandatory 30 year period.</p> <p>We note the Outline LEMP has been produced to summarise the principles which will be followed within the design of mitigation and enhancement for landscape and ecology, and does not comprise a final management plan. Below we have provided general comments on the principles and potential habitat creation measures; have provided further detail where we feel</p>		<p>minimum 10% and will lead to a substantial biodiversity net gain which will be significant for the local area given the large size of the Scheme.</p> <p>The BNG assessment report also sets out how these calculations are based on the measures set out in the Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] which will be secured under a requirement of the DCO for the life of the Scheme (approximately 40 years).</p>

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		<p>appropriate.</p> <p>Overall, we welcome the principles set out within the LEMP; the selection process being related to current conditions, nearby habitats and local priorities is welcomed by Natural England. We would like to note that further specific input can be provided on habitat creation/management plans via our DAS contract; would ask that specific issues/options are presented to allow us to provide the most useful advice.</p>		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Trees/Hedgerows (LEMP Chapter 2.3) - Natural England welcome the intention to provide tree planting along hedgerows, in keeping with local character. We recommend that all planted trees are Native to the UK	Yes	The Outline LEMP has been amended following consultation with Natural England to delete sycamore as having the potential to replace Ash. Suitable native species are set out at paragraph 4.3.23 of the outline LEMP

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>and are locally prevalent. We note the inclusion of Sycamore having potential to replace Ash and consider that, despite prevalence of Sycamore in the UK, that it is not a Native Species; would recommend use of the other species listed in the table at paragraph 2.3.7 of the Outline LEMP.</p>		<p>[EN010132/APP/WB7.3].</p> <p>The outline LEMP confirms that locally appropriate hedgerow species will be used, based on those already found within the local area. The planting of blackthorn will provide habitat for rare species such as brown hairstreak butterfly. Tall thorny species will provide appropriate nesting habitat for turtle doves. See Hedgerow Planting paragraphs 4.3.5 – 4.3.10 of the Outline LEMP</p> <p>[EN010132/APP/WB7.3].</p> <p>The Applicant notes that Appendix 9.12 to Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.9.12] provides the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment for the Scheme. The assessment shows how the Scheme will likely result in a net percentage gain in Habitat Units of 86.80%, with a 54.71% gain of Hedgerow Units and a 33.25% net gain</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>in River Units. All three elements exceed the minimum 10% and will lead to a substantial biodiversity net gain which will be significant for the local area given the large size of the Scheme.</p> <p>The BNG assessment report also sets out how these calculations are based on the measures set out in the Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] which will be secured under a requirement of the DCO for the life of the Scheme (approximately 40 years).</p>
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	<p>We welcome the intention to plant new hedgerows and are pleased to see reference to these enhancing Green Infrastructure and acting as wildlife corridors through the sites. The potential for these to provide habitat for both Brown Hairstreak and/or Turtle Dove is also noted, and management of the hedgerows</p>	Yes	<p>The Outline LEMP has been amended following consultation with Natural England to delete sycamore as having the potential to replace Ash. Suitable native species are set out at paragraph 4.3.23 of the outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3].</p> <p>The outline LEMP confirms that locally appropriate hedgerow species will be used,</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>specifically to benefit these species would be welcomed by Natural England. The intention to cut hedgerows less frequently, at strategic times of year and remove fertiliser/pesticide input nearby will all benefit the hedgerows and we would welcome this positive management across the site.</p>		<p>based on those already found within the local area. The planting of blackthorn will provide habitat for rare species such as brown hairstreak butterfly. Tall thorny species will provide appropriate nesting habitat for turtle doves. See Hedgerow Planting paragraphs 4.3.5 – 4.3.10 of the Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3].</p> <p>The Applicant notes that Appendix 9.12 to Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.9.12] provides the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment for the Scheme. The assessment shows how the Scheme will likely result in a net percentage gain in Habitat Units of 86.80%, with a 54.71% gain of Hedgerow Units and a 33.25% net gain in River Units. All three elements exceed the minimum 10% and will lead to a substantial biodiversity net gain which will be significant for the local area given the large size of the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>Scheme.</p> <p>The BNG assessment report also sets out how these calculations are based on the measures set out in the Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] which will be secured under a requirement of the DCO for the life of the Scheme (approximately 40 years).</p>
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	<p>Buffer Areas (LEMP Chapter 2.4) - The inclusion of strict buffer areas is welcomed by Natural England, and their management should be focussed on the nearby habitat features which require buffering, to not only protect the feature, but enhance it.</p>	Yes	<p>Noted. The intention to provide enhancements within these areas is set out in the OLEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] and forms part of the BNG provision [EN010132/APP/WB3.6.9.12].</p>
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	<p>The general principle of 'the right habitat in the right place' is apparent throughout the LEMP, and we</p>	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>welcome here the intention not to create one type of habitat, but to create a mosaic of habitats based on the specific buffer areas and surrounding habitat. This is particularly important considering the scale of the development; what is a good habitat in one area, may be inappropriate elsewhere. BRE National Solar Centre Biodiversity Guidance for Solar Developments states that 'Usually the greatest biodiversity value is gained from a variety of grassland habitats. The best results will come from sites that contain both wild flower meadows and areas of tussocky uncropped grassland.' We welcome reference to this guidance within the LEMP and note this principle is clearly being followed.</p>		

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Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	<p>The general options of Tussocky Grassland Margins, Herb-Rich pollinator Margins, Wild Bird Seed Crop and Scrubby Field Margins for buffer areas provide a good starting point for creating this mosaic of habitat around the site. We note that scrubby field margins would be best suited to woodland boundaries, as evidence suggests that having a graduated edge to woodland is beneficial to many woodland bird species. This is not to say that areas of scrub are not beneficial elsewhere, but we would suggest that areas bordering woodland could be best suited for this habitat type. For each of the habitat types, the timing and frequency of cutting appears appropriate.</p>	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Beneath Panel Habitat (LEMP Chapter 2.5) - We would like to note that the former use of the fields for arable farming may pose issues regarding Nutrient content of soils; this must be factored into the early years of management. Measures should be put in place in the event that the intended habitats fail to establish. This should be taken into account for all buffer areas too, as even where the buffers may not have been in agricultural cultivation, fertiliser application to the adjacent land is likely to have influenced the nutrient content of these areas too. We welcome the acknowledgement of these nutrient issues (LEMP paragraphs 2.5.8 and 2.5.10) along with other factors impacting establishment, i.e. pH and soil types. We note the intention to select any	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		seed mixed based on these factors, as well as to implement extensive ecological monitoring (LEMP section 2.7) across the site. We would recommend that this monitoring data should be reviewed regularly to allow any alterations to be made to maintenance schedules etc.		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	The two options of Diverse Meadow Creation and Grazing Pasture both show benefits for the land. We are pleased to see measures proposed to ensure establishment of a diverse sward in areas either of these options are implemented, i.e. regular and cut and collect cutting initially to reduce nutrient levels and injurious weed prevalence, aftermath grazing, low intensity grazing year-round (conservation grazing) on Diverse Meadow. Or where Grazing Pasture	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>is preferred, use of a more diverse grazing mix. From a Biodiversity standpoint, the former, Diverse Meadow, is likely to score higher within the Biodiversity Metric and, as stated, can still be grazed (i.e. aftermath or conservation intensity), however, a mixture of beneath panel habitats would still provide biodiversity benefits whilst enabling higher levels of grazing to continue in certain areas.</p>		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	<p>The reference to a 'shade cut (LEMP paragraph 2.5.12) is also welcomed, and we advise that a diverse sward should aim to be created throughout the entire area beneath the panels; small management techniques such as this can be used to retain efficiency of the panels whilst still allowing the largest gains for</p>	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		biodiversity and avoiding areas of bare ground which may impact soil health and sediment runoff.		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Other Habitats (LEMP Chapter 2.6) - Whilst developing diverse buffer areas and beneath panel habitats across the majority of the site may lead to a considerable gain in biodiversity, this can be readily complimented by creation/enhancement of other habitats. We are pleased to see the intended inclusion of these other habitats across the site.	N/A	Noted.
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Creation of Ponds/Scrapes and other wetland features across the site would be encouraged. The presence of GCN on site indicates that the development area may have	N/A	Noted

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>potential to be used by the species. Where pond creation is considered, we would encourage ponds to be created in series, with the aim of connecting a larger portion of the land, i.e. creating 'stepping stones' for GCN and other wildlife associated with wetland habitat. It is worth noting that water retention in ponds should be considered, as field drains associated with agriculture and ground conditions may lead to failure of new ponds to hold water and establish.</p>		
<p>Natural England</p>	<p>Ecology and Biodiversity</p>	<p>Use of Bat/Bird boxes is welcomed, although should be limited to areas which lack in natural nesting opportunities. Likewise, provision of hibernacula near to wetland features is encouraged.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Ecological Monitoring (LEMP Chapter 2.7) - See comments above regarding Beneath Panel habitats. Additionally, soil compaction may occur during routine maintenance of panels/surrounding habitats. We would recommend implementation of measures to reduce any compaction as far as is reasonably practicable. This may include visual monitoring of the sites to identify any areas which are becoming compacted.	N/A	Noted.
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Site Specific Strategies (LEMP Chapter 3) - Natural England support the range of site specific measures set out within this section. The implementation of a variety of options is illustrated, and as further investigations take place, we welcome the fact that these will	N/A	Noted

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		inform the final plans. We would like to welcome the use of Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping to identify key areas of habitat creation and network expansion. However, we would also encourage greater enhancements outside these areas, to go above and beyond the BOM to create additional habitat, where this is possible/appropriate.		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	Omission of the eastern area of West Burton 2 from the Solar Array Footprint is welcomed; due to the size of the area and location alongside the River, provides a good opportunity for enhancement (LEMP paragraph 3.3.2). The potential use of this area as mitigation for birds such as Lapwing, Grey Plover and Skylark is welcomed; could become a hotspot for biodiversity. Additionally,	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>LMEP paragraph 3.3.5 notes the presence of LWSs to the south and east of the development area for West Burton 2, and would support the creation of diverse meadow creation in both the buffer areas and beneath panels in this area to create stepping stone habitat. We note that use of techniques such as spreading of green hay from the LWSs may provide a great method of developing complimentary habitat in this area.</p>		
<p>Natural England</p>	<p>Ecology and Biodiversity</p>	<p>Where further input on specific habitat creation/management is required, we would be happy to provide this via our existing DAS contract; would ask that specific issues/options are presented to allow us to provide the most useful</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		advice.		
Natural England	Ecology and Biodiversity	LEMP Omissions - Natural England note that the LEMP makes no reference to enhancements to be made along the cable route. We assume this is due to the cable route surveys etc. being at a less advanced stage, along with the land above the cables largely being put back to its previous use following construction. Nonetheless, we would like to see the final LEMP include maintenance of any enhancement measures made along the cable route; the linear nature of the cable route may provide opportunities to create new Green Infrastructure corridors, however we appreciate land ownership may pose issues with regards to this.	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Natural England	Agricultural land	Based on the information provided within the PEIR (Appendix 3.2 (addendum Updated ALC Report) and Chapter 18: Socio-Economics, Agriculture, and Tourism and Recreation), it appears that the proposed development will result in the temporary loss of 1077 ha, of which 457.2ha(42.5%) is BMV (Grades 1, 2 and 3a land in the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system) agricultural land.	N/A	Noted and agreed.
Natural England	Agricultural land	However, there is no indication of the quantity or quality of agricultural land which will be permanently lost as a result of the project, nor the quantity or quality of agricultural land within the cable trench area. A detailed ALC and soil resource survey will also be required for the final	No	The Cable Route Corridor has not yet been subject to a soil survey to inform soil management planning. This survey work will be undertaken post consent. ALC assessment of agricultural land quality along the cable route is not proposed, and such assessments are uncommon for other electrical service trenches. No agricultural land will be lost to the trench work and the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		cable route.		duration of cable laying work is short, negating any need for an assessment of ALC grade. Soil sampling points for a detailed ALC assessment are normally spaced at 100m intervals which is not appropriate for characterising soil characteristics within a narrow cable route corridor. Following consent when the precise path of the cable route corridor can be limited to a minimal number of options, and access to the agricultural land is obtained to carry out site investigation, soils within the corridor can be appropriately assessed to inform the Soil Management Plan.
Natural England	Agricultural land	The Environmental Statement should include a detailed breakdown of the land take into permanent and temporary losses for the different types of land use within the proposed development (including the cable route), broken down by	No	The extent of any potential permanent loss of agricultural land within the Sites is small, confined to only those switchgear housings and or Battery Energy Storage Systems where it is not considered appropriate to reinstate agricultural land on decommissioning.

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		ALC by area (ha) and percentage.		
Natural England	Agricultural land	It is acknowledged that an addendum to the PEIR includes an updated ALC report, as results from the additional soil sampling has resulted in material changes to the ALC Grading, increasing the area of BMV in the Study Area from 253.9 ha to 457.2 ha.	N/A	Noted and agreed.
Natural England	Agricultural land	Please note the following comments are a preliminary response to the ALC Report and data provided to date, including the data included in the Addendum. As noted previously, a detailed ALC and soil resource survey is currently missing for the cable route and will be required.	N/A	A soil resource assessment of the cable route corridor will be undertaken post consent. A detailed ALC assessment will not be appropriate as the 100m spacing of sample points will be too wide to adequately assess the narrow cable route corridor. Post consent the applicant will be able to obtain access to survey the cable route corridor.

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Natural England	Agricultural land	Paragraph 2.3 'Where an augur was used subsoil structures are described as good, moderate or poor based on figure 9,10 and 11 in the MAFF guidance.' Assessment of soil structural conditions needs to be undertaken through the excavation of a representative soil pit not via an auger sample.	Yes	Surveyor assessed subsoil structure at inspection pits dug at representative locations. Packing Density (good, moderate of poor structural condition) was then assigned to auger sample points based upon the findings of these inspection pits. Structural condition is given for auger boring to assess ALC grade at that auger boring. It is not an assessment of the subsoil structure made from an auger boring.
Natural England	Agricultural land	The update of the ALC report reflects the lab analysis of the soils' neutralising capacity, however, it is not clear as to whether the top and subsoils were analysed or not. The analysis of the full profile would be needed to identify whether the profile(s) are naturally calcareous. Naturally calcareous soil profiles are usually better structured and more workable, which is recognised as a	Yes	Laboratory analysis of samples are topsoils. The analysis cannot distinguish between geogenic calcareous topsoil and lime applied to correct acidity. However surveyors did speak to farmers regarding lime application. Soils with a geogenic carbonate content sufficient to impact on ALC grade (greater than 1% CaCO ₃ by mass) do not require supplementary lime. Surveyors also field tested for the presence of carbonate in the field using acid (10% HCl) enabling

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		<p>higher grading in the ALC system for some clayey soils in dryer areas.</p> <p>There is no discussion in the addendum as to how the limited point laboratory information has been used in identifying the neutralising value, and thus ALC grade for the wider sites.</p>		<p>identification of geogenic carbonate by reaction with subsoil.</p> <p>ALC survey tested for presence of carbonates in the field. Where laboratory assessment has found > 1% carbonate present in the topsoil sample from an inspection pit, the ALC grading takes that presence into account for all land for which the soil inspection pit is representative.</p>
Natural England	Agricultural land	Frequently, the Applicants ALC survey recognises a slowly permeable layer (SPL) has been identified in the topsoil. However, there is no evidence of wetness recorded (such as gleying, ochreous mottles in the topsoil) and so these layers cannot be considered as an SPL. Additionally, is there an explanation about why these topsoils appear to be unusually deep, as it is	Yes	<p>A revised soil data table has been included within Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19].</p> <p>Topsoil structures not relevant to ALC Grading as can be imposed by routine cultivation. Unusually deep topsoil records demonstrate a conservative approach by the ALC surveyor, reducing the severity of soil wetness and soil drought limitations on ALC</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		common for different soil structures to denote a separate horizon below the zone of regular cultivation?		Grade.
Natural England	Agricultural land	The soil pit descriptions in Appendix 3f do not contain all the information needed to confirm the grading. For example, there is no information about subsoil porosity for subsoil horizons and incomplete information about soil consistence. This needs to be provided.	N/A	The brief pit descriptions do not provide subsoil structure degree of development and ped strength in every case. However the presence of black mottles (manganiferous nodules) along with gleying demonstrates that this heavy land is subject to seasonal waterlogging caused by impeded drainage. The prolonged periods of wetness required to produce subsoil gleying and manganiferous nodules are not the result of a high ground water table and can only result from impeded drainage. The wetness classes assigned to the land and the resulting wetness limitations are not in doubt.
Natural England	Agricultural land	Data on the laboratory assessment of particle size (PSD) is provided;	N/A	All laboratory assessments of soil are for

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		however information is also needed about the type of sample (i.e. topsoil or subsoil) and its depth to provide confirmation about the soil textures present, and how this limited point information has been used in identifying soil texture for the wider site.		topsoil samples.
Natural England	Agricultural land	For the West Burton Substation site, Appendix 3f does not appear to describe trial pits or laboratory assessment of particle size (PSD) representative of the soils This is an omission which needs consideration.	Yes	The West Burton Substation site is no longer included within the Scheme.
Natural England	Agricultural land	Please note, Table 18.12 refers to a temporary loss of 183.9 ha of BMV as a result of this proposed development, however, this area	N/A	The Applicant notes that there have been changes to the extent of the Sites and a review of the ALC assessment following PEIR. Area estimates should be taken from Chapter

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		doesn't tally with the temporary BMV loss presented in Chapter 18 (457.2ha).		19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19].
Natural England	Agricultural land	A Soil Management Plan should be prepared and form part of the CEMP.	N/A	A framework Soil Management Plan (SMP) will be submitted providing guidance on the development of the Construction, Operational and Decommissioning Environmental Management Plans (CEMP, OEMP and DEMP).
Natural England	Agricultural land	The SMP should include the following: ·An assessment of agricultural land and soil resource of the site will be undertaken before work commences (as per Natural England's Guide to assessing development proposals on agricultural land) which is considered	N/A	Noted and agreed. A detailed ALC assessment of the Sites has been undertaken. Post consent, additional survey work will be carried out to examine soils in the cable route corridor to inform the SMP.

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		<p>to represent UK good practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Mitigation should include reference to the Defra Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites. · The methods by which the Applicant intends to restore appropriate affected areas to agricultural use after works including excavations and restoration has finished. The exact areas to be restored will be determined in due course but are expected to comprise the temporary land take areas, i.e. cable trenching, site compounds, construction working space and access routes required during the construction phase. · An aftercare programme which 		

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		would enable a satisfactory standard of agricultural after-use to be reached, with regards to cultivating, reseeded, draining or irrigating, applying fertiliser, or cutting and grazing the site.		
Natural England	Agricultural land	We have concerns regarding the assessment of significance for the environmental assessment, which should follow the IEMA guidance 'A New Perspective on Land and Soil in Environmental Impact Assessment' (IEMA, 2022). At present, all soils have been assigned medium sensitivity given their importance to agricultural productivity (paragraph 18.4.49). However, this soil function is already considered in the ALC assessment. We suggest that the Environmental Statement should include a separate chapter on	Yes	<p>IEMA guidance notes that "The gradation of sensitivities from very high to negligible is not necessarily one of discrete categories for all of the soil functions, and it is not possible to anticipate all possible permutations of soil resources and soil functions in Table 2. Therefore, this process involves an element of professional judgement."</p> <p>In contrast to most planning applications on agricultural land, this proposal is for a temporary consent where the land and its soil can continue in agricultural management throughout the operational period. Professional judgement will be used in the</p>

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		Agriculture and Soils issues, as is more normal practice. The detail and assessment of agricultural land and soils is obscured by other topics and is difficult to follow, in the way currently presented in the PEIR.		assessment of sensitivity of receptors and the magnitude of the effects for Soils and Agriculture.
Natural England	Agricultural Land	Paragraph 4.1.2 states that 'The operational life of the Scheme is anticipated to be 40 years. ... However, as is typical for energy generation NSIPs, the DCO application will not seek a temporary or time limited consent'. The Decommissioning Plan will be secured by the Requirements in the DCO (para 4.5.15). Clarification is required as to whether this development is seeking a temporary or permanent change in land use, and the assessment needs to reflect this. At present, the project appears	N/A	The SMP embedded in the CEMP, OEMP and DEMP will have the retention of baseline ALC grade as a key objective. To this end it will include measures to record the soil resource present, avoid structural degradation from trafficking over and soil handling, and store soil material appropriately. It should be noted that the majority of the soil resource will not be disturbed, remaining in place with a perennial green cover. This land management will not risk any degradation of ALC grade.

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		<p>open-ended with no firm end date, despite reference to decommissioning and reinstatement. Site reinstatement (paragraphs 4.5.21-4.5.23) state that 'The land within the Sites will be returned to its original use after decommissioning. This will include the substations, converter units/inverters and energy storage'. However, this should include restoration to the baseline ALC Grade.</p>		
<p>Natural England</p>	<p>Agricultural Land</p>	<p>Should the proposal be amended in a way which significantly affects its impact on the natural environment then, in accordance with Section 4 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, Natural England should be consulted again. Before sending us the amended consultation, please assess whether</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		the changes proposed will materially affect any of the advice we have previously offered. If they are unlikely to do so, please do not re-consult us.		The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Newark and Sherwood District	General	I can advise that Newark & Sherwood District Council have no comments to make on the pre application consultation including the contents of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).	N/A	Noted.
Environment Agency	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	West Burton 1: The development boundary sits within a small section of flood zone 2. We have no comments to make on this section of the development and are pleased to note no development will occur within the Till Washlands Flood	No	Noted and Agreed. No development is proposed in the Till Washlands Flood Storage Reservoir (FSR).

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		Storage Reservoir (FSR).		
Environment Agency	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	West Burton 2: The development boundary sits within flood zone 2 and 3. The western portion of the site would be impacted by flooding from the River Trent via land drains on site. The relevant model at this location is the Mott McDonald 2014 Tidal Trent model. Modelling outputs show that the site is affected by a 1 in 100 year plus 20% climate change fluvial breach event with a flood height of 6.79 metres above Ordnance Datum (AOD) and a 1 in 1000 year fluvial overtopping of defences with a flood height of 7.7 metres AOD.	Yes	The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1] has considered the latest available data provided by the EA and has been completed in line with local, National Planning Policies and appropriate guidance and best practice.
Environment	Hydrology, Flood Risk	The development also partially sits within the flood storage area of the	No	The Applicant notes that no development is proposed in the Till Washlands Flood Storage

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Agency	and Drainage	Till Washlands. We note from the PEIR no development will take place in the Till Washlands FSR. If this is likely to remain the case we therefore have no additional comments to make on this section.		Reservoir (FSR).
Environment Agency	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	West Burton 3: The development boundary sits within flood zone 2 and 3. The areas of floodplain are affected by flooding from the River Trent via land drains on site. This includes a large area around a land drain through the centre of the site. The relevant model at this location is the Mott McDonald 2014 Tidal Trent model. This shows that the 1 in 100 year plus 20% climate change fluvial breach flood height is 6.79 metres AOD on site. The 1 in 1000 year fluvial overtopping of defences flood has a flood height of 7.7 metres AOD	Yes	The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1] has considered the latest available data provided by the EA and has been completed in line with local, National Planning Policies and appropriate guidance and best practice.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		on site. New climate change data has been modelled which is relevant to this site; Tidal		
Environment Agency	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Trent Climate Change Scenarios, EA, 2021. This new data does not include an updated breach flood scenario. The 1 in 100 year plus 30% overtopping of defences flood height is 5.47 metres AOD on site, again via the land drain route.	Yes	The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1] has considered the latest available data provided by the EA and has been completed in line with local, National Planning Policies and appropriate guidance and best practice.
Environment Agency	Cable Route	Where West Burton 3 joins the cable route search corridor, it crosses the River Trent and therefore the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 will apply. However, it may be that the Electricity Act 1989 will afford the Applicant with an interconnector licence. If it is determined that the	N/A	Noted.

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		Regulations still apply, we will need to discuss whether you are looking to disapply them as part of the Development Consent Order.		
Environment Agency	Cable Route	Whilst an 8 metre easement has been suggested for all main rivers within the site boundaries, we would like to be informed of any permissive power you may wish to act upon in future.	N/A	Noted.
Environment Agency	Cable Route	It is unclear from the PEIR whether an interconnector licence will be applied for. We will be able to provide further advice once we know whether this is the case.	N/A	The Applicant notes that no electricity interconnector licence will be required for the Scheme.
Environment Agency	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	West Burton 4: The development boundary sits mostly within flood zone 1, with a small section of flood	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>zone 2 to the southwest of the site. The site lies outside of the River Trent breach and overtopping flood outlines and the (defended) River Idle flood outlines. The small area of flood zone 2 is considered to be associated with the land drains. We do not have model data for the flood risk associated with land drainage but the Internal Drainage Board may have further information.</p>		<p>Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
<p>Environment Agency</p>	<p>Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage</p>	<p>Flood mitigation measures The flood risk assessment (FRA) accompanying the application should demonstrate that the development is safe from flooding and will not increase risk elsewhere as a result of the proposals.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Applicant notes that a Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1 – WB6.3.10.5] has been produced for each of the solar Sites.</p> <p>The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1]</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				has been completed in line with local, National Planning Policies and appropriate guidance and best practice.
Environment Agency	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	<p>With reference to the submitted documentation we recommend that the following measures are included as appropriate, to mitigate and manage flood risk as part of the development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable easements to development are to be established around all watercourses and any cable crossing points are to be agreed with the relevant parties, this is to include main rivers, ordinary watercourses and IDB assets. • Sensitive electrical equipment should be raised above the relevant flood height with a minimum of 300- 	Yes	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>600mm of additional 'freeboard' (extra height). Where possible, all essential support/control infrastructure should be located in flood zone 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All services within areas at risk of flooding should be designed where possible to be flood resilient/water compatible. • Any site/boundary fencing should be designed to prevent minor obstructions occurring allowing the continuation of flow routes (if present) unimpeded through the site. 		
Environment Agency	Cable Route	The submitted PIER denotes that at present the final cable corridor/route is to be determined however there are 'search corridor' areas for this	Yes	The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1] has considered the cable route. The cable will be installed below any watercourses through

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>indicated within the supporting figures. Please note that whilst the corridor lies within the floodplain of the River Trent, we would require further details on the specific proposals before we can provide detailed flood risk advice.</p>		directional drilling techniques.
Environment Agency	Ground Conditions and Contamination	<p>We have reviewed the following documents in relation to the protection of controlled waters in the vicinity of the development sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Information Report: Chapter 11: Ground Conditions and Contamination Prepared by: Delta-Simons June 2022; • Appendices 11.1 – 11.4 Delta-Simons Preliminary Geo-Environmental Risk Assessment Reports for WB1, WB2, WB3 and 	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		WB4.		
Severn Trent Water	General	The statutory records do not indicate any STW assets within the development location.	N/A	Noted.
Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	While Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board has a standing objection in principle to development within flood plain, as shown on the Environment Agency flood maps, Solar Farms can be appropriate with mitigation. The expectation would be that all the electrical equipment is above design flood levels in the main river system and any construction is resilient to flooding. Any development requires the discharge to be limited to the green field rate, assuming the ground will have grass, there should a small impermeable	Yes	The Applicant notes the development has been designed in consideration of the existing flood risks. Where development is proposed within the flood extent, it will be resilient (as detailed in sections 10.6 Embedded Mitigation and 10.8 Mitigation Measures of Chapter 10 (Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.10] and throughout the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy (included as Appendix 10.1. to the Environmental Statement). The Scheme will not have a detrimental impact of surface water runoff. Where

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		area.		hardstanding is proposed this will be managed through local SuDS proposals considered in Section 5.0 (Drainage Strategy) of the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy and throughout the supporting annexes.
Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	There are several Board maintained watercourses that will be affected by the sites. Under the terms of the Board's Byelaws, the prior written consent of the Board is required for any proposed temporary or permanent works or structures in, under, over or within the byelaw distance of 9m of the top of the bank of a Board maintained watercourse. A clear unobstructed strip the full width is required adjacent to all the maintained watercourses. Note new Byelaws will shortly be adopted with	Yes	Given the length of the proposed cable, the Applicant notes it is not possible to avoid local watercourses be they Internal Drainage Board, Lead Local Flood Authority, or Environment Agency managed. A plan detailing the proposed watercourse crossings is included as Annex B of the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.2]. All watercourses will be crossed through directional drilling ensuring no impact to their operation and the appropriate consultee will be consulted as necessary to ensure appropriate permission is acquired prior to

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		<p>a revised distance of 9m.</p> <p>For any other watercourses within or adjacent to the site appropriate maintenance access should be provided in consultation with who is responsible for the maintenance.</p>		<p>works commencing.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that easements have been applied as necessary within the development masterplan, as detailed in section 10.6 'Embedded Mitigation' of Chapter 10 (Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.10].</p>
Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	The Board wishes to reiterate, West Burton 2 site is within the Environment Agency Lincoln Washland site and is subject to periodic inundation to protect Lincoln. Contact with the Environment Agency will be needed, to discuss the implications of this location.	N/A	The Applicant notes that no development is proposed in the Till Washlands Flood Storage Reservoir (FSR).

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
NATS safeguarding	General	NATS anticipates no impact from the proposal and has no comments to make on the application.	N/A	Noted.
Highways England Historical Railways Estate	General	Further to the attached, I can confirm that HRE do not have any structures in the vicinity of your proposed plans. However, there are some disused railway structures around West Burton 3 (Brampton) which were sold to Railway Paths Ltd. Please contact Railway Paths for further information. Also, if you do come across any of the disused railway structures, please do not hesitate to contact me.	N/A	Noted.
National Highways	Transport and Access	It is understood that the four proposed West Burton sites will be accessed directly from the local road network. As such, we have no specific	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		comments to make on site access.		
National Highways	Transport and Access	As outlined in the PEIR, it is anticipated the operation of the West Burton site will not generate any significant vehicle flows, approximately less than one vehicle per day on average. We can accept these assumptions and agree that no additional assessment or mitigation is required with respect of the operational phase of the site.	N/A	Noted.
National Highways	Transport and Access	We note the construction phase of the development is a temporary situation assumed to take place over an 18 month period (max). HGV trip generation has been forecasted at a total of 48 two-way movements per day across all four sites during the	Yes	Noted. Details provided within Chapter 14 (Transport and Access)of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14], Transport Assessment and Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan.

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		<p>construction phase.</p> <p>This figure is unlikely to generate a significant impact on the SRN, however, confirmation on the methodology used to estimate HGV movements is needed prior to National Highways being able to agree HGV trip generation figures.</p>		
National Highways	Transport and Access	<p>Similarly, we acknowledge construction worker (non-HGV) traffic has been anticipated to generate a total of 400 two-way per day trips to the West Burton sites. It is further acknowledged that construction workers have been assumed to arrive outside of peak hours however, further information on this and how construction work trips have been estimated is necessary for National Highways to be able to</p>	Yes	<p>Final number provided as part of Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13 and</p> <p>Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.2].</p> <p>Construction worker numbers are based on the Applicant's experience of delivering solar Schemes elsewhere.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		agree these assumptions.		
National Highways	Transport and Access	According to the Draft Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), construction traffic will be required to use the SRN to reach the majority of West Burton sites. For instance, construction traffic from the north will be routed to site 1 via the M180 and from the south via the A46 and A1. Similarly, construction traffic to West Burton site 2 will be routed via the A46 and A1. Vehicles travelling to site 4 and the West Burton Substation will primarily use the A1.	N/A	Noted and agreed.
National Highways	Transport and Access	Whilst the above is clear, to understand which route(s) to the site will be the most utilised we would need to see evidence of how HGVs	Yes	Construction trip generation has been provided by the Applicant based on the equipment requirements and their experience. This is set out in detail in Table

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>and non-HGV are likely to distribute on the SRN. To inform this, we would seek further clarification on where the construction materials for the site will be travelling from and therefore which part of the SRN will be most utilised. In addition, an understanding of where construction workers will be commuting from would inform which parts of the SRN will be most affected by construction worker traffic.</p>		<p>14.13 and with the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan at Appendix 14.2 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.2].</p> <p>Construction traffic will be spread out throughout the day, and will be coordinated, where possible, to avoid the network peak hours. Therefore, the effect of construction traffic on the Strategic Road Network (SRN) within the local proximity of the Site will be limited.</p> <p>Information and analysis of the trip generation on the highway network is discussed within the Transport Assessment, at Appendix 14.1 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.1].</p>
National Highways	Transport and Access	<p>Based on this information we will have a better understanding of the likely impacts of construction traffic on the SRN and whether further</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes further information on the trip generation and distribution is set out within Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement</p>

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		assessments (including a cumulative impact assessment to include other sites) will be required.		<p>[EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14] and the Transport Assessment (Appendix 14.1) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.1].</p> <p>Vehicle trips will be distributed throughout the daily period and will be coordinated to avoid the network peak hours. Therefore, the effect on the SRN will be negligible.</p>
National Highways	Transport and Access	We would recommend that the above-mentioned information is set out in the form of a Transport Assessment and we request that construction traffic trip generation and distribution is agreed with National Highways prior to any further transport analysis being undertaken. The information contained in the Transport Assessment can subsequently be used to inform the Construction Traffic Management Plan, which	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes this comment, and has prepared a Transport Assessment.</p> <p>The is provided as Appendix 14.1 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.1] to Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14].</p>

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		National Highways may seek to input on, depending on the potential traffic and transport impacts identified for the SRN.		
National Highways	Transport and Access	As set out above, it is advised that further evidence to demonstrate how construction trip generation has been estimated and distributed on the SRN is presented to National Highways for agreement.	No	Vehicle trips will be distributed throughout the daily period and will be coordinated to avoid the network peak hours. Therefore, the effect on the SRN will be negligible.
National Highways	Transport and Access	Hourly trip generation figures should be presented with further detailed assessments of the network AM and PM peaks to be determined. If further impact assessments related to the SRN are required, these should be carried out in accordance with DfT Circular 02/2013.	Yes	The Applicant notes this is provided within Section 5 of the Transport Assessment, which is submitted as Appendix 14.1 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.1] to Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14]. Vehicle trips will be distributed throughout the daily period and will be coordinated to avoid

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				the network peak hours. Therefore, the effect on the SRN will be negligible.
National Highways	Transport and Access	We advise that any assessments be carried out in staged approach with inputs to be agreed with National Highways prior to further analysis being undertaken.	No	Noted. As above construction traffic will be spread out throughout the day, and will be coordinated, where possible, to avoid the network peak hours. Therefore, the effect of construction traffic on the Strategic Road Network (SRN) within the local proximity of the Site will be limited.
National Highways	Transport and Access	National Highways would also wish to be consulted on the Construction Worker Travel Plan.		A Construction Worker Travel Plan is provide as part of the outline Construction Traffic Management Plan at Appendix 14.2 [EN010132/APP/C6.3.14.2].
National Highways	Transport and Access	We are aware that an agreement in principle has been confirmed by National Highways regarding the	Yes	There will be seven abnormal load movements associated with the solar

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		<p>movements of abnormal loads. However, it would be useful to understand the expected number of AILs that will be transported along the SRN (A1, A46, and M180) to the West Burton sites during the construction phase.</p>		<p>array/substation element of the Scheme.</p> <p>There will also be a number of movements associated with the Cable corridor route, in particular to transport the cable drum. These vehicles are smaller in nature at 26m (length).</p>
<p>National Highways</p>	<p>Transport and Access</p>	<p>In summary, we welcome the consultation on the proposed West Burton Solar Project and we look forward to working with you to fully understand the likely traffic impacts associated with the construction phase of the proposal.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>UK Health Security Agency</p>	<p>General</p>	<p>We have considered the submitted documentation and can confirm that we are satisfied with the approach taken in preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

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		conclusions drawn. We wish to make no further comment at this time.		
UK Health Security Agency	General	This section of OHIDs response, identifies the wider determinants of health and wellbeing we expect the Environmental Statement (ES) to address and to demonstrate whether they are likely to give rise to significant effects. OHID has focused its approach on scoping determinants of health and wellbeing under four themes, which have been derived from an analysis of the wider determinants of health mentioned in the National Policy Statements. The four themes are: - Access, Traffic and Transport, Socioeconomic, Land Use.	N/A	Noted.

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UK Health Security Agency	General	Population and Human health assessment: It is noted that population and human health is being considered within existing chapters and not form a separate chapter within the ES. Given the current knowledge of the Scheme and potential impacts this appears to be a proportionate approach. This should be kept under review as more information becomes available and a separate population and human health chapter may be justified as the assessments develop.	No	<p>A separate population and human health chapter was not considered necessary at PEIR and has not been deemed necessary at the point of submission of the Application.</p> <p>Human health impacts resulting from impacts to socio-economic, tourism and recreation receptors have been assessed in Chapter 18 of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18].</p>
UK Health Security Agency	General	Shared cable corridor: We note the aim to co-ordinate with nearby energy Schemes in relation to a shared cable corridor, which is welcome, and will be subject to a shared impact assessment contained within subsequent Scheme ES	N/A	Noted.

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		submissions. This consultation, therefore, does not consider impacts from the cable corridor.		
UK Health Security Agency	General	Recommendation: The impact assessment prepared for the cable corridor should receive suitable consultation with the local community and statutory consultees.	N/A	Noted.
UK Health Security Agency	General	Baseline data: The PEIR provides limited baseline health data, often referencing 2011 census data, to support any population or human health assessment. It does not consider local health priorities which have been identified within local Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA), Health and Wellbeing Strategies or other local published current data	Yes	Baseline population health data has been included in in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18] , incorporating information and key priorities set out in the Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire JSNAs and JHWSs. Health indicators have been assessed on the basis of 2021 Census data released since the

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		sources.		publication of PEIR, supported by information published by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID).
UK Health Security Agency	General	<p>In terms of sources, we would draw your attention to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PHE Fingertips – Area profiles with various indicators on common mental disorders (including anxiety) and severe mental illness which can be benchmarked with other local areas as well as regional and national data. - Office for National Statistics - Wellbeing Indicators - Range of datasets related to wellbeing available including young people's wellbeing measures, 	Yes	<p>Baseline population health data has been included in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18], incorporating information from national and local sources. Specific concerns regarding impacts on vulnerable or protected population groups are addressed in the Equalities Impact Assessment [EN010132/APP/WB7.12].</p>

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		<p>personal wellbeing estimates and loneliness rates by local authority</p> <p>Advice could also be sought from the local public health team on additional local data and local health priorities.</p>		
UK Health Security Agency	General	<p>An approach to the identification of vulnerable populations has not been provided. The impacts on health and wellbeing and health inequalities of the Scheme may have particular effect on vulnerable or disadvantaged populations, including those that fall within the list of protected characteristics.</p> <p>The identification of vulnerable populations and sensitive populations should be considered.</p>	Yes	<p>Baseline population health data has been included in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18], incorporating information from national and local sources. Specific concerns regarding impacts on vulnerable or protected population groups are addressed in the Equalities Impact Assessment [EN010132/APP/WB7.12].</p>

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UK Health Security Agency	General	Baseline health data should be provided, which is adequate to identify any local sensitivity or specific vulnerable populations. The identification of vulnerable populations should be based on the list provided by the Welsh Health Impact Assessment Support Unit ² and the International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA) ³	Yes	Baseline population health data has been included in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18], incorporating information from national and local sources. Specific concerns regarding impacts on vulnerable or protected population groups are addressed in the Equalities Impact Assessment [EN010132/APP/WB7.12].
UK Health Security Agency	General	The scoping report does not identify the potential number of peak construction workforce, but does acknowledge non-home based workers will require local accommodation.	N/A	Noted. Peak construction workforce and estimated accommodation needs identified in ES Chapter 18: Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18].
UK Health Security Agency	General	The size of the construction workforce could be significant, noting that the Burton Gate scoping	Yes	Identification of housing and accommodation availability has been provided, with an assessment of likely significant effects , and

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		<p>report estimated a peak of 600 construction workers per day. The presence of significant numbers of workers could foreseeably have an impact on the local availability of affordable housing and tourist accommodation, particularly that of short-term tenancies and affordable homes for certain communities.</p>		<p>cumulative assessment with identified construction projects in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18].</p> <p>Anticipated housing needs impacts will be based on the estimated peak number of construction workers, and the estimated proportion of those likely to require new accommodation within the Local Impact Area.</p>
<p>UK Health Security Agency</p>	<p>General</p>	<p>This may lead to a lack of affordable local accommodation for vulnerable residents with the least capacity to respond to change (for example, where there may be an overlap between construction workers seeking accommodation in the private rented sector, and people in receipt of housing benefit seeking the same lower-cost accommodation).</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Cumulative effects on access to temporary accommodation has also been assessed at a district wide scale given the estimates zone of influence for socio-economic and population impacts.</p> <p>Mitigatory impacts to avoid impacts on tourist accommodation and accommodation for vulnerable populations have been considered in the Outline Construction</p>

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		<p>It should be noted the Housing Needs Assessment for Central Lincolnshire (2020)⁴ identifies the private rented sector plays a particularly key role (between 26%-29%) in accommodating those in lower paid roles, such as customer services, caring and leisure service occupations. The importance of the private rented sector is also highlighted by West Lindsey Council.</p> <p>The report provides indicative significance findings for a number of topics, the majority of which have no supporting justification. The ES should provide appropriate evidence based justifications. In particular:</p> <p>Construction workforce - The SoS Scoping Opinion (3.9.3) required an assessment of the number of</p>		<p>Environmental Management Plan [EN010132/APP/ WB7.1].</p>

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		<p>construction workers in relation to traffic movements. The PEIR provides an assessment of worker vehicle movements but does not report the estimated number of construction workers on which this is based. The ES should assess the number of peak and average construction workers and how many will be non-home based.</p> <p>Housing demand – the report provides no evidence or data on the peak / average non-home based construction workforce, or on the availability and vacancy rates for short term rented sector / tourist accommodation. The availability of vacancy rates in the private rented sector and tourist accommodation should be based on published data or through consultation with local</p>		

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		<p>stakeholders. The report also, without justification, indicates a beneficial effect from a permanent increased workforce, noting a positive effect on housing supply (PEIR Volume 1 Para 18.5.7 and 18.5.8). Additionally, the report recognises the potential cumulative effects from the nearby energy Schemes but does not reflect this in the cumulative effects assessment for the demand on local accommodation or local services.</p> <p>Demand on local services – The PEIR (Volume 1 Para 18.5.10) notes there is likely to be a significant negative impact on local access to healthcare services, particularly for general practice healthcare as a result of increased demand. Again, this interim conclusion is without an</p>		

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		<p>evidence base, but also does not indicate what mitigation will be in place.</p> <p>The peak numbers of construction workers and non-home based workers should be established and a proportionate assessment undertaken on the impacts for housing availability and affordability and impacts on any local services.</p> <p>Any cumulative impact assessment should consider the impact on demand for housing and local services by construction workers, including the likely numbers of peak non-home based workers, required across all Schemes within the travel to work area.</p> <p>The assessment should also include</p>		

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		potential impacts on tourist accommodation within the socio-economic assessment.		
UK Health Security Agency	General	The SoS Scoping Report (3.9.4) required surveys to be undertaken to provide baseline data in relation to the use of the PROWs affected by the site where appropriate to define the change in characteristics of tourism and recreational use of PRoW as is required to define receptor sensitivity and the magnitude of change. The PEIR provided no details of the survey data or any proposed methodological approaches to collect such data other than some observations (PEIR Volume 1 Para 8.9.90).	Yes	Public Rights of Way are not significantly affected by West Burton 1, 2 and 3. It is acknowledged that the cable route corridor crosses a number of public rights of way. These public rights of way will only be affected for a short period during the installation of the cable. Movement on the Public Rights of Way will be managed through a Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.3].

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UK Health Security Agency	General	The PEIR is contradictory in respect of impacts on PRow. Para 18.5.25 (PEIR Volume 1) indicates PRow will remain open during construction, yet Table 18.12 (Summary of Mitigation and Enhancement Measures and Residual Effects) identifies a minor adverse effect due to closures and diversions.	Yes	Public Rights of Way are to remain open where feasible during construction. Diversions and closures are only to be implemented where absolutely necessary, and will be duration limited as set out in the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP) [EN010132/APP/WB7.1] and Public Rights of Way Management Plan (PRowMP) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.3].
UK Health Security Agency	General	We welcome the proposed landscape strategy which will be seeking to increase the green infrastructure and link up ecological networks, include enhancing Public Rights of Way or providing improved connectivity of them (PEIR Volume 1 4.6.10). Enhancements should be considered after liaison with the local communities in order to maximise	Yes	The LVIA has proposed landscape mitigation measures where Public Rights of Way are affected by the Scheme. This will include new tree and hedgerow planting and grass seeding. Panels will also be set back a minimum of 15m from adjacent PRow from existing Site boundaries and hedgerows will be allowed to grow out and managed to a height of 5m. Overall the prevailing road network and field boundaries are hedged and these hedgerows have a major role in

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		this opportunity for use.		helping to reduce visibility across the area. Enhancements have been considered in liaison with local communities as part of the Section 47 consultation process.
UK Health Security Agency	General	Surveys of the affected PRow network should be undertaken to provide baseline data in relation to the use of the PRowS to define the change in characteristics of tourism and recreational use of PRow in order to define receptor sensitivity and the magnitude of change.	Yes	The sensitivity of PRow receptors is defined in ES Chapter 18: Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18] as medium for local network routes, and high for regional or national network routes. The magnitude of change is also set out in Section 18.7 and includes input from the outcomes of the assessment within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].
UK Health Security Agency	General	The ES should clearly and consistently report on the likely impacts on the affected PRow, proposed mitigation and significance	Yes	An assessment of the likely impacts from the Scheme on PRowS is found in ES Chapter 18: Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation

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		of effects. The CEMP should identify likely diversion routes.		<p>[EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18].</p> <p>Proposed embedded mitigation measures including the routing of diversions if required are set out in the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010132/APP/ WB7.1] and Public Rights of Way Management Plan (PRoWMP) [EN010132/APP/ WB6.3.14.3].</p>
UK Health Security Agency	General	The local community should be consulted on the potential effect on the local PRoW and also the potential for enhanced provision outlined within the proposed landscape strategy.	N/A	<p>Community consultation has been undertaken in compliance with Section 47 of the 2008 Planning Act, as evidenced in the Consultation Report [EN010132/APP/WB5.1].</p> <p>Public Rights of Way are not significantly affected by West Burton 1, 2 and 3. It is acknowledged that the cable route corridor crosses a number of public rights of way. These public rights of way will only be affected for a short period during the installation of the cable. Movement on the</p>

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				Public Rights of Way will be managed through a Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.3].
UK Health Security Agency	General	<p>The PEIR identifies the total average and breakdown for each area for the number of HGV 2 way movements based on a 78 week construction period. It is not clear how this was derived and is also inconsistent with the estimated construction period for solar array areas, for example para 4.5.2 (Volume 1) identifies their construction periods as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Burton 1 – 11 weeks, • West Burton 2 – 41 weeks, • West Burton 3 – 44 weeks, 	Yes	<p>Full details of the construction vehicle movements are set out in the Transport Assessment [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.1].</p> <p>This includes a programme for construction period, and a breakdown of vehicle movements on different routes in the local area.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Burton 4 – 29 weeks 		
UK Health Security Agency	General	The ES should report HGV movements for each array area based on estimated construction periods and should also identify peak periods of HGV movements.	Yes	<p>Full details of the construction vehicle movements are set out in the Transport Assessment [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.1].</p> <p>The Transport Assessment sets out a peak assessment, and a breakdown of vehicle movements on different routes in the local area.</p>
UK Health Security Agency	General	This data should be used in accordance with GEART Rules 1 and 2 to form the assessment findings.	Yes	Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] considers the effects of construction traffic in line with the IEMA guidance.
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	General	I can confirm that Rotherham Local Planning Authority have no comments to make on the proposal.	N/A	Noted.

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Clayworth Parish Council	General	The residents of Clayworth object to this proposal and have serious concerns about the impact of this proposal on the well-being and future of our village. As such CPC remains fundamentally opposed to this NSIP.	Yes	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
Clayworth Parish Council	General	As we stated in our response to the earlier consultation exercise Clayworth is an agricultural village which has coexisted with energy production for decades. The industrial scale of this proposal is	Yes	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the</p>

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		<p>incongruous in terms of land use, it will significantly undermine the viability of farming in Clayworth and our landscape setting. We are in favour of renewable energy and the Governments policy to ensure energy security but this should be balanced with the equally important Government policy to ensure food security. The scale of this proposal does not achieve this balance.</p>		<p>Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
<p>Clayworth Parish Council</p>	<p>Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage</p>	<p>We have specific objections on the grounds of flooding. The Clayworth site is on rising ground, there will be significant run off from the solar panels resulting in a considerable risk of flooding from surface water. We note the Planning Inspectorates comments in this regard in commenting on the EIA scoping report, but this is not fully addressed</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors</p>

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		<p>in the PEIR. In addition, the construction phase will impact on the underground land drains across the entire site together with the installation of the solar panel will create a considerable risk of flooding. Clayworth already suffers from flooding, the impact of this proposal must be modelled and assessed in full.</p>		<p>included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
<p>Clayworth Parish Council</p>	<p>Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>The Landscape chapter in the PEIR and its annex, is extremely difficult to read and hence scrutinise. The survey work conducted appears light weight and does not include an assessment of all the critical views. Additional surveys from Mill Lane, Toftdyke/Highfield farm and Death Lane should be undertaken. Further and specific consultation is needed to support your assessment of</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical</p>

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		<p>landscape value. The reduction in the size of the proposal which removes fields closest to the boundaries of Clayworth and Gringley will not minimise the visual impact due the undulating topography of the site. The solar panels at scale proposed will completely dominate the landscape setting of Clayworth and Gringley, conservation villages and create an oppressive sense of enclosure.</p>		<p>design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
<p>Clayworth Parish Council</p>	<p>Agricultural Land</p>	<p>The agricultural land around Clayworth is fertile and supports a large variety of food production. The Agricultural Land Classification surveys undertaken partially show this but should be augmented with information on crop rotation and production over the last 10 years. In addition, we understand that</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		Bassetlaw District Council will undertake independent soil analysis to validate the results in the PEIR.		The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Clayworth Parish Council	General	CPC has significant concerns about the impact of the proposals on our environment, ecology, and heritage.	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
Clayworth Parish	General	In conclusion the PEIR demonstrates that this proposal will detrimentally	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council		affect Clayworth. This validates our fundamental objections to the proposal. The scale of the West Burton 4 as currently proposed is incongruous both physically and economically to the well-being of our village. Clayworth is a designated conservation village, planning legislation requires proposals to preserve and enhance it. We cannot comprehend how these fundamental concerns could be mitigated to safeguard the amenities of our residential and farming community.		<p>infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
Clayworth Parish Council	Agricultural Land	In light of the soil analysis results confirming that the W4 land is in fact 100% Best and Most Versatile (BMV) as the CPC and Clayworth residents had advised IGP, CPC notes that the use of this land for this proposal is contrary to the National Planning	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Policy Framework. There are recent planning decisions on much smaller sites where the Planning Inspector has ruled that applications for solar energy on BMV agricultural land are contrary to national policy due to the loss and degradation of agricultural land and the detrimental impact on national food security. This further substantiates our fundamental objection to this industrial scale proposal. As such, and in line with Bassetlaw Council's Leader we respectfully ask IGP to withdraw the W4 site from the NSIP application as a matter of urgency. To do so with immediate effect will enable the Henry Smith Charity to continue or to secure viable agricultural tenancies to farm this BMV agricultural land in the national interest and safeguard</p>		<p>alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		the amenities of our community.		
Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) PLC (WPD)	General	WPD is the licensed electricity distribution network operator under Section 6 Electricity Act 1989 (EA1989) for the area in which the development is proposed. Section 9 of the EA1989 places a duty on the electricity distributor to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity distribution. WPD is a statutory undertaker for the purposes of the project.	N/A	Noted.
Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) PLC (WPD)	General	Please note that Section 127 Planning Act 2008 sets out various protections from compulsory acquisition of statutory undertakers' land or their interests in land.	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) PLC (WPD)	General	<p>WPD's objective is to secure protection of its assets and agreement on any diversions or works necessary to facilitate the development. In doing so it will expect the development consent order (DCO) to include protective provisions specific to WPD. We suggest that you consider WPD-specific protective provisions secured on other DCO Schemes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Triton Knoll Electrical System Order 2016 • The M54 to M6 Link Road Development Consent Order 2022 	N/A	Noted.
Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) PLC	General	In addition, WPD will usually expect the developer to enter into an Asset Protection Agreement. We would encourage you to engage with WPD	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
(WPD)		in respect of the terms of this agreement.		
Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) PLC (WPD)	General	WPD's general position on DCO Schemes is to submit a holding objection to the Scheme until the above requirements have been secured. This objection does not mean that WPD objects in principle to the proposed development.	N/A	Noted.
Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) PLC (WPD)	General	Given the scale of the application land to which the DCO relates, we have not undertaken an audit of WPD's assets which may be affected by the development nor have we provided an overlay plan showing WPD's affected assets.	N/A	Noted.
Western Power Distribution (East	General	The above response does not take into account any specific	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Midlands) PLC (WPD)		engagement you may have directly with WPD's local offices. Should you require further information regarding WPD's assets which are situated on or within the DCO land, we recommend you engage with WPD's local offices to obtain this.		
Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) PLC (WPD)	General	Should you be proposing any diversionary works to WPD's assets that require land outside of the proposed DCO limits, we suggest you consider engaging with WPD on any land rights required to undertake those diversions prior to submission of your application.	N/A	Noted.
The Coal Authority	General	I have reviewed the site location plan / study area (Figure 7.1 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report, January 2022)	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>against our coal mining information. I can confirm that Areas 1 – 3 fall outside the coalfield area and whilst Area 4 lies within the coalfield, it is located outside the Development High Risk Area as defined by the Coal Authority. Accordingly, there are no recorded coal mining legacy hazards at shallow depth that could pose a risk to land stability at the surface for the above project.</p>		<p>Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
<p>The Coal Authority</p>	<p>General</p>	<p>Accordingly, if you consider that the application is EIA development, there is no requirement for the Applicant to consider coal mining legacy as part of their Environmental Impact Assessment. In addition, the determining authority will not need to consult us on any subsequent application for this site.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
East Lindsey District Council	General	I have looked through the documentation provided and that on the Planning Inspectorate website and can confirm we have no comments to make at this stage.	N/A	Noted.
Royal Mail	Transport and Access	Royal Mail has 3 operational properties within 10 miles of the proposed Solar Park: BE 2710 Gainsborough DO, BE 2711 Lincoln DO, and BE 775 Lincoln LD.	N/A	Noted.
Royal Mail	Transport and Access	Whilst Royal Mail does not consider that the proposed Solar Park itself will impact upon its operational interests, the cumulative impact of this development and those in the vicinity that are of concern. Every day, in exercising its statutory duties Royal Mail vehicles use all of the main roads that may potentially be	Yes	The Applicant notes this. Construction activity associated with the Scheme should not affect Gainsborough, but vehicles will use the A631 to the east. It is anticipated that there could be approximately 67 movements associated with equipment deliveries and workers on the A631 over a daily period. This is unlikely to create any

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>affected by the proposed West Burton Solar Park and surrounding developments. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cottam Solar Park, • Gate Burton Energy Park, • EDF West Burton C, • Decommissioning of West Burton A, • Saxilby Heights, • Development at Land off Sturton Road, • Blyton Driving Centre, • Wood Lane Solar Farm 		<p>capacity issues.</p> <p>A cumulative assessment has been undertaken as part of Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14] (see Section 14.9), and the Transport Assessment (Appendix 14.1) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.1] (see Section 10).</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Royal Mail	Transport and Access	Any periods of road disruption / closure, night or day, on or to the roads immediately connected to these developments or the surrounding highway network will have the potential to impact operations and may consequently disrupt Royal Mail's ability to meet its Universal Obligation service delivery targets.	Yes	Construction traffic will be controlled through a Construction Traffic Management Plan, presented as Appendix 14.2 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.2] to Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14].
Royal Mail	Transport and Access	Royal Mail are unable to assess the level of potential risk to its operations and any proposed mitigations due to the traffic data in the PEIR being out of date. As such, at this point in time, Royal Mail are unable to provide a robust consultation response. Royal Mail therefore requests that the forecasted traffic flows in the	No	Traffic data was undertaken in 2021. Section 6 of the Traffic Assessment, presented as Appendix 14.2 to Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14], provides a breakdown of construction vehicle movements on the local highway network. A cumulative assessment has been undertaken as Section 14.9 of Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental

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		PEIR be updated to reflect up to date data of cumulative impacts of nearby developments. Royal Mail wishes to reserve its position to submit a consultation response/s later in the DCO consenting process when sufficient information is available.		Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14], and as Section 10 of the Transport Assessment.
West Lindsey District Council	Agricultural land	It is noted that initial ALC Survey Results have been undertaken (paragraph 3.2.92) with the initial findings across the entire development, as follows: Grade 1, 2.4%; Grade 2, 2.3%; Grade 3a, 18.8%; Grade 3b, 76.3%; Non-Agricultural 0.2%	Yes	Detailed Agricultural Land Classification surveys (ALC) have been undertaken to identify the grade of the land within the Sites and are reported in Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] and associated Appendix 19.1 (Agricultural Land Quality, Soil Resources & Farming Circumstances) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.19.1]. The Scheme has been amended on the basis of the detailed reports to ensure that the vast majority of the Scheme is located on lower quality agricultural land with only 26.24% of

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				the land within the Sites classified as best and most versatile agricultural land (BMV land).
West Lindsey District Council	Agricultural land	It is noted that the areas quoted (appendix 3.2, paragraph 2.6) do have some variation to the site areas in the PEIR (3.2.5) – for instance, WB2 is quoted at 347.3ha, whereas the site area in the PEIR is given at 328ha – a variation of 19.3ha. Can this be clarified?	Yes	A wider land area was assessed and the Scheme has evolved to take into account constraints as set out at Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5]. This has resulted in the removal of some fields from the Scheme for a range of reasons including Agricultural Land Classification results.
West Lindsey District Council	Agricultural land	It is noted that the report is based on 35 days of sampling conducted in August and September 2021 (approximately 1 sample per hectare) (appendix 3.2, paragraph 2.3), and that “Further soil sampling (including in-field carbonates testing) has been undertaken to supplement these	Yes	Reports are provided at Appendix 19.2 (Agricultural land Classification Reports) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.19.2].

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		reports and the samples are currently being processed." (paragraph 3.2.92).		
West Lindsey District Council	Agricultural land	We will reserve further comment for the full surveys.	N/A	Noted.
West Lindsey District Council	Agricultural land	It is noted (paragraph 3.2.9) that "As the design of the Scheme has evolved some areas of higher-grade agricultural land have been taken out of the Scheme and structures have been set back from Site boundaries generally, and for example, where there is the potential for impacts on residential amenity. As the Scheme design continues to evolve, the Applicant anticipates that the impact of the Scheme on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land reported in the PEIR will be reduced	Yes	Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5] sets out the design evolution of the Scheme. This has resulted in the removal of some fields from the Scheme for a range of reasons including Agricultural Land Classification results.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		even further."		
West Lindsey District Council	Agricultural land	It is not however clear the extent to which this has taken place – for instance – it is noted that WB3 contains 24.1ha of Grade 1 and 2 land. Whereas the Preliminary Layout drawing (V2 12/04/2022) – indicates the area is nonetheless given over to solar panels? It is also noted that the preliminary plan predates the ALC report (May 2022)?	Yes	Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5] sets out the design evolution of the Scheme. This has resulted in the removal of some fields from the Scheme for a range of reasons including Agricultural Land Classification results.
West Lindsey District Council	Other	Solar Panels - It is noted that tracking panels are considered likely at WB1 and WB3 (paragraph 4.3.3) and fixed panels at WB2 and WB4 (paragraph 4.3.4) – the PEIR does not however explain why the sites are likely to have different options? Are there differing environmental concerns	Yes	The option of installing fixed or tracker panels has been included in the application (Concept Design Parameters and Principles document [EN010132/APP/WB7.13]). Both options have been assessed in the EIA.

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		that dictate this?		
West Lindsey District Council	Other	Energy Storage – whilst noted, the PEIR is unclear as to the location(s) and scale for energy storage facilities. Will energy storage be provided on each site? The Preliminary Layouts do not indicate its provision on sites WB1, WB2 and WB3 – is this correct?	Yes	Energy storage is only to be provided at West Burton 3 (see Figure 4.3 Illustrative Site Layout Plan (WB3), [EN010132/APP/WB6.4.4.3]). This is assessed in the EIA.
West Lindsey District Council	Cable Route	Cable corridor – it is noted that cables will be underground and “no new overhead lines will be required”.	N/A	Noted.
West Lindsey District Council	Other	Section 5.2 – Site selection - A description of the reasonable alternatives, and an indication of the main reasons for selecting the chosen option, are a requirement under the EIA Regulations (Schedule	Yes	Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5] has been prepared in response to this. Section 5.5 sets out how alternative sites have been considered.

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		4, paragraph 2)		
West Lindsey District Council	Other	It is noted that an assessment of commercial rooftops was undertaken (5.2.10) and a high level review of lower grade agricultural land (5.2.11). These should be detailed in order that the site selection can be properly understood. For instance, as noted above, it would appear that development is still being proposed on best and most versatile agricultural land?	N/A	<p>An assessment of commercial rooftops in the host authorities of West Lindsey and Bassetlaw Districts identified no rooftops or combined premises of an adequate area to facilitate a large-scale solar project or provide a viable network of sites. See Appendix 5.1: Site Selection Assessment of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5.1].</p> <p>Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] (and associated Appendices) provides detailed assessments of agricultural land grading for the Scheme.</p> <p>Table 5.6-5.9 of Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5] details the design evolution that has led to the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				majority of BMV land being removed from the Scheme. The finalised Scheme contains only 26.24% Best and Most Versatile land and clear justification for why these small areas remain within the Scheme is set out at Tables 5.6 - 5.9 of ES Chapter 5.
West Lindsey District Council	Other	<p>Solar PV Arrangement (5.3) - It is noted that "double height (2P) portrait tracking panels, laid out in north-south rows" is favoured, but that "The Sites may alternatively require south-facing fixed panelling (laid out in east-west rows) due to site and environmental constraints".</p> <p>The Environmental Statement should set out and identify clearly the differentiation between the two, across the sites. It is also noted previously that that tracking panels are considered likely at WB1 and</p>	Yes	<p>Section 4.4 of Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4] sets out the design parameters for the Scheme and explains that the draft DCO seeks consent for both tracker and fixed panel options within the array Sites.</p> <p>For the purposes of the Environmental Statement, the tracker panels have been assessed in Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] as a worst case scenario given their larger scale.</p> <p>Chapter 15 (Noise) of the Environmental</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		WB3 (paragraph 4.3.3) and fixed panels at WB2 and WB4 (paragraph 4.3.4). The ES should set out and explain why these decisions were made and alternatives that were considered.		<p>Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.15] assesses tracker panels given that fixed solar panels do not have any moving parts and therefore have no noise emission associated with them.</p> <p>Chapter 16 (Glint and Glare) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.16] considers both fixed and tracker panel options.</p>
West Lindsey District Council	Other	Energy Storage System (5.3.8) - It is noted that the compound will be set out over a maximum of 1.5ha, and that units will be a maximum size of 16m (l) x 3m (w) x 3.2m (h). However, it does not detail the expected number of units – or is it clear as to their location. Does the drawing “Substation and Energy Storage Area” indicate it will exclusively be located at the West Burton former power		<p>Energy storage is only to be provided at West Burton 3 (see Figure 4.3 Illustrative Site Layout Plan (WB3), [EN010132/APP/WB6.4.4.3]). This is assessed in the EIA.</p> <p>Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4] provides details on site areas for the Scheme.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		station? Will energy storage be located across the wider site(s)?		
West Lindsey District Council	Other	It is recognised that the site layout is still evolving (paragraph 5.4) – design iterations should be set out in the ES, and how known parameters have influenced the design (for instance – 20ha of known high grade ALC land on WB3).	Yes	Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5] sets out how the Scheme has evolved in response to known constraints including Agricultural Land Classification.
West Lindsey District Council	Other	Solar Panel Areas (5.4.2) - The cited design evolution is noted, and responsiveness to known parameters. The location of substations are noted – will any of the solar panel areas also include energy storage systems?	Yes	Energy storage is only to be provided at West Burton 3 (see Figure 4.3 Illustrative Site Layout Plan (WB3), [EN010132/APP/WB6.4.4.3]). This is assessed in the EIA.
West Lindsey	General	Contents noted. The transitional provisions following the review of the	N/A	Noted.

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District Council		National Policy Statements are noted, as set out in draft EN-1 (September 2021). Nonetheless, it is considered that the draft NPS, particularly draft EN-3, now contain provisions specific to solar projects and that these should be presumed to be important and relevant considerations, even if the project is accepted for examination prior to designation of the statements.		
West Lindsey District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	8.2.13 – The West Lindsey Local Plan (First Review) was superseded in 2017 by the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. It is not part of the Development Plan or relevant to the assessment.	N/A	Noted.
West Lindsey	Landscape and Visual	8.2.20 – The Sturton by Stow and Stow Neighbourhood Plan was	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
District Council	Impact	adopted by Full Council on 1st July 2022, and is now part of the statutory development plan.		
West Lindsey District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	8.5.5 – The extent of study area is noted, and implementation of 2km and 5km study areas. The ES will need to clearly explain these parameters. In particular, it is noted that the zone of theoretical visibility is not limited to 5km – figure 8.8 would indicate it extends beyond the study areas. For instance, it only partially includes the Limestone Escarpment to the east – this provides a number of roads and public footpaths that have elevated views across the Trent valley. It is considered that receptors here will be sensitive to landscape change, particularly so in combination (paragraph 8.5.8) with the Cottam	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		and Gate Burton Solar projects.		
West Lindsey District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	There is also the potential for longer distance views from key Lincolnshire landmarks – namely Lincoln Castle and Cathedral. It is not clear if this has been explored and scoped out, or not.	Yes	Long distance views from receptors identified in consultation with consultees included within the Landscape and Visual Assessment, as presented in Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].
West Lindsey District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	8.8.1 – It is noted that the layout and design are in an iterative stage of development and is not yet set. It is also noted (table 4.1) that substations have the potential to be up to 13m high. The LVIA should incorporate the “Maximum design scenario” approach (as advocated at section 4.2).		The Landscape and Visual Assessment, as presented in Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8], considers the landscape and visual effects of the larger and taller elements as described in the description of the Scheme, such as substations, energy storage and conversion units and their relationship with the wider landscape setting. The LVIA sets out at Section 8.5 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				<p>Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] the parameters that the ZTVs are generated upon and that additional ZTVs are run to take account of all works elements including battery storage and/or substations.</p> <p>The LVIA employs a maximum design scenario approach reflecting the principle of the 'Rochdale Envelope'. This approach allows for a project to be assessed on the basis of maximum project design parameters i.e., the worst-case scenario in order to provide flexibility and take advantage of technological improvements, assessing all potentially significant effects (positive or adverse) within the EIA process and reported in the Environmental Statement. Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] sets out the details of the design parameters used for the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				baseline and assessment stages.
West Lindsey District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Sensitivity of visual receptors (8.9.174 onwards) – it is noted that the PEIR does identify sensitive receptors, including high sensitivity residential receptors in proximity to the sites.	N/A	Noted.
West Lindsey District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	The identification of potential cumulative development (table 8.1) is noted. It recognises that “Potential long range combined views may be possible from the elevated ridgeline to the east.” In combination with the Cottam Solar project. This needs to be fully explored within the LVIA – there is concern that this may be limited by the 5km study area.	Yes	The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), as presented in Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] carries forward the following cumulative developments into the assessment of likely significant effects: Gate Burton Energy Park; Tillbridge Solar; and Cottam Solar Project.

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West Lindsey District Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	<p>The table also states that “Due to the proximity of the [Gate Burton] project, there is potential for sequential and combined visual effects with the project.” The combination of the West Burton project (1035ha – of which 784ha in WL); Cottam (1270ha) and Gate Burton (684ha) amounts to approximately 3000ha of land. The LVIA needs to pick up the sequential effect on more transient receptors – those that are travelling through the District, be it by car, bicycle, walking / hiking, and even the train. For instance, those travelling along the A1500 (Tillbridge Lane) will be sensitive to, and experience both this and the other projects during their journey, which may be over many kilometres.</p>	Yes	<p>The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), as presented in Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] carries forward the following cumulative developments into the assessment of likely significant effects: Gate Burton Energy Park; Tillbridge Solar; and Cottam Solar Project.</p>

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West Lindsey District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	We are encouraged that consultation has taken place with LWT and Parish Councils (table 9.1).	N/A	Noted.
West Lindsey District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	The presence of badgers [REDACTED] are noted. As this is desk top based, the PEIR is not clear as to whether further survey work will take place – and how the development will then take account of badger presence. Table 9.2 is not clear – they are not considered an important ecological Feature, “but included in impact assessment for legal reasons”. Are they to be distinguished from the other identified IEF?	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes that all areas of the Scheme have been surveyed for badger setts and all recorded badger setts have been re-visited to classify their status (active/inactive, outlying, subsidiary, main and annexe). Badgers are not a species of conservation concern or receive any designation for their conservation value, so are not often considered an Important Ecological Feature.</p> <p>However, they are legally protected as a result of ongoing persecution and therefore remain a legal ecological constraint to development. Consequently, Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9], considers potential impacts on badgers in their own right.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				Impacts on badger setts will be avoided through the implementation of appropriately sized (10-30m) exclusion zones around them within which access and construction activities will not occur. Furthermore, the Outline EPMS [EN010132/APP/WB7.17] will set out the need for further pre-commencement survey for badger setts.
West Lindsey District Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	<p>It is noted that mitigation measures, and enhancement opportunities are considered for various habitats and species. It is also recognised that a detailed Biodiversity Net Gain assessment will be carried out (paragraph 9.9.1) although it cannot be carried out at this time due to incomplete survey data and the preliminary nature of the Scheme.</p> <p>Paragraph 5.3.15 of NPS EN-1 does state that "When considering</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes that appendix 9.12 to Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9.12], provides the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment for the Scheme. The assessment shows how the Scheme will likely result in a net percentage gain in Habitat Units of 86.80%, with a 54.71% gain of Hedgerow Units and a 33.25% net gain in River Units.</p> <p>All three elements exceed the minimum 10% and will lead to a substantial biodiversity net</p>

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		<p>proposals, the [decision-maker] should maximise such opportunities in and around developments, using requirements or planning obligations where appropriate." The draft replacement EN-1 goes further (paragraph 5.4.22) when stating "The Secretary of State should consider what appropriate requirements should be attached to any consent and/or in any planning obligations entered into, in order to ensure that any mitigation or biodiversity net gain measures, if offered, are delivered and maintained. Any habitat creation or enhancement delivered for biodiversity net gain should generally be maintained for a minimum period of 30 years."</p>		<p>gain which will be significant for the local area given the large size of the Scheme. The BNG assessment report also sets out how these calculations are based on the measures set out in the Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] which will be secured under a requirement of the DCO for the life of the Scheme (approximately 40 years).</p>
West Lindsey	Ecology and	The intention to undertake a detailed BNG assessment is welcomed, and	Yes	The Applicant notes it is correct that the intention is for the habitat provisions of the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
District Council	Biodiversity	should set out the long term management of the site. Whilst 30 years is noted in policy, the development itself is anticipated to have an operational life of 40yrs (paragraph 4.1.12) and at paragraph 4.5.13 the PEIR states that "It is anticipated that some of the areas of habitat and biodiversity mitigation and enhancement will potentially be left in situ given that they could contain protected species. The need for any relevant protected species licenses will be considered at that time if reinstatement activities are likely to have an impact." It is considered that chapter 9 should address this.		LEMP and BNG assessment to be in place for the lifespan of the Scheme which is anticipated to be 40 years. The decommissioning phase is discussed in Section 9.8 of Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9], and this sets out how ecological surveys will need to be undertaken in advance of decommissioning in order to ensure legal compliance with the prevailing ecological protection legislation and policy of the time.
West Lindsey	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	10.2.18 – The West Lindsey Local Plan (First Review) was superseded in 2017 by the Central Lincolnshire	N/A	This has been updated within section 10.3 (Policy Context) of Chapter 10 (Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage) of the Environmental

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District Council		Local Plan. It is not part of the Development Plan and does not require to be referenced.		Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.10] and Section 2.4 (Local Policy) of the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy.
West Lindsey District Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	It is noted that a desktop analysis has taken place, but that a detailed Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and Drainage Strategy are currently being undertaken and not yet available.	Yes	A Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1 – WB6.3.10.5] has been produced by the Applicant for each of the solar Sites which demonstrate that flood risk will not be exacerbated as a result of their installation and is likely to provide betterment over the existing surface water regime due to the reintroduction of natural land cover beneath the panels. Where additional infrastructure is proposed, such as battery sites, additional Drainage Strategies have been produced which indicate how SuDS will be provided on-Site to attenuate any increased runoff to greenfield rates.

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West Lindsey District Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	It is however identified that WB1 falls partly into FZ2 and slightly encroached by FZ3; that the eastern part of WB2 falls in FZ3; and that the central section of WB3 is also within FZ3. It is noted that the PEIR does consider the increase in permanent impermeable area to have a medium adverse magnitude of effect to people and property and the significance of effect is Major Adverse (10.5.19).	Yes	The Applicant notes the development has been designed in consideration of the existing flood risks. Where development is proposed within the flood extent, it will be resilient (as detailed in sections 10.6 Embedded Mitigation and 10.8 Mitigation Measures of Chapter 10 (Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.10] and throughout the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy (included as Appendix 10.1. to the Environmental Statement) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.10.1].
West Lindsey District Council	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	It is noted that mitigation will be required to reduce the effect to negligible (10.5.14). The PEIR states that "it is proposed to maintain the predevelopment surface water regime post development" (10.8.9) and that "The arrangements for adoption should be investigated at	Yes	The Applicant notes the proposed development will not have a detrimental impact of surface water runoff. Where hardstanding is proposed this will be managed through local SuDS proposals considered in Section 5.0 (Drainage Strategy) of the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.10.1] and

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		an early stage and proposals agreed acceptable by the LPA." We will therefore await further details – and whether this would be a matter for the Local Planning Authority – or Lead Local Flood Authority.		throughout the supporting annexes.
West Lindsey District Council	Ground Conditions and Contamination	The preliminary findings are noted and that they "have identified that the potential contaminant linkages associated with the development across all four areas is moderate/minor or minor significance."	N/A	Noted.
West Lindsey District Council	Minerals	It is noted that WB3 has been identified as falling within an Area of Search for Sand and Gravel (12.5.25), and that 5.3ha of the site lie within a Sand and Gravel Mineral Safeguarding area (12.5.30). The	Yes	The view of Lincolnshire County Council as the Minerals Planning Authority have been taken into account. The identification and safeguarding of mineral resources within Nottinghamshire has been acknowledged and the impact for any safeguarded resource fully

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		<p>Preliminary findings conclude that “the overall effect is moderate/minor, which is not significant. In light of the outcome of the assessment above, no mitigation is considered necessary.” We will defer to the advice of Lincolnshire County Council, as the Minerals Planning Authority, in this regard</p>		<p>assessed. Assessment is presented in Chapter 12 (Minerals) of the Environmental Assessment [EN010132/APP/WB6.12].</p>
<p>West Lindsey District Council</p>	<p>Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>13.4.1 – The ES will need to set out how non-designated heritage assets have been identified i.e. through the Historic Environment Register and ‘local listing’. Whilst 1km is likely to be reasonable in most cases – “setting” is “the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. The extent to which the development may affect the setting of the asset will depend upon the asset itself.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Full details of the sources of information used for the identification of non-designated heritage assets is set out in section 13.4 of Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].</p> <p>This includes information identified from the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record, but the Lincolnshire Local List has yet to be populated. Settings of designated heritage assets of the 'highest significance' (e.g. Grade I</p>

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				and II* Listed Buildings and Registered Parks and Gardens and Scheduled Monuments) within a 5km study area have been assessed, and the settings of Grade II Listed Buildings within 2km study areas surrounding the sites have been assessed (Appendix 13.5 to Chapter 13 of the Environmental Assessment) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13.5].
West Lindsey District Council	Cultural Heritage	13.4.6 – we are encouraged to note that the study area has been extended to up to 5km for designated assets ‘of the highest significance’. This will then be subject to a ‘sifting’ exercise. The Local Planning authority wishes to be kept informed of this exercise and be given the opportunity to comment.	Yes	The results of this 'sifting' exercise are discussed in the Heritage Statement, presented as Appendix 13.5 to Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. The Applicant notes that there will be further opportunity to comment upon these results during the DCO examination period.
West Lindsey	Cultural Heritage	13.4.8 – it is noted that there are 300 GII listed buildings within the 5km	Yes	The evidence base justifying the 'scoping out' of designated heritage assets from further

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District Council		zone and that “proposed that the assessment of Listed Buildings within 2km of the West Burton Sites previously included in the Scoping Report is built upon as part of the further assessment, bolstered by ‘ground-truthing’ visits where feasible. The resultant evidence base will be agreed with the local authority, if possible, prior to the ‘scoping out’ of assets where appropriate.” We will wish to be kept informed and consulted upon any intentions to “scope out” designated heritage assets, after these assessments have taken place.		assessment is provided by the Applicant in section 3.1 of the Heritage Statement, presented as Appendix 13.5 to Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. The Applicant notes that there will be further opportunity to comment upon these results during the DCO examination period.
West Lindsey District Council	Cultural Heritage	Table 13.6 – As a designated heritage asset – Grade II Listed Buildings should also be valued as “high”. This is consistent with paragraph 5.8.14 of EN-1 which states that “Loss [of	No	Valuing Grade II Listed Buildings as 'High' would not be in accordance with the assessment methodology adopted, as presented in Table 13.6 within Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental

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		significance] affecting any designated heritage asset should require clear and convincing justification."		Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13]. Valuing them as 'Medium' would still be consistent with paragraph 5.8.14 of EN-1 which states that "Loss [of significance] affecting any designated heritage asset should require clear and convincing justification."
West Lindsey District Council	Cultural Heritage	13.5.30 – The baseline for non-designated heritage assets should also consider Neighbourhood Plans and Conservation Area Appraisals.	No	No Conservation Areas were identified within a 2km buffer of the study site within Bassetlaw. Two Neighbourhood Plans (North Leverton and Sturton le Steeple) were identified that are currently in draft. In absence of these plans the study site falls within the Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan, which reproduces information held on the Nottingham HER.
West Lindsey District Council	Cultural Heritage	13.7.1 It is acknowledged that baseline and further baseline data is to be completed, and that a "full impact assessment" has yet to be	No	Unfortunately it was not be feasible to provide West Lindsey District Council with all of the disparate strands of baseline information, which have been collated into the

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		undertaken and will be included in the ES once all of the results have further evaluation have been completed. West Lindsey DC will wish to be consulted and kept informed, ahead of its inclusion within the ES.		Environmental Statement prior to their incorporation into the overarching document. There will be an opportunity to review this information and comment upon the impact assessment during the DCO examination period.
West Lindsey District Council	Cultural Heritage	13.8.1 – it is noted that cumulative impacts will be considered, particularly in regards to views from the Lincoln Edge escarpment.	Yes	Cumulative impacts are discussed in Section 13.10 of Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] .
West Lindsey District Council	Transport and access	The preliminary findings, and expected trip generation figures are noted. It is noted that a minor adverse effect on pedestrian amenity is expected, to be managed through a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP).	N/A	Noted.

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West Lindsey District Council	Noise and Vibration	It is recognised that baseline noise surveys have been undertaken, and discussed with Council Officers. Operational Noise Assessments are to be undertaken and included in the ES.	Yes	Operational noise assessments are included in Chapter 15 (Noise and Vibration) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.15].
West Lindsey District Council	Glint and Glare	It is noted that some assumptions are based around "Pager Power's [consultant] experience" (16.4.32; 16.4.34) – the ES should be clear in setting out how these assumptions have been reached. At 16.4.32 it dismisses an assessment of users on the PRoW due to factors such as "The typical density of pedestrians on a PROW is low in a rural environment". However, the PEIR recognises PRoW users as a sensitive visual receptor in Chapter 8. They are also recognised as a factor for local tourism and	Yes	The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment will look to provide landscape mitigation that seeks to curtail any visibility of the Scheme from these routes, but also to enhance the public footpath, permissive footpath and green lane network, which is aimed to benefit the community as a whole as well as tourists, visiting walkers, local residents, ornithologists and cyclists. The landscape mitigation measures will seek to provide new planting which will include new native hedgerows and tree cover, and this will also include their management and maintenance. The Applicant notes that Public Rights of Way

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		<p>recreation – “The local network of Public Rights of Way is important to the local population and is thus of a medium sensitivity to [tourism and recreation] impacts” (18.4.16). Chapter 16 should therefore be clear as to whether PRoW users are likely to be affected by glint and glare, and set out that assessment accordingly.</p>		<p>(PRoW) have not been included within the assessment because they are receptors with “low” sensitivity which means the receptor is tolerant of change without detrimental effect, is of low or local importance.</p> <p>A public right of way user (walker, cyclist) has high tolerance with regards to glare effects and can easily change in nature to reduce the impact. Pager Power in its longstanding experience is not aware of any issue related to glint and glare with regards to horses (horse-riders).</p> <p>The Applicant notes that an assessment will conclude that any effect will have low impact upon PRoW users.</p>
West Lindsey District Council	Air quality	It is recognised that fire risk has been considered, with mitigation through an “Outline Battery Fire Management	N/A	Noted.

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		Plan" proposed.		
West Lindsey District Council	Air quality	It is noted that the Preliminary assessment finds a medium risk through dust soiling and that mitigation will therefore be required.	N/A	Noted.
West Lindsey District Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	It is noted that the PEIR considers (18.3.16) that the [tourism and recreation] impacts "are likely to be felt at a local level only as a result of direct visual impacts, or indirectly as a result of changes to their desirability for tourism and recreational use".	N/A	Noted.
West Lindsey District Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	However, the scale of development is such (1077ha), and taken in combination with the Cottam (1270ha) and Gate Burton projects (684ha) that around 3000ha of arable	N/A	Section 18.10 of Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18] sets out the cumulative effects of the Scheme.

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		<p>land in rural Lincolnshire would be transformed to solar project areas. Consequently the ES cannot simply consider the direct impacts at a local level, but must take into consideration the likely direct and indirect impacts upon tourism and recreation at a higher level. As the PEIR acknowledges "The land does however play a substantive role in providing a landscape context to recreational use of waterways and walking and cycling routes."</p>		
<p>West Lindsey District Council</p>	<p>Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation</p>	<p>How will the development, alone and in combination with other projects, affect visitor perceptions of rural Lincolnshire? Will it affect the desirability of West Lindsey as a place to visit? How will it affect visitor numbers?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Where quantifiable, these have been addressed by the Applicant in Sections 18.5 and 18.7 of Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18]. This will be limited as no similar Schemes have been constructed in the UK and as such little comparative data is available. Where based on</p>

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				qualitative information, professional judgement will be used to determine anticipated impacts.
West Lindsey District Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	The development will result in the loss of over 1035ha of agricultural land – of which, 253.9ha (24%) will be best and most versatile agricultural land (appendix 3.1). 788ha will be within West Lindsey alone – of which, 205ha (26%) will be on best and most versatile land.	Yes	At the point of submission, the Sites occupy 769.1 ha, of which 199.9 ha (26.0%) is best and most versatile agricultural land. The selection of this area is presented in the Site Selection Assessment [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5.1] . The impacts on present and future farming circumstances on the Sites and on land owned by the same farm businesses are detailed in Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] .
West Lindsey District Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and	In combination with the Cottam Solar Project (1270ha) and Gate Burton (684ha) – it will cumulatively amount	Yes	Cumulative likely impacts on present and future farming circumstances on the cumulatively assessed developments are

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	Recreation	to over 3000ha of Lincolnshire (& Nottinghamshire) agricultural land.		detailed in Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19], whilst the worst-case economic impact of the cumulatively assessed developments across their operational lifetimes is assessed in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18].
West Lindsey District Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	The farming circumstances (18.4.50) should therefore set out the agri-economic impacts of development. The baseline study should set out the current agricultural use of the sites, on a seasonal basis. What is being produced on site? What is its contribution towards food supplies and other sectors? How many are directly and indirectly employed that will be affected by the development	Yes	Direct and indirect impacts on employment have been assessed by the Applicant in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18] based on estimated construction numbers, and standard methodology for indirect and induced employment. Employment impacts on existing industries (i.e. agriculture) are included in the baseline conditions.

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		and at what socio-economic impact?		
West Lindsey District Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	Whilst it is noted that this loss may be "temporary" (paragraph 18.5.15) – the development is expected to operate for around 40 years (18.5.20). Taking into account commissioning and decommissioning phases including any necessary site restoration, the impact will be even longer. This is a significant part of a lifetime and within the economic cycle.	N/A	Noted.
West Lindsey District Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	These impacts must be fully assessed within the ES.	Yes	Noted. Assessments are presented in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18].

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West Lindsey District Council	Waste	However, it is noted that at the decommissioning stage, it is estimated that significant volumes of waste will be generated. The PEIR states that "Standard good practice for waste management will be implemented during decommissioning". It is appreciated that decommissioning is expected to take place some 40 years after operations commence – however, it would be relevant to set out principles at this stage. It is noted that further details will be provided with the ES.	Yes	Noted. Details are provided in Chapter 20 (Waste) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.20].
West Lindsey District Council	Other	It is noted that "The risk zones for fires and explosions are to be fully defined in the ES to determine the number of residential dwellings, and number of publicly accessible highways or rights of way that are of	Yes	Chapter 21 (Other Environmental Matters) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21] assesses the impacts of the Scheme upon human health and also considers major accidents and

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		high or medium sensitivity to impacts from the Scheme."		disasters. The outline battery storage safety management plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] sets out firefighting and safety measures in the event of a fire or explosion.
Lincolnshire Police	Other	<p>At this early stage of what is an outline proposal any comments will be largely generic and would only refer to the measures to help reduce crime and any related anti-social behaviour and not the principle of the development.</p> <p>Further comments, advice and recommendations may be made when the detail and exact specifications of the development are available and are provided.</p> <p>The advice and recommendations</p>	N/A	Noted.

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		can be applied to the general planning proposal and refer to the measures that should be considered and included in a large-scale project.		
Lincolnshire Police	Other	<p>Lincolnshire has small, medium, and large solar parks or farms which have over the past 10 years been subject to theft, criminal damage and other crime types, including theft of solar panels, and removal of cabling and infrastructure which has proved costly to the various developers and management companies that operate such facilities therefore the security and safety of the sites should be an important feature of the planning and design of the sites.</p> <p>Solar Farms or Solar Parks have in recent years been subject of some significant thefts of the installed solar</p>	Yes	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Work Plan No. 6 [EN010132/APP/WB2.3] includes associated works for each of the Solar Farm Sites including fencing, gates, boundary treatment and other means of enclosure; the provision of security and monitoring measures such as CCTV columns, lighting columns and lighting, cameras, weather stations, communication infrastructure, and perimeter fencing. Further details regarding these components can be found in Section 4.5 of Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4].</p>

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		panels with replacement costs more than £40,000. I would ask that consideration to the specific and detailed measures that are to be taken by the developers on this site are explained.		
Lincolnshire Police	Other	I would strongly avoid the use of what is described as 'Deer Fencing' as this does not provide any difficulty or deterrent to the criminal.	No	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Deer fencing up to a maximum height of 2.5m is proposed around the site as just one of a number of measures to deter public access onto the site, including the CCTV and remote monitoring described in Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4].</p> <p>This design is cost-effective and is used across a number of existing solar sites. The substations on each Site and the energy storage compound will also have palisade fencing on their boundaries up to a maximum</p>

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				height of 2.6m.
Lincolnshire Police	Other	Land selected should aim to avoid affecting the visual aspect of landscapes, maintain the natural beauty and should be predominantly flat, well screened by hedges, tree lines, etc. and not cause undue impact to nearby domestic properties or roads. (BRE. Planning guidance for the large-scale ground mounted solar PV systems)	Yes	The effects associated with the panels and associated infrastructure such as fencing and cameras, and substation and battery storage are presented in Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].
Lincolnshire Police	Other	I would recommend that the boundary fence is to a minimum of LPS 1175 level 3 and to a height of 2.4 metres or to the current UK Government standard, SEAP (Security Equipment Approval Panel) class 1-3.	Yes	The Concept Design Parameters and Principles document [EN010132/APP/WB7.13] allows for the perimeter fence to be up to a maximum height of 2.5m. The perimeter of the Sites will be secured by deer fencing, with palisade fencing as described in Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4] required

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				for substations and energy storage compounds. The final specification of the fencing will be determined prior to construction, and will be of a standard that will satisfy the Scheme's insurers.
Lincolnshire Police	Other	The use of 2.4 metre welded mesh fencing (in green) would be the most unobtrusive method of providing a secure perimeter border. All gated entrances should be secured with appropriate access systems. The NFU Mutual recommends good perimeter security fencing for all solar installations along with CCTV, motion sensors and infrared beams, depending on location. It also recommends panels are secured to frames with unique fastenings, requiring special tools – much like alloy wheel bolts?	No	<p>A common design for solar farms is for the perimeter to be secured by deer fencing, with palisade fencing as described in Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4] required for substations and energy storage compounds. Deer fencing minimises environmental impacts such as to the landscape and ecology.</p> <p>All site entrances will be secured via locked gates and monitored via CCTV.</p> <p>Motion sensors and additional panel frame security measures are available on the market and could be implemented at the point of</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				construction.
Lincolnshire Police	Other	<p>Whilst considering the often-isolated locations that Solar Farms are to be installed the installation of a remotely monitored with motion detection CCTV system is an effective deterrent and is most likely to provide effective evidence should a crime occur.</p> <p>Installers of remotely monitored detector activated CCTV systems will comply with all the following standards and guidelines: NPCC Security Systems Policy; BS 8418 Installation and remote monitoring of detector activated CCTV systems – Code of Practice; BS EN 50132-7: CCTV Application guidelines; RVRCS monitoring detector activated CCTV systems will conform to all the</p>	Yes	<p>Pole mounted internal facing CCTV systems will be used around the perimeter of the operational elements of the Sites. It is anticipated that these will be galvanised steel painted green poles with a maximum height of 3m. The system will be remotely monitored.</p> <p>Motion sensors and additional security measures such as perimeter alarms are available on the market and may be implemented at the point of construction, subject to final design approval.</p>

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		<p>following standards; BS 5979 (Cat II); BS 8418: Installation and remote monitoring of detector activated CCTV systems – Code of Practice.</p> <p>There will probably be little reward in deploying CCTV or other defence unless it is monitored in some way or can provide an instant alert in some form.</p> <p>It has been identified that individual panels can be easily removed from the aluminium frames which are usually secured by a small bracket which is in turn secured by an alum key. Whilst aluminium can itself be easily forced the use of an additional security bracket may help reduce the ease by which panels can be removed adding to the time that a criminal would need to remove</p>		

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		panels increasing the risk to offenders.		
Lincolnshire Police	Other	Whilst not intending to draw attention to a solar farm the effective use of signage to act as an informative deterrent may also be considered.	Yes	Noted. Signage is proposed under Work No. 6. [EN010132/APP/WB2.3].
Lincolnshire Police	Other	I would ask that the Applicant considers a perimeter alarm system now we are aware that these sites are attracting criminal interest.	Yes	Noted. Additional security measures such as those described do exist on the market, and the comment will be taken into account upon final detailed design of the Scheme, at the point of construction.
Lincolnshire Police	Other	There have been several instances where offenders have been able to access sites quite easily with large vehicles enabling the large-scale removal of panels and equipment. Due to the poor planning and design	Yes	During construction, site entrances will include a security gate and kiosk, as described in Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4]. When the Scheme is operational, vehicle access to the Sites will

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		<p>(particularly across fields and tracks in dry weather) they spent some considerable time undetected.</p> <p>There have also seen several incidents where crimes have been committed on power transmission sites with some offenders risking their lives after targeting live cabling.</p>		<p>only be possible via gates which will be kept locked. Further locked gates and security fencing will surround the substations and energy storage compounds.</p> <p>CCTV has been designed into the Scheme and the final design for construction will ensure it covers the perimeter with no blind spots, so that any perimeter breach would be quickly discovered.</p>
Lincolnshire Police	Other	<p>Landscaping techniques such as ditches and berms (bunds) may also be appropriate in some instances. To be effective in stopping vehicles these need to be designed carefully. Police can provide further specific advice in relation to the design of such defences upon request. There should be a minimum number of vehicular access points onto site,</p>	Yes	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The number of construction Site accesses have been minimised whilst minimising impacts to the local highway network. A description of the site accesses can be found in the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.2].</p> <p>Access points to the Sites during operation</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		ideally only one.		have also been minimised as part of the design and will be secured by locked gates and CCTV monitoring, as described in Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.4].
Lincolnshire Police	Other	The development will need to have regard in both its design layout, and future maintenance plans for the retention of growth of vegetation on these important boundaries, including the opportunity for trees within the boundaries to grow on to maturity.	Yes	The Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] sets out the basis for ongoing management of trees and vegetation associated with the Scheme. This includes enabling boundary trees to grow to maturity.
Lincolnshire Police	Other	The use of natural vegetation as a feature should not compromise the benefit of clear and unobstructed natural and formal (CCTV System) surveillance.	N/A	Noted.

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Lincolnshire Police	Other	Existing hedges and established vegetation, including mature trees, should be retained wherever possible.	Yes	Due to the nature of the Scheme, it is considered that existing vegetation on the Sites would be retained. Where this is not possible, the mitigation associated with any such tree or hedgerow loss associated with the Scheme is included in the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures forming part of the LVIA with details shown on Figures 8.16.1 to 8.16.10 and the report at Section 8.8 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].
Fillingham Parish Council	General	Beyond the PIER material, having attended three Information Events, IGP do not seem able to have been able articulate a clear view of what the proposed Scheme could contribute to the UK energy system or the challenge to decarbonise it. I would refer IGP to the website of the Heckington Fen (Ecotricity)	Yes	Noted. In addition to the information shared through consultation materials at the pre-application stage, a Statement of Need [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] has been submitted as part of the application, setting out context, requirement and contribution of the Scheme to securing and decarbonising UK energy

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		development under the section "How the numbers are calculated" as a good example. IGP have twice promised to clarify their figures (on the 25th June and 27th June events), but I have received no further clarification to date.		supply.
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	Notwithstanding the leaflets and information events, from general conversations with people in local villages there are relatively low levels of awareness of the Schemes locally; many seem to have treated leaflets as "junk mail". Overall, the level of engagement in the Information Events also appears to have been low. Having attended 3 such sessions, on Saturday 25/06 in Marton and Gate Burton Village Hall, the representatives from the developers outnumbered the	Yes	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant is grateful to everyone who has taken the time to engage with the Scheme throughout the pre-application stage. The levels of engagement are presented in the Applicant's Consultation Report [EN010132/APP/WB5.1].</p> <p>Within this report, the Applicant confirms over 1,000 submissions of feedback were received across two phases of community consultation, with over 650 attendees to the public events</p>

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		<p>residents throughout the 90 minutes we were there. For the Webinar on 27/07 there were only 4 participants not from the developer's side, and on the 12/07 there were only around 10 at maximum. It would seem that, the net effect of the communication is that the level of general reach and engagement is very low. The developers have not used more options to engage with the community (other developers are advertising on Facebook, for instance – where there appears to be much more engagement, the majority of which is overwhelmingly negative). For the scale and scope of the Scheme – and the clear investment that has gone into producing material for the PIER and other documents, it is disappointing that more has not been done in this area,</p>		<p>and webinars that were held.</p> <p>The Consultation Report [EN010132/APP/WB5.1] sets out the various activities undertaken to publicise consultation opportunities, including extensive mailouts to a consultation area extending 2km from the Sites, advertising in local newspapers, online updates and correspondence with stakeholders.</p> <p>While the Applicant does not host a social media account for the Scheme, their Statement of Community Consultation does commit to providing information to parish councils for them to post on their social media. The Applicant considers this would reach a wider audience than a project social media account.</p>

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		as it serves to undermine the credibility of any claimed public support.		
Fillingham Parish Council	General	In describing the energy need, the PIER uses the urgent words of the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, but neglects to mention that Solar does not form part of the 10-point plan within the Energy Security Strategy. Solar is included afterwards in "other measures" as something of a footnote to the Renewables section of the Strategy. The Energy Security Strategy includes an ambition for what "could be up to 70GW" of solar. The current 14GW of solar is split between "Large scale solar" and rooftops. (A large scale solar Scheme in the UK is currently c.50MW. There is no call in the Energy Security Strategy to expand this by a factor of	Yes	A Statement of Need [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] has been submitted as part of the application, setting out context, requirement and contribution of the Scheme to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply.

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		<p>10.) As part of the section on solar is the commitment that the Government will support effective land use – “encouraging large scale projects to locate on previously developed land”... and to “maximise the efficiency of land use”. It is hard to understand how the Cottam or West Burton solar Schemes meet these criteria.</p>		
Fillingham Parish Council	General	<p>The assessment of rooftop solar as a viable alternative is particularly weak:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The developer has limited the search area and pre-determined the approximate size (as commented in 5.2.4) 	Yes	<p>A Statement of Need [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] has been submitted as part of the application, setting out context, requirement and contribution of the Scheme to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply.</p> <p>In reviewing the policies and information available regarding solar generation and the need to decarbonise, it is the Applicant's view that large-scale solar must be considered as</p>

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		<p>- There are only around 3% of the UK's households with solar panels on the rooftops, and no figures readily available for commercial warehousing. There has been no assessment to explore the extent to which the Government's policy objectives could be pursued through a combination of new mandatory planning requirements and retro-fit.</p> <p>- The PIER provides insufficient evidence to conclude that a large-scale solar deployment could be facilitated in combination across premises using rooftops.</p>		<p>additional to, as opposed to instead of, the need for continued development in distribution connected, smaller scale solar, and this includes the development of rooftop solar.</p>

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Fillingham Parish Council	General	<p>The developer appears to have commenced the concept from two fixed points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having being notified of grid capacity at West Burton, Cottam and High Marnham, no other options appear to have been explored (e.g. other coal closure sites at Fiddler's Ferry, Eggborough, Ferrybridge, Didcot, West Thurrock, Aberthaw, Drakelow, Kingsnorth, Ironbridge for example). A broader range of sites could have provided an opportunity to use more brown-field options or to mitigate the impact by disaggregation of the project scale across different areas. - The developer also seems to have 	Yes	<p>Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.5] explains that options to use the coal closure plants listed have not been examined because grid capacity has not been identified in these areas. Decommissioning of coal fired power stations does not automatically equal available grid connection capacity at these locations, often due to the fact that grid connection offers may already have been made to others. It would not be reasonable nor proportionate for the Applicant to have to assess alternative locations throughout the country to this level of detail.</p> <p>NPS EN1 requires that the consideration of alternatives to comply with policy requirements should be carried out in a proportionate manner. It also states that "alternative proposals which are vague or inchoate can be excluded on the grounds that</p>

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		<p>commenced from a position of absolutely maximising grid connection capacity as a limiting factor – thereby pre-determining the approximate size (land use) for the proposed</p> <p>Scheme. In this way the developer has severely limited their consideration of alternative proposals.</p>		<p>they are not important and relevant to the IPC's decision".</p> <p>Smaller development as an alternative to the Scheme does not need to be considered, because NPS EN-1 at paragraph 4.4.3 states that the decision maker: "...should be guided in considering alternative proposals by whether there is a realistic prospect of the alternative delivering the same infrastructure capacity (including energy security and climate change benefits) in the same timescale as the proposed development".</p> <p>A smaller Scheme would not deliver the same generation capacity or energy security and climate change benefit as the Scheme, and as such would not represent a reasonable alternative.</p> <p>The Statement of Need submitted with the DCO Application [EN010132/APP/WB7.11]</p>

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				explains the need for large scale solar assets.
Fillingham Parish Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	The PIER acknowledges that use of agricultural land by the Scheme will impact the agricultural economy for a “temporary period” (of 40+ years?). The section is generally lacking in detail – the developer has not carried out the assessment to understand the net effect, but asserts there will be a net economic gain to the region in the “non-technical PIER” – 16.3.6 as a “significant effect”	Yes	The assessment of impacts on employment and to the economic prosperity of the Local Impact Area have been included in the Environmental Statement . The net economic change accounts for losses to the agricultural economy against benefits from the construction and ongoing maintenance of the Scheme. Preliminary estimations have been clarified and evidenced with formal economic estimates in this assessment.
Fillingham Parish Council	Agricultural Land	Within the PIER, 91% of the land is classified as 3B. This contrasts strongly with the DEFRA assessment of expected BMV land, which suggested a “moderate likelihood” of BMV (3a) land, i.e. in the range 20-60%, published in 2017. Likelihood of	Yes	Detailed Agricultural Land Classification surveys (ALC) have been undertaken to identify the grade of the land within the Sites and are reported in Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] and associated Appendix 19.1 (Agricultural Land Quality, Soil

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		<p>Best and Most Versatile (BMV) Agricultural Land - Strategic scale map East Midlands Region - ALC017 (naturalengland.org.uk)</p>		<p>Resources & Farming Circumstances) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.19.1]. These assessments are detailed and comprehensive whilst the DEFRA mapping is broadbrush and not based on detailed soil sampling.</p> <p>The Scheme has been amended on the basis of the detailed reports to ensure that the vast majority of the Scheme is located on lower quality agricultural land with only 26.24% of the land within the Sites classified as best and most versatile agricultural land (BMV land).</p>
<p>Fillingham Parish Council</p>	<p>General</p>	<p>NB "Solar" is not mentioned at all in the 82-pages of the Renewable Energy Policy Statement document. 1.8.2 Scope The current NPS explicitly does not cover beyond Biomass / EfW, Wind (on/offshore) – citing these as not technically viable. Tidal is mentioned as a possible future option that may warrant</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Local and national planning policy has been identified in Chapter 6 (Energy Need, Legislative Context and Energy Policy) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.6].</p> <p>Appendix 5.1: Site Selection Assessment of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5.1] sets out the site</p>

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		<p>revision of the NPS. Draft NPS EN-3 is currently being reviewed and a draft policy statement has been developed. The document does now include a section on solar farms:</p> <p>2.47.2 Scale The draft NPS describes approximate capacity (MW) per acre, and gives an example of a “typical 50MW solar farm”. Even the new draft document is silent on Schemes of the size proposed in the PIER.</p> <p>2.48.13/14 Land use The draft NPS reiterates the use of “previously developed land, brownfield land, contaminated land, industrial land, or agricultural land preferably of classification 3b, 4, and 5 (avoiding the use of “Best and Most Versatile” cropland where possible</p>		<p>selection process undertaken. It considers brownfield sites and commercial rooftops as an alternative to the Scheme and concludes that they are of insufficient size, either individually or as a linked network of sites to provide a viable alternative to the Scheme.</p> <p>Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.19] (and associated Appendices) provides detailed assessments of agricultural land grading for the Scheme. Table 5.6-5.9 within Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.5] detail the design evolution that has led to the majority of BMV land being removed from the Scheme. The finalised Scheme contains only 26.24% Best and Most Versatile land and clear justification for why these areas remain within the Scheme is set out at Tables 5.6 - 5.9.</p>

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				A Statement of Need [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] has been submitted as part of the application, setting out context, requirement and contribution of the Scheme to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply.
Fillingham Parish Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	The Applicant must describe the existing socio-economic conditions, and how the proposed development correlates with local planning policies. The PIER accurately describes the difficult socio economic problems the region faces, but the PIER not clear how the proposed development aligns with local planning policies and actions. Overall comment NB "Solar" is only mentioned once in the 120-pages of the Policy Statement, in section 3.3.11, citing the drawbacks of intermittent sources of energy which requires back-up energy supply.	Yes	Local and national planning policy has been identified in Chapter 6: Energy Need, Legislative Context and Energy Policy [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.6]. Matters directly related to socio-economic conditions are assessed in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18], with policy considerations combined into the assessment of significant impacts.

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		(although it is acknowledged a revision to this document is under development)		
Fillingham Parish Council	Agricultural Land	The developer should minimise impact on Best & Most Versatile (1, 2 & 3a) land, and preferably use 3b or below, "except where this would be inconsistent with other sustainability considerations." – The PIER does not address the changed landscape of food security (following Russian invasion of Ukraine), or sustainability of food production miles. The Inspector should give little weight to the loss of poor quality land (including 3b), "except... in areas... where particular agricultural practices may themselves contribute to the quality and character of the environment or the local economy." Notwithstanding the unusually high	Yes	<p>Detailed Agricultural Land Classification surveys (ALC) have been undertaken to identify the grade of the land within the Sites and are reported in Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] and associated Appendix 19.1 (Agricultural Land Quality, Soil Resources & Farming Circumstances) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.19.1].</p> <p>The Scheme has been amended on the basis of the detailed reports to ensure that the vast majority of the Scheme is located on lower quality agricultural land with only 26.24% of the land within the Sites classified as best and most versatile agricultural land (BMV land).</p> <p>Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the</p>

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		<p>proportion of land that has been assessed as 3b, it is clear that within this region, there is a demonstrable link between agriculture, the environment and the local economy, therefore the exception should apply. Note: In an Environmental Audit Committee meeting, 29/06/2022, George Eustice, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, clearly set out guidance that had been made clear by Government that 3b land was included in the Best & Most Valuable classification.</p>		<p>Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] states at paragraphs 19.5.2- 3 (in respect of food security):</p> <p>"It should be noted that the above Lincolnshire County Council consultation response is incorrect when it states that "... all arable land of whatever agricultural classification produces food, whether for animal feed or human consumption..." Arable land can be and is used for growing energy crops. Examples include fuel crops such as biodiesel and miscanthus grass, and energy substrate crops such as maize for anaerobic digestion, or grain for ethanol manufacture. There are no food security or planning policy constraints on growing these energy crops on arable land, just as there are no food security policy constraints on the use of agricultural land for solar PV. Studies have shown solar PV also produces more kWh per hectare than</p>

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				<p>other renewable energy crops . This is also achieved with land remaining in agricultural production, fattening lambs, and without the environmental and land degradation hazards of the most popular energy crop, maize .</p> <p>Arable land is also used to produce non food crops for markets including industrial oils, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and Christmas trees. Food security is not a material planning consideration. The relevant assessment for policy purposes is the ALC grade of the agricultural land, not its current use or the intensity of that use."</p>
<p>Fillingham Parish Council</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>Is impact on the landscape temporary and can it be reversed in a reasonable timescale (judgement of planning inspectorate). This project will significantly impact the local landscape for c. 50 years. This</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The operational life of the Scheme is anticipated to be 40 years. Once the Scheme ceases to operate, the development will be decommissioned. A 40-year period for the operational phase of the development has been assessed in the EIA and reported in the ES which accompanies the DCO application.</p>

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		cannot be considered temporary.		The 40-year period is considered 'temporary' in nature given that, upon the lapse of the operational period, the Scheme is decommissioned thereby returning the landscape to its previous state; thus, giving the Scheme it's temporariness. However, as is typical for energy generation NSIPs, the DCO Application does not seek a temporary or time limited consent.
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	"Applying "good design" to energy projects should produce sustainable infrastructure sensitive to place, efficient in the use of natural resources and energy used in their construction and operation, matched by an appearance that demonstrates good aesthetic as far as possible" The PIER does not appropriately address this requirement as the scale of the development shows an absolute	N/A	The design of the Scheme is explained within the Design and Access Statement [EN010132/APP/WB7.6] and is assessed against relevant planning policies at Section 4 of the Planning Statement [EN010132/APP/WB7.5].

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		disregard to any sense of place.		
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	Existence of alternatives to the proposed development is beyond NPS1 – it is “in the first instance, a matter of law”. This is understood to mean that it is mandatory to explore alternatives. Applicants are obliged to include in their Environmental Statement information about the main alternatives they have studied. In the PIER, the exploration of alternatives is very limited, leading to a very narrow consideration of alternatives that fulfil the developer’s pre-determined geographic and scale decisions.	Yes	<p>Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.5] has been prepared in accordance with the EIA Regulations and builds on the preliminary information set out in the PEIR.</p> <p>NPS EN-1 states: “Applicants are obliged to include in their Environmental Statement, as a matter of fact, information about the main alternatives they have studied. This should include an indication of the main reasons for the Applicant’s choice, taking into account the environmental, social and economic effects and including, where relevant, technical and commercial feasibility.”</p> <p>This Chapter, supported by Appendix 5.1 (Site Selection Assessment) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5.1] undertakes this</p>

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				exercise in accordance with the above requirements.
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	<p>EN1 Envisages large scale renewable energy generation from wind (offshore / onshore), Biomass, EfW, Wave and Tidal – Citing the UK's abundant national resources in these areas – notably, the current guidance does not include solar</p> <p>Advice that there should be a presumption in favour of granting consent, given the urgency of need, but only for types of energy covered in Part 3 (i.e. this does not include Solar)</p>	Yes	<p>Local and national planning policy has been identified in Chapter 6 (Energy Need, Legislative Context and Energy Policy) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.6].</p> <p>A Statement of Need [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] has been submitted as part of the application, setting out context, requirement and contribution of the Scheme to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply.</p>
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	Diversified enterprise” and “sheep grazing enterprises” – please expand on how these would advance the	Yes	Where practicable, opportunities for diversified or alternative farming practices in co-ordination with the use of the land for

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		local economy.		solar array are to be explored as detailed in the Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.10]. This should aim to reduce the economic impact of reduction of agricultural activity directly related to the removal of the land from agricultural use during the lifetime of the Scheme.
Fillingham Parish Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	The PIER asserts that during operation, there will be a beneficial impact on local economic prosperity, but the previous section has explained that this has not been explored in detail as yet, and there is no evidence to back this up, i.e. the inference is that whatever arrives will benefit more than the agricultural jobs lost – but this is not explained. It would be good to know how skills and training would be bolstered during the operation of a largely	Yes	The Applicant notes that quantitative evidence was not available at PEIR to be able to determine these impacts. A full assessment of the economic impact of the Scheme is presented in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18], with quantitative results for numbers of employment opportunities anticipated vs. agricultural sector jobs lost. Skills and training opportunities, where practicable are explored, and given in more detail in the Skills and Supply Chain Plan

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		<p>"passive" system.</p> <p>The PIER acknowledges that employment opportunities arising from the Scheme are limited. The net impact of marginal gains in energy jobs vs loss of agricultural jobs has not been explored. How realistic it will be for local jobs / opportunities and apprenticeships during construction phase is not described. The loss of agricultural skills in the region through a 40 year period of such a wide area of the county being covered by solar farms does not appear to have been considered.</p>		[EN010132/APP/WB7.10].
Fillingham Parish Council	Ecology and Biodiversity	Significantly extending these would provide more credibility to habitat protection. The currently proposed limited area would establish small, isolated / disconnected habitat	Yes	The Applicant notes that, as set out in the Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3], development free buffer zones have been established around all field boundaries and measure between 5 and 50m in width. In the

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		islands.		<p>majority of cases, these measure 8-12m.</p> <p>The widths were carefully chosen on the basis of the relative ecological importance of each boundary feature depending on the presence of ditches, species-rich hedgerows, trees with potential as bat roost and so forth. All buffer zones will be managed to provide valuable grassland habitats which will be of greater width and ecological value than almost all existing arable field margins.</p>
Fillingham Parish Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	Quotation from the NPPF emphasising the importance of building a strong, competitive economy by supporting “economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development” (paragraph 81) and helping to support a prosperous rural economy The PIER does not	Yes	The interrelationship between socio-economic factors are considered in Chapter 18 (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.18] , to determine secondary characteristics of sensitivity and magnitude of impact on socio-economic receptors.

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		<p>describe how the Scheme would support this objective. The demographic assessment notes a shortfall in their 20's and 30's, which is used as the basis of concluding that there is a medium level of sensitivity to population & labour market. (16.2.2 of Non Technical Summary PIER). Similarly the PIER acknowledges that the existing population is "at greatest risk of being deprived of access to employment, education and skills, and suitable incomes" (16.2.5) The PIER acknowledges that agriculture provides employment for 5.6% of the workforce in the region (16.2.8). The PIER does not seem to recognise that a lack of opportunities or prospects exacerbates the shortfall in population in the 20- to 30- age range as people move out to seek</p>		

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		employment. Hence, it is especially important that any significant development strongly considers opportunities for employment in support of the rural economy.		
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	<p>Does the baseline that is used to underpin the Greenhouse gas assessment and net biodiversity gain assume there are no changes / improvements in farming practice over the lifetime of the project? (e.g. in carbon footprint or biodiversity)</p> <p>Claim that there will be a 10% net gain, as required by the Environment Act, 2021. This is frequently asserted in the material, but the assessment has yet to be carried out, so it is not clear how / if this will be achieved. (See also 7.3.11 of non-technical</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes that appendix 9.12 to Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9] provides the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment for the Scheme. The assessment shows how the Scheme will likely result in a net percentage gain in Habitat Units of 86.80%, with a 54.71% gain of Hedgerow Units and a 33.25% net gain in River Units. All three elements exceed the minimum 10% and will lead to a substantial biodiversity net gain which will be significant for the local area given the large size of the Scheme. The BNG assessment report also sets out how these calculations are based on the measures set out in the</p>

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		Summary PIER)		Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] which will be secured under a requirement of the DCO for the life of the Scheme (approximately 40 years).
Fillingham Parish Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	15 years is a significant part of people's lives. How much longer would it then take to address problems (see also the comment regarding Assessment Life versus "Temporary Structures" 2.3.9)	N/A	Noted.
Fillingham Parish Council	Socio-Economics, Agriculture and Tourism and Recreation	This assertion is made without evidence. The intermittency of solar generation, and the timing of solar production is at odds with meeting the electricity demand curve. Solar therefore places more reliance upon other sources to meet peak demand, when prices are at their highest in the market. On its own, solar does	N/A	A Statement of Need [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] has been submitted as part of the application, setting out context, requirement and contribution of the Scheme to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply.

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		not reduce exposure to high prices.		
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	The implied conclusion is that, in the fight for available brownfield sites, the economics of solar energy are outweighed by all other development options – e.g. housing, commercial. Given the Government's clear direction that solar should be placed on previously developed land, the developer has simply shifted the "battle ground" to agricultural land, where it would appear that the economics of solar outweigh the economics of farming (which is perhaps more indicative of a problem with the economics of farming).	N/A	<p>The Statement of Need submitted with the DCO Application [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] explains the reasons for the Scheme being large scale solar generation. It is not considered that small scale generation is an alternative to this, rather it complements it.</p> <p>A search for suitable brownfield land has been undertaken as part of Appendix 5.1 (Site Selection Assessment) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5.1].</p> <p>As explained at paragraph 5.2.6 of Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5], draft NPS EN-3 sets out the factors that are likely to influence the key considerations involved in the siting of a solar farm These include irradiance and site topography, proximity of a site to dwellings,</p>

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				<p>capacity of a site, grid connection, agriculture land classification and land type and accessibility.</p> <p>These factors have been considered in the Site Selection Assessment and no suitable brownfield sites were identified when all these factors have been taken into account.</p>
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	Further points from NPPF: - Access to high quality open spaces - Effective landscaping – sympathetic to local character - Protecting valued landscapes and intrinsic character of the countryside – claim that the Scheme complies by “recognising” this – but doesn’t adequately address it Character of the land would undoubtedly be dominated by solar fields – at 4.5m this would not be adequately screened by hedgerows (at all) or by trees (for many years),	N/A	<p>Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] set outs the ways in which the Applicant has considered the potential visual and landscape impacts to local residents and visitors, potential effects associated with the panels and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) considers both the landscape and visual effects of the Scheme independently to ensure both the</p>

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		or at all from B1398 (Area of Great Landscape Value – AGLV)		impacts and effects on the fabric of the landscape are taken into account as well as the views and visibility.
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	The assessment treats every kWh the same (i.e. gCO2e/kWh). This does not consider the importance of when the energy is produced, i.e. peak solar is in a summer afternoon, typically when demand is at a low, and solar production is zero when the demand is at its highest during a winter's evening. The current assessment methodology is like treating every driving hour the same, but clearly, building road capacity specifically for outside rush hour limits the value of the contribution. The assessment should be broadened to consider what contribution a demand-weighted GHG assessment or price-weighted figure would look like. For	N/A	A Statement of Need [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] has been submitted as part of the application, setting out context, requirement and contribution of the Scheme to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply.

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		all solar has a low GHG assessment per kWh, this on its own is misleading, as solar is most likely to require support from other types of generation or technologies to contribute during peak demand periods.		
Fillingham Parish Council	Other	Referring to the National Planning Policy Framework – there is a clear requirement that development should be “sympathetic to local character & history”. The scale of proposed development means this is not the case as it will (particularly in conjunction with other proposed developments) radically alter the character of the local area.	N/A	Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] sets out the assessment and mitigation of potential impacts to landscape and visual amenity.
Fillingham Parish	Other	Given the very low energy density of solar, the Scheme needs a colossal	Yes	A search for brownfield land has been undertaken as part of Appendix 5.1 (Site

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council		<p>amount of land. Proposing to have sought a brownfield site of the size necessary, in an area that is predominantly agricultural is disingenuous. I would no more expect to find space available for agriculture in the centre of London than brownfield space in farmland. The situation is falsely created by not having broadened the potential range of grid connections (see above). It is striking that, despite proposing two Schemes, at over 5000 acres, the developer does not appear to have included any brown field sites in its Schemes, demonstrating a clear disregard for planning guidance.</p>		<p>Selection Assessment) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5.1].</p> <p>The site was chosen to support the grid connection offer made at West Burton Power Station. Therefore, brownfield sites were assessed within the 20km Search Area identified in the Site Selection Assessment but ultimately did not meet the size or locational requirements of the Scheme as detailed at Table 2.2: PDL Sites from Brownfield Registers of Bassetlaw and West Lindsey (Appendix 5.1).</p>
Fillingham Parish	Other	<p>The duration of the operational time period of the project is 40 years as the basis for the assessment. By</p>	N/A	<p>The operational life of the Scheme is anticipated to be 40 years. Once the Scheme ceases to operate, the development will be</p>

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Council		<p>contrast</p> <p>throughout the documentation, there is repeated references to these being "Temporary Structures", e.g. in 5.2.14.</p> <p>Between construction, operation and decommissioning, a life cycle of c. 50 years does not reasonably constitute "temporary" in a human lifetime.</p> <p>The developer should be consistent and honest with the public about the lifetime of the Scheme.</p>		<p>decommissioned. A 40-year period for the operational phase of the development has been assessed in the EIA and reported in the Environmental Statement which accompanies the DCO application [EN010132/APP/WB6.1].</p> <p>The 40-year period is considered 'temporary' in nature given that, upon the lapse of the operational period, the Scheme is decommissioned thereby returning the landscape to its previous state; thus, giving the Scheme it's temporariness. However, as is typical for energy generation NSIPs, the DCO Application does not seek a temporary or time limited consent.</p>
Fillingham Parish Council	General	I would reiterate that we support the urgent need to decarbonise our economy and understand that solar	N/A	<p>Noted.</p> <p>A Statement of Need [EN010132/APP/WB7.11]</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>will have a part to play. However, with only around 3% of UK households having been fitted with panels, and the fact that solar remains outside any pre-requisite for planning consent on either domestic or commercial properties, new-build and retro-fit rooftop solar must be the clear priority ahead of using agricultural land with all the attendant adverse consequences, e.g. on food production, the agricultural economy and visual aspects.</p>		<p>has been submitted as part of the application. In reviewing the policies and information available regarding solar generation and the need to decarbonise, it is the Applicant's view that large-scale solar must be considered as additional to, as opposed to instead of, the need for continued development in distribution connected, smaller scale solar, and this includes the development of rooftop solar.</p>
<p>Ingham Parish Council</p>	<p>Consultation</p>	<p>It is disappointing that the consultation seems so low key for such a large scale project. It was surprising that representatives of both projects have not requested a public meeting in each village that</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant is grateful to everyone who has taken the time to engage with the Scheme throughout the pre-application stage. The levels of engagement are presented in the Applicant's Consultation Report. Within this</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		borders the proposed developments.		<p>report, the Applicant confirms over 1,000 submissions of feedback were received across two phases of community consultation, with over 650 attendees to the public events and webinars that were held.</p> <p>Public information events were held across a range of days, times and locations across the Scheme area. The Applicant offered and agreed to hold meetings with stakeholders and organisations throughout the pre-application period.</p> <p>The Consultation Report [EN010132/APP/WB5.1] sets out the various activities undertaken to publicise consultation opportunities, including extensive mailouts to a consultation area extending 2km from the Sites, advertising in local newspapers, online updates and correspondence with stakeholders.</p>

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Ingham Parish Council	General	The Parish Council fully support the response of Lincolnshire County Council and West Lindsey District Council.	N/A	Noted.
Ingham Parish Council	General	We oppose these large scale proposals of development as these are not proportionate for this area.	N/A	Noted.
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council	Agricultural Land	I am concerned about the density of proposed Solar farms in this area. The Cottam and West Burton Projects are not standalone projects. In the middle of this area is the proposed Gate Burton Energy Park. There is now another organisation coming forward with the Tillbridge Solar Park.	Yes	The cumulative impacts of the Scheme together with other relevant projects in the area are assessed within the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.1]. Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the4 Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.19] assesses the impacts of the Scheme upon agricultural land.

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		This land is and has been for centuries productive agricultural soil whether these organisations claim it is or not. With the sudden increase in cereal prices due to covid and the Ukraine conflict it would be unwise to turn most of this area over to industrial use.		
Marion and Gate Burton Parish Council	Transport and Access	There is too high a concentration of solar panels being put forward in this area. Traffic in the Marion and Gate Burton area will cause considerable disruption when the connections to both power stations takes place.	Yes	The cumulative impacts of the Scheme together with other relevant projects in the area are assessed within the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.1].
Marion and Gate Burton Parish	Landscape and Visual Impact	West Burton 3 site has proposed panels in the North West Corner of the area adjacent to Stow Park Road	Yes	The LVIA includes a detailed assessment of transport receptors and takes account of the potential likely visual impacts of the solar

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council		<p>that are too close to existing dwellings.</p> <p>The visual impact of Solar Panels on Tillbridge Lane will be visible for a considerable distance due to the geographical layout of the land in this area.</p>		<p>panels on Tillbridge Lane including proposed landscape mitigation where appropriate, as shown on Figure 8.18.1 to 8.18.3 within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p>
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council	Cable route	<p>All grid connections for Cottam / West Burton / Gate Burton and Tillbridge Solar parks intend to access the 2 power stations through the parishes of Marton and Gate Burton causing major disruption to this area.</p> <p>These organisations state that will not impose on existing infrastructure but they will have to.</p> <p>The landscape / infrastructure must</p>	Yes	<p>The Environmental Statement supporting the DCO application considers the cumulative impact of a number of cables being constructed either together or in sequence (see Chapter 2 (EIA Process and Methodology) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.2]).</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		be reinstated to existing condition or improved.		
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council	Ecology and biodiversity	<p>Security of 'Deer Fencing' will make life difficult or impossible for large mammals to gain access to their habitat. Especially when all proposed solar parks are considered.</p> <p>Where local landowners have allowed informal access over their land this will now be blocked.</p>	No	<p>Large mammals have been considered within Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9].</p> <p>The presence of a solar project is anticipated to be habituated to by most species, especially with the creation of new, and enhancement of retained, habitats. The proposed perimeter fencing is not considered to impede the movement of most mammals as the Applicant notes that deer and other mammal species have been seen to surmount or undermine solar installation fencing at other locations. Due to their wide-ranging habits and movements, deer will most likely continue to move through the landscape around the proposed fencing. However, it is not considered that this would</p>

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				lead to any negative effects on the conservation status of these species. No deer species receive special legal protection or are considered priority species of conservation concern.
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	Suggestion for more landscaping along Tillbridge Land from Marton to Sturton by Stow.	Yes	The LVIA includes a detailed assessment of transport receptors and takes account of the potential likely visual impacts of the solar panels on Tillbridge Lane including proposed landscape mitigation where appropriate, as shown on Figure 8.18.1 to 8.18.3 within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council	Cable route	I am very concerned about the cable laying that will take place in Marton and Gate Burton parishes. Unless coordination is imposed on all the organisations who are putting these	N/A	Noted.

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		proposals forward then the land in these two parishes will be devastated.		
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council	Landscape	I would like to see a permissive path created around the West Burton 3 site. There is no access for walking or recreational use at all in this area.		<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Scheme complies with the landscape-related criteria of paragraph 98 of the NPPF in that consideration is given to the enhancement of the network of open spaces, footpaths, and bridleways.</p> <p>In addition to the new permissive path included within the Scheme, the Applicant has explored alternative permissive path routes but these proved to be incompatible with existing farming activities, or required land beyond the Applicant's control.</p> <p>In addition to on-site connectivity and biodiversity benefits, the Applicant continues to engage with Lincolnshire and</p>

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				Nottinghamshire Community Foundations to explore how best to provide funding for meaningful opportunities to local communities.
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council	Community Benefit	<p>Does the Community Infrastructure Levy apply to this type of development? There is a proposal to donate an as yet unknown donation of money on an annual (?) basis. This fund is to be distributed by a third party those who shout loudest often get the most. There should be a known percentage of this proposed finance distributed to each parish affected.</p> <p>A proportion of the power generated by these solar farms could be distributed by designated vehicle charging points regulated by the</p>	Yes	<p>Sections 4.7 and 4.8 of the Planning Statement [EN010132/APP/WB7.5] address the setting up of a Community Liaison Group and the provision of a Community Fund.</p> <p>The Planning Statement [EN010132/APP/WB7.5] states at paragraph 4.8.1:</p> <p><i>"The Applicant has also committed to providing a Community Benefit Fund (CBF). The CBF does not form part of the DCO Application and this funding is not required to mitigate the impacts of the Scheme. Therefore, the SoS cannot, and must not, apply any positive weight to the CBF when balancing the positives and negatives of the</i></p>

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		local parish councils.		<i>Scheme. The CBF is therefore not taken into account in consideration of the planning balance within this Planning Statement. It will, however be available to fund local community projects."</i>
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council	Safety	<p>Wildlife corridors are essential on all these proposals and there must be interconnections between the sites of all organisations involved.</p> <p>In rural locations like these the Ambucopter is often employed where vehicle access is difficult or impossible. With a high concentration of solar panels this is severely restricted. Designated landing areas should be included.</p>	Yes	<p>The LVIA includes the dedicated sections 8.6 and 8.8 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8] to show how the landscape and planting Scheme is co-ordinated with other relevant disciplines. The LVIA also includes supporting detailed plans showing landscape mitigation at Figures 8.18.1 to Figure 8.18.3 reflecting, where appropriate, local and regional aims within the published landscape character assessments and green infrastructure guidance. The LVIA also sets out the policy context for green infrastructure at Section 8.3 of Chapter 8 and the relevant corridors are</p>

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				shown on Figure 8.7. The Applicant also notes they have undertaken consultation with relevant fire and rescue services.
Willingham by Stow Parish Council	Agricultural Land	Willingham by Stow Parish Council strongly oppose the massive scale of the 4 Solar Energy Projects that have been earmarked for the area. The parish council support plans for renewable energy generation but consider these 4 projects unacceptable.	N/A	Noted.
Willingham by Stow Parish Council	Agricultural Land	The large area of land required for these would mean a huge loss and waste of agricultural land to development, consequently impacting food production in the local area. 10 thousand acres of	Yes	The cumulative impacts of the Scheme together with other relevant projects in the area are assessed within the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.1]. Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>agricultural land would be compromised, equivalent to 3x the size of the town Gainsborough. With solar panels surrounding all local villages. Would this land really be suitable for farming again once all solar panels and concrete have been removed?</p>		<p>Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.19] assesses the impacts of the Scheme upon agricultural land.</p> <p>Detailed Agricultural Land Classification surveys (ALC) have been undertaken to identify the grade of the land within the Sites and are reported in Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] and associated Appendix 19.1 (Agricultural Land Quality, Soil Resources & Farming Circumstances) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.19.1].</p>
<p>Willingham by Stow Parish Council</p>	<p>General</p>	<p>Many people are concerned about the implications such major Schemes will have on the area; considering the visual impact, negative affect on wildlife and archaeology, loss of countryside and associated agricultural jobs. In addition, the loss</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		of footpaths and byways during construction, as well as bearing in mind that local roads are unsuitable for construction traffic on this scale.		
Willingham by Stow Parish Council	Landscape and Visual Impact	It would dramatically change our local rural scene for the worse. The attractive link between the village and the countryside would be destroyed.	Yes	The Strategic Landscape Mitigation Measures have evolved since the PEIR submission, and more detail is now provided within the LVIA on Figure 8.18.1 to Figure 8.18.3 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures (presented within Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8]). These drawings take account of the offsets and buffers from the residential properties, PRoW and ecological features.
Willingham by Stow Parish	Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	The ground underneath the solar panels will not be able to absorb water, hence there will be additional	No	The Applicant does not agree with this statement. Although the panels themselves create a rain shadow from direct rainfall to

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Council		run off. Where will this water go? The area has history of flooding.		ground, the rain water will still pass to ground from the leeward edge of the panels and the space between the panels. Once the ground is saturated the water will continue, following the local topography to shed onto the areas beneath the panels as existing.
National Farmers' Union	General	It is vital that Island Green Power (IGP) engage fully and effectively with Landowners and Occupiers affected by the Scheme especially those affected by the cable corridors. IGP and its representatives must engage effectively with productive meetings looking in detail at technical and practical issues which will impact the farm businesses with the objective of mitigating the impact of the Scheme in the final stages of design for neighbouring occupiers and owners.	N/A	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant has prepared a Consultation Report [EN010132/APP/WB5.1] and Book of Reference [EN010132/APP/WB4.3] as part of their application, setting out how they have referenced and consulted with landowners and occupiers.</p> <p>The Applicant initially presented a cable route search corridor, which has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners.</p> <p>The Site areas for panels have been</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
				determined through agreement with landowners.
National Farmers' Union	Agricultural Land	It is understood that West Burton has identified that the project will be located on 76.3% grade 3b land. This does mean that nearly 25% of the project will be affecting higher grade land including grades 1,2 and 3a. The NFU does not support solar farms being located on higher grade best and most versatile land. The NFU believes that it is important that consideration is being given to animal grazing underneath the panels such that multifunctionality of the land is retained and optimised as far as possible. The NFU feels strongly that every effort should be made by the developers to avoid and minimise higher grade land that would otherwise be available for	Yes	<p>Detailed Agricultural Land Classification surveys (ALC) have been undertaken to identify the grade of the land within the Sites and are reported in Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] and associated Appendix 19.1 (Agricultural Land Quality, Soil Resources & Farming Circumstances) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.19.1].</p> <p>The vast majority of the Scheme is located on lower quality agricultural land with only 26.24% of the land within the Sites classified as best and most versatile agricultural land (BMV land).</p> <p>See Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5] which sets out the</p>

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		food production.		<p>design evolution of the Scheme. This includes justification for removal of certain fields from the Scheme and retention of other limited areas of BMV.</p> <p>The Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] sets out that grazing could form part of the management of the diverse Meadow Creation beneath the solar panels.</p>
National Farmers' Union	General	The NFU is pleased to see that IGP have been working in collaboration with Low Carbon when refining the cable corridors for the Cottam and West Burton Solar Projects and the Gate Burton Energy Park to minimise the impacts within the shared corridor. However, this will mean that farming businesses within this shared corridor are going to be significantly impacted by these proposals which will be increased by	Yes	The Applicant notes that runs of overhead lines between components or to connect underground cables is not proposed. All cables will be underground, and no new overhead lines and associated poles will be required. Bassetlaw District Council commented at the PEIR stage submission on 2 July 2022 that "Its is positive to see that the cumulative impacts alongside other development have been considered. It is also positive that the LVIA as part of the ES will include other material considerations such as

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>the cumulative number of projects that will be requiring cables through this corridor. The NFU believes that there must be strong collaboration between the developers to minimise the impacts such as coordination of construction programmes, sharing haul roads etc to avoid additional land requirements unnecessarily. The NFU could like to understand further the measures being taken by IGP to reduce the cumulative impact of these projects.</p>		<p>biodiversity and heritage due to the interactions between these material considerations."</p> <p>The mitigation associated with the Scheme is included in the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Measures forming part of the LVIA with details shown on Figures 8.16.1 to 8.16.10 and Section 8.8 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8].</p> <p>The landscape measures also include the preparation of a Landscape and Environmental Management Plan (LEMP) which prescribes how the landscape and ecology mitigation measures identified and proposed would be implemented and managed to ensure the effectiveness and certainty in achieving the objectives.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
National Farmers' Union	Cable Route	There is very little detail within the consultation material with regard to the cable construction and surface apparatus that will be left post construction. The NFU would like to understand in more detail how the cables will be constructed including the number of cables, the depth that the cables will be laid to and whether there will be chambers for joint bays, the size and distance that would be between the chambers.	N/A	The Applicant notes that runs of overhead lines between components or to connect underground cables is not proposed. All cables will be underground, and no new overhead lines and associated poles will be required.
National Farmers' Union	Other	The NFU would like to see IGP engaging and negotiating with all landowners and occupiers to reach a voluntary agreement to lay the cables, rather than relying on rights under a DCO. It is important that IGP enter into these negotiations properly discussing heads of terms within an Option Agreement in detail	Yes	Noted. The Applicant has prepared a Consultation Report [EN010132/APP/WB5.1] and Book of Reference [EN010132/APP/WB4.3] as part of their application, setting out how they have referenced and consulted with landowners and occupiers.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>first, or any type of agreement if this is what is offered.</p>		<p>The Applicant initially presented a cable route search corridor, which has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners.</p> <p>The Site areas for panels have been determined through agreement with landowners.</p>
<p>National Farmers' Union</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>The NFU would like further information regarding the length of the proposed easement term for the cables. The NFU expects the term to be no longer than the lifetime of the project, which is stated to be 40 years in the PIER.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>At decommissioning the 400kV and 132kV cables may be left in situ, depending on which method is likely to have the least environmental impact at the time but are likely to be removed. It is considered generally desirable to remove the cables where possible, for both recycling purposes and to leave the land as close to its previous use state as possible. The cables would be removed by pulling the cables out from the ducts without the subsequent removal of the ducts themselves, thereby minimising surface</p>

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				disturbances.
National Farmers' Union	Ecology and Biodiversity	It is noted that the projects are expected to deliver a significant amount of biodiversity net gain, due to the large-scale reversion of arable to permanent grassland and ecological buffer zones. The NFU would like to understand the anticipated percentage of biodiversity net gain that is proposed for this Scheme and further detail regarding how this will be delivered. The NFU would want to see biodiversity net gain being delivered through the enhancement of existing habitats rather than taking additional agricultural land, especially that classified as BMV, out of production for this purpose. Any plans for net gain must be consulted on fully and transparently with those landowners	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes that Appendix 9.12 to Chapter 9 of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.9.12] provides the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment for the Scheme. The assessment shows how the Scheme will likely result in a net percentage gain in Habitat Units of 86.80%, with a 54.71% gain of Hedgerow Units and a 33.25% net gain in River Units. All three elements exceed the minimum 10% and will lead to a substantial biodiversity net gain which will be significant for the local area given the large size of the Scheme.</p> <p>The BNG assessment report also sets out how these calculations are based on the measures set out in the Outline LEMP [EN010132/APP/WB7.3] which will be secured under a requirement of the DCO.</p>

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		and manager impacted. They will have the best knowledge on location and management to optimise outcomes and minimise unnecessary or impractical land take.		
National Farmers' Union	Agricultural Land	The NFU has specific wording that it will expect to be included in an Outline Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to cover how practical aspects of the construction should be dealt with in relation to agricultural land. The NFU wording covers the following: a) Agricultural Liaison Officer, b) Records of Condition, c) Biosecurity, d) Irrigation, e) Agricultural Land Drainage, f) Treatment of Soils, g) Agricultural Water Supplies		The provision of a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) prior to construction of the Scheme is a Requirement of the draft Development Consent Order [EN010132/APP/WB3.1] submitted with the DCO application.

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National Farmers' Union	Agricultural Land	<p>Agricultural Land Classification</p> <p>Further to the consultation response submitted on the 27th July 2022 for the Cottam and West Burton Solar Projects, the NFU would like to make further comments in regard to the further analysis of the soil sampling data resulting in a different Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) for the West Burton 4 site. It is noted that the further analysis of the West Burton 4 site, now shows the site is in fact classed as 100% Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land with the area that was thought to only be classified as 3b is now actually 3a which amounts to 81.6 %.</p> <p>As stated in the response, the NFU does not support solar farms being located on higher grade best and</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

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		<p>most versatile land. Safeguarding the country's most productive agricultural land for food production must be a key factor in considering sites for this project. The NFU's strong advice is that this development avoids BMV land.</p>		
<p>Historic England</p>	<p>Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>We welcome the scope of the Historic Environment assessment set out in the PEIR and the ongoing assessment work currently underway. In particular we note the necessity of geophysical survey and targeted trial trenching to inform a proportionate approach to the significance of below ground heritage assets and their individual sensitivity and importance. We refer you to the advice of Local Government archaeological advisors with regards to the methodologies</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>A full suite of archaeological assessment has been undertaken to understand the archaeological potential of the proposed development site (desk-based research, air photo and LiDAR assessment, geophysical survey, geoarchaeological surveys and evaluation trenching). The results of these assessments have successfully identified the absence / presence / extent / form / preservation of buried archaeological features and have informed an proportionate mitigation strategy, which takes into consideration the archaeological interest of buried deposits that were identified during</p>

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		<p>for and assessment of trial trenching results (we are supporting out Local Government colleagues with the expertise of our Regional Science Advisor). Panel arrays and associated structures, cable runs and substations have the potential for significant environmental effects through physical impacts upon buried remains. These impacts will vary depending upon the particular character and sensitivity of such remains (for instance field systems are generally less sensitive to localised intrusions than burial grounds or Roman villas). Appropriate consideration of impacts and proportionate design adaptation and mitigation is only possible where significance and importance are well understood prior to determination (up to and including public benefit</p>		<p>the various investigations (WSI, Chapter 13.7) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.7].</p> <p>The results of these assessments have successfully identified the absence / presence / extent / form / preservation of buried archaeological features and have informed an proportionate mitigation strategy, which takes into consideration the archaeological interest of buried deposits that were identified during the various investigations, as presented in Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13] and the production of a detailed mitigation strategy (WSI; Appendix 13.7).</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		balances in respect of harm to assets of demonstrable equivalent importance to scheduled monuments).		
Historic England	Cultural Heritage	<p>Deposit modelling is crucial in areas of alluvium and aeolian deposits - see our guidance</p> <p>████████████████████</p> <p>████████████████████</p> <p>████████████████████. A shared Trent river crossing option that combines Cottam, West Burton and other adjacent Solar NSIPS accessing the grid via these outgoing coal burning power station connections is highly desirable to minimise archaeological impacts. Early attention should be paid to investigating crossing point options in this complex and dense archaeological landscape. The reach</p>	Yes	<p>A desk-based geoarchaeological survey was undertaken to identify the paleoenvironmental potential of the Scheme and trial trench evaluation along the shared cable route (informed by the results of non-intrusive surveys).</p> <p>Particular attention was given to areas adjacent to the River Trent, where there was a heightened potential for alluvium and aeolian deposits. Assessment works were undertaken in collaboration with other proposed Solar Schemes and have been used to inform the final cable route in order to minimise impact on the archaeological landscape running adjacent to the River</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		of the Trent from around Marton / Littleborough to Torksey presents particularly acute archaeological risks with the combination of Roman and Viking activity and the presence of windblown sand and alluvial deposits and it will be important to allow as much time as possible to plan the design and mitigation of works in this area.		Trent.
Historic England	Cultural Heritage	We welcome a dynamic approach to setting assessment which is not overly constrained fixed radii (see out GPA 3 Setting of Heritage Assets) work should focus upon the particular significance of the assets under assessment and the impacts of the Scheme thereon. In EIA scoping advice we highlighted the setting of the following assets (without prejudice to other issues	Yes	Assessment of the settings of designated heritage assets has been undertaken in accordance with the methodology proposed in the PEIR, which follows the guidance provided in Historic England's GPAN3: The Settings of Heritage Assets. This includes assessments of the scheduled Broxholme medieval settlement and cultivation remains, the scheduled Deserted village of North Ingleby (NHLE 1003570) and the scheduled Medieval bishop's palace and deer park, stow

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		that may emerge through assessment), viz the scheduled Broxholme medieval settlement and cultivation remains (NHLE 1016797) , the scheduled Deserted village of North Ingleby (NHLE 1003570) and the scheduled Medieval bishop's palace and deer park, Stow Park (NHLE 1019229).		park (NHLE 1019229).
Historic England	Cultural Heritage	Stow Park, the Medieval Bishop's Palace site and deer park is set on the Roman road from Lincoln to Doncaster a key line of communication between the see of Lincoln and York. Deer parks and palace / lodges offered a place for retreat, rest and entertainment of social and political peers, clients and Royal guests and were hence key spaces for the performance of the elite status of Bishops in the	No	The discussion of the Stow Park and the Bishop's Palace in the Heritage Statement (Appendix 13.5 to the Environmental Statement) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.13.5] broadly concurs with this assessment and concludes that there would be a significant temporary (though long term) environmental effect at the Bishop's Palace and Stow Park as a result of the proposed development.

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		<p>medieval landscape. The deer park is an architectural space, a place cut out from the overlapping and complex the medieval landscape, a place where rights were monopolised - in this instance the Bishop. At the heart of the significance of a medieval deer park is not just the functional containment and protection of deer and other resources but also their articulation as a space apart – a space imparked. This central aspect of significance would be profoundly compromised by the loss both of its rural character through the installation of panels and by it being subsumed into a new landscape of solar generation. The railway and associate ex MOD petroleum storage facility represented significant change to the former deer park by bisecting the</p>		

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		<p>site, but they have not fundamentally compromised the ability to experience the park as a space defined in the landscape. As one walks from the moated site at the north to the raised ground occupied by the farm buildings at the south of the park and then crosses the railway past the fuel depot to the farmstead and the south western part of the park one can still gain a sense of this as a bounded space.</p>		
<p>Historic England</p>	<p>Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>We made a site visit with the Applicants consultants on 13th May 2022 to West Burton 1, 2 and 3 to initially assess impacts upon the Stow Park, Ingleby and Broxholme Scheduled Monuments. With regard to impacts upon those specific assets Historic England would have no objection to the proposals within</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The Applicant considers that the removal of all of the proposed panels from within the former deer park would be too detrimental to the Scheme, and that the harm to the scheduled monument, though long term, would be temporary and reversible, and should therefore be weighed against the substantial public benefits of the Scheme.</p>

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		<p>West Burton 1 and 2 and noted that the design proposals at West Burton 2 had taken into account the setting of the Ingleby Scheduled Monument, by removing areas adjacent to the Scheduled Monument from any proposed development. On the basis of the indicative layout plans for panels with the pale of Stow Park we are as noted in the PEIR minded to object to installation of any part of the development within the former deer park (as defined by the lines of the scheduled Park Pale and its former course). Our concerns are focussed upon setting impacts upon the significance of the medieval bishop's palace and deer park SM 1019229 and we consider that the proposed sections of solar array sited within the medieval deer park at Stow would constitute substantial</p>		

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		harm to the significance of the scheduled monument. That part of the Scheme within the historic extent of Stow Park should we suggest be deleted prior to submission as it presents avoidable and unjustified harm to the significance of a nationally important designated heritage asset.		
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Ecology and Biodiversity	Three statutory designated sites (National Importance) were identified within 5km and fifteen non-statutorily designated sites (County Importance) were identified within 2km of West Burton 4. Two statutory designated sites (National Importance) were identified within 5km of West Burton substation. Seven designated sites were located within the West Burton Cable Route Search Area. These comprised Local	N/A	Noted

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		Wildlife Sites (LWS) of County Importance. No statutory designated sites were located within the Cable Route Search Area. Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits SSSI, Idle Valley Nature Reserve LWS and River Idle Washlands SSSI are all located within 2km west of West Burton 4. They support important aggregations of birds during the breeding and wintering periods. The Site lies within the Natural England SSSI Impact Risk Zone for Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits SSSI.		
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Ecology and Biodiversity	We understand that a comprehensive suite of ecological surveys is largely complete, with analysis and reporting in progress. Surveys are more progressed for the array sites than they are for the cable route at the time of writing the	N/A	Noted.

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		<p>report. Specific surveys for priority habitats, bats, breeding and wintering birds, otters, water voles, badgers and great crested newts have been carried out. Habitats have been assessed for other notable species groups, including reptiles, invertebrates, and small mammals. In addition, a desk study to examine the presence of third-party records of protected species and the whereabouts of local and statutory sites designated for nature conservation has been undertaken. We can confirm that the proposed Field Survey Methodologies and Scope relating to the location of solar arrays, substation and cable routes is satisfactory.</p>		
Nottinghamshire	Ecology and	Following preliminary survey information analysis, species	N/A	Noted.

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Wildlife Trust	Biodiversity	<p>recorded on or adjacent to the array sites considered most vulnerable to habitat loss would be ground-nesting species of open habitats, principally skylark, lapwing and yellow wagtail as they largely nest within the arable fields. Skylark and yellow wagtail territories were recorded regularly across all sites, with approximately 250 skylark territories recorded across the entire site. There were no records of nesting lapwing within West Burton 4. We understand from discussions with the Applicant's ecologist that measures to mitigate for the displacement effects on skylark, yellow wagtail and lapwing from the array sites are being explored. These are likely to consist of implementing management practices on suitable land which have the aim of increasing the carrying</p>		

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		<p>capacity to 'absorb' a significant proportion of territories from the site. We agree that implementing such measures, in conjunction with enhanced foraging habitat within the site could reduce residual effects on these species. We are looking forward to assessing these measures when they are at a more developed stage. Should suitable mitigation measures be achieved then this should set a benchmark for other solar energy projects. These mitigation sites should be managed under the prescriptions contained within a LEMP, which should be secured through the planning system.</p>		
Nottinghamshire	Ecology and Biodiversity	The PIER states that West Burton 4 is not considered to be of particular value for nesting or foraging	Yes	The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Wildlife Trust		<p>purposes by any of the species for which the nearby sites have been designated, over the breeding and overwintering bird survey work analysed to date. It is considered that the intensive arable cultivation, enclosed fields, and the undulating topography of parts of the Site reduces its attractiveness to swans, geese and waders. Preliminary wintering bird survey results, however, indicate that the sites are of some value to waders, and wildfowl. We believe that further assessment is required when all the survey data has been analysed.</p> <p>The PIER also considers species migrating or dispersing over West Burton 4 when flying to and from the designated sites. The report states that the current assessment of</p>		<p>Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

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		evidence and industry advice on potential impacts of solar installations indicates that disturbance impacts on flightpaths are likely to be negligible. We have no reason to challenge that statement.		
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Ecology and Biodiversity	The PIER states that there is a very low likelihood of downstream contamination occurring resulting from refuelling of maintenance vehicles during the operational phase. We note that due to the extent of the designated sites within proximity to West Burton 4, mitigation measures will be adopted during the construction period which will avoid as far as possible the chance of sediment mobilisation and release of contaminants into the ditches and watercourses	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

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		<p>surrounding the site which will be included in the CEMP. A CEMP should be secured through the planning system. We note that Natural England has stated that the Environmental Statement would need to show any potential effects on site designations, including impacts via noise, air quality or other disturbance which may damage or destroy the interest features for which these Sites of Special Scientific Interest have been notified. Impacts would need to be considered at all stages of the proposed development i.e. construction, operation and de-commissioning. It should also detail the mitigation required to avoid any identified impacts on designated sites. We fully support that approach</p>		

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Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Cable Route	<p>The cable route corridor is referred to as the 'Cable Route Search Area' (CRSA) and forms the scope of the ecological desk study for the cable route used at PEIR stage, within which ecological records (notable species and habitats and designated sites) will be searched for. We note that the final location of the cable route elements will be refined through use of the desk study, supported by further ecological survey and consideration of responses to statutory consultation, prior to submission of the DCO application. We consider this process to be satisfactory. There should be a presumption against development within Local Wildlife Sites (LWS). LWSs, previously known in Nottinghamshire as 'Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation'</p>	Yes	<p>It is acknowledged that three LWSs are located within the Order Limits, specifically within the cable route corridor, as opposed to the location of the three PV generating sites. These LWSs are; Mr. Rose's Hay Meadow LWS, Trent Port Wetland LWS and Coates Wetland LWS. This is due to the need to provide a relatively wide cable corridor at this stage in advance of the finalisation of the cable trench positioning.</p> <p>However, as set out in Chapter 9 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.9], several key steps will be taken in this process to avoid incursions into, or harm to, these LWS. Wherever possible, the trench and all associated compounds, haul routes, jointing bays etc will be sited away from the LWSs themselves.</p> <p>Where this is not possible, it is intended to</p>

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		<p>are a local, non-statutory designation, that sits below (but complements) the national suite of statutorily designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). They are of substantive value for the conservation of biodiversity and are home to rare and scarce species or represent the best surviving examples of habitats that were once widespread and typical of the Nottinghamshire landscape. Collectively, these sites form an essential ecological network and act as wildlife corridors and steppingstones, allowing species to migrate and disperse between sites. The continued existence of these sites is vital to safeguard wildlife from the pressures of development, intensive agriculture, and climate change. The LWS network is</p>		<p>use Horizontal Directional Drilling in order to install the cable conduits and thereby avoid direct harm. This work would be undertaken following a Precautionary Method of Working and involve direct supervision by an Ecological Clerk of Works, as will be detailed within the finalised Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy. Contingency will be put in place in the event of any accidental or indirect effects on the LWSs, including the reinstatement and replanting of the various habitats within the LWSs, as well as monitoring of establishment and remediation. Consequently, it is anticipated that the likelihood of significant residual effects on these LWSs will be low.</p>

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		<p>comprehensive (meaning that every site which qualifies as a LWS is designated as one), whereas SSSIs are representative of the best sites in an area, such that that not all sites which meet the SSSI selection criteria have been, or will be, designated as a SSSI. Because of this, a number of LWS would potentially qualify as SSSIs, meaning that LWS are best described as sites that are of at least county-level importance for their flora and/or fauna. Cabling operations should be carried out according to a PMW or Ecological Method Statement in the presence of an Ecological Clerk of Works to supervise and advise during the process to avoid direct impacts upon protected and notable species.</p>		

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Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Landscape and Visual Impact	The Idle Valley Nature Reserve (IVNR) is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), the eastern part of which is located slightly beyond the 2 km Landscape Study Area (see Figure 8.6 West Burton 1, 2, 3 & 4 Landscape Receptors). The IVNR is included in the zone Views of the Development that may be visible (see Figure 8.11 West Burton 4 Bare Earth ZTV). We believe that an additional Viewpoint Location assessment is necessary, undertaken from the Nature Reserve to assess the level of visual intrusion that visitors to the reserve will experience.	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure has been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	The developer should produce a risk reduction strategy (Regulation 38 of the Building Regulations) as the responsible person for the Scheme as stated in the Regulatory Reform	Yes	A risk assessment has been undertaken in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9]. Further information on mitigation measures for human health impacts from fires and

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>(Fire Safety) Order 2005. We would also expect that safety measures and risk mitigation is developed in collaboration with NFRS.</p>		<p>explosions are contained in Section 21.6 – Major Accidents and Disasters of Chapter 21 (Other Environmental Matters) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21], and in Chapter 17 (Air Quality) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.17].</p> <p>Design requirements as set out by Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue with regard to BESS design, and firewater provision have been included in the Scheme design.</p>
<p>Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service</p>	<p>Battery Energy Storage Systems</p>	<p>The strategy should cover the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the project.</p> <p>During the construction phase the number of daily vehicle movements in the local area will significantly increase. The Service will want to</p>		<p>Effects from construction vehicle movements on road safety for vehicular and non-vehicular traffic have been assessed in ES Chapter 14: Transport and Access [EN010132/APP/ WB6.2.14] and where required, mitigation measures are set out to ensure human health risks are mitigated.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>view the transport strategy to minimise this impact and prevent an increase in the number of potential road traffic incidents. Any development should not negatively impact on the Service's ability to respond to an incident in the local area.</p>		
<p>Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service</p>	<p>Battery Energy Storage Systems</p>	<p>NFRS recognises the use of batteries (including lithium-ion) as Energy Storage Systems (ESS) is a new and emerging practice in the global renewable energy sector. As with all new and emerging practices within UK industry the Service would like to work with the developers to better understand any risks that may be posed and develop strategies and procedures to mitigate these risks.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	The developer must ensure the risk of fire is minimised by: Procuring components and using construction techniques which comply with all relevant legislation. Including Automatic Fire Detection systems in the development design. Including automatic fire suppression systems in the development design. Various types of suppression systems are available, but the Service's preferred system would be a water misting system as fires involving Lithium-ion batteries have the potential for thermal runaway. Other systems would be less effective in preventing reignition. Including redundancy in the design to provide multiple layers of protection. Designing the development to contain and restrict the spread of fire through the use of fire-resistant materials, and	Yes	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		adequate separation between elements of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). Developing an emergency response plan with NFRS to minimise the impact of an incident during construction, operation and decommissioning of the facility. Ensuring the BESS is located away from residential areas. Prevailing wind directions should be factored into the location of the BESS to minimise the impact of a fire involving lithium-ion batteries due to the toxic fumes produced.		
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	The emergency response plan should include details of the hazards associated with lithium-ion batteries, isolation of electrical sources to enable firefighting activities, measures to extinguish or cool batteries involved in fire,	N/A	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		management of toxic or flammable gases, minimise the environmental impact of an incident, containment of fire water run-off, handling and responsibility for disposal of damaged batteries, establishment of regular onsite training exercises.		
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	The emergency response plan should be maintained and regularly reviewed by the occupier and any material changes notified to NFRS.	N/A	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	Environmental impact should include the prevention of ground contamination, water course pollution, and the release of toxic gases.	Yes	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9].

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	<p>The BESS facilities should be designed to provide: Adequate separation between containers. Provide adequate thermal barriers between switch gear and batteries. Install adequate ventilation or an air conditioning system to control the temperature. Ventilation is important since batteries will continue to generate flammable gas as long as they are hot. Also, carbon monoxide will be generated until the batteries are completely cooled through to their core. Install a very early warning fire detection system, such as aspirating smoke detection/air sampling. Install Carbon Monoxide (CO) detection within the BESS containers. Install sprinkler protection within BESS containers. The sprinkler system should be designed to adequately contain and</p>	Yes	<p>Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	<p>extinguish a fire.</p> <p>Ensure that sufficient water is available for manual firefighting. An external fire hydrant should be located in close proximity of the BESS containers. – The water supply should be able to provide a minimum of 1,900 l/min for at least 120 minutes (2 hours). Further hydrants should be strategically located across the development. These should be tested and serviced at regular intervals by the operator. If the site is remote from a pressure feed water supply, then an Emergency Water Supply (EWS) meeting the above standard should be incorporated into the design of the site e.g. an open water source and/or tank(s). If above ground EWS tanks are installed, these should</p>	Yes	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] and Chapter 4 (Scheme Description) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		include facilities for the FRS to discharge (140/100mm RT outlet) and refill the tank.		
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	The site design should include a safe access route for fire appliances to manoeuvre within the site (including turning circles). An alternative access point and approach route should be provided and maintained to enable appliances to approach from an up-wind direction.	Yes	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	As the majority of BESS are remotely monitored, consideration should include the fixing of an Information Box (IB) at the FRS access point. The purpose of the IB is to provide information for first responders e.g. Emergency Response Plan, to include water supplies for firefighting,	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		drainage plans highlighting any Pollution Control Devices (PCDs) / Penstocks etc for the FRS.		
Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	NFRS are aware that large scale BESS is a fairly new technology, and as such risks may or may not be captured in current guidance in pursuance of the Building Regulations (as amended) and the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. This will highlight challenges the FRS have when responding to Building Regulations consultations. For this reason, we strongly recommend applying the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 855 Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems.	Yes	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	<p>The developer should produce a risk reduction strategy (Regulation 38 of the Building Regulations) as the responsible person for the Scheme as stated in the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.</p> <p>We would also expect that safety measures and risk mitigation is developed in collaboration with LFR. The strategy should cover the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the project.</p> <p>During the construction phase the number of daily vehicle movements in the local area will significantly increase. The Service will want to view the transport strategy to minimise this impact and prevent an increase in the number of</p>	Yes	<p>A risk assessment has been undertaken in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9].</p> <p>Further information on mitigation measures for human health impacts from fires and explosions are contained in Section 21.6 – Major Accidents and Disasters of Chapter 21 (Other Environmental Matters) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21], and in Chapter 17 (Air Quality) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.17].</p> <p>Design requirements as set out by Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue with regard to BESS design, and firewater provision have been included in the Scheme design.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>potential road traffic incidents. Any development should not negatively impact on the Service's ability to respond to an incident in the local area.</p> <p>LFR recognises the use of batteries (including lithium-ion) as Energy Storage Systems (ESS) is a new and emerging practice in the global renewable energy sector. As with all new and emerging practices within UK industry the Service would like to work with the developers to better understand any risks that may be posed and develop strategies and procedures to mitigate these risks.</p>		
Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue	Battery Energy Storage Systems	The developer must ensure the risk of fire is minimised by:	Yes	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Service		<p>Procuring components and using construction techniques which comply with all relevant legislation.</p> <p>The inclusion of Automatic Fire Detection systems in the development design. Including automatic fire suppression systems in the development design. Various types of suppression systems are available, but the Service's preferred system would be a water misting system as fires involving Lithium-ion batteries have the potential for thermal runaway.</p> <p>Other systems would be less effective in preventing re-ignition. Including redundancy in the design to</p>		<p>Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>provide multiple layers of protection.</p> <p>Designing the development to contain and restrict the spread of fire through the use of fire resistant materials, and adequate separation between elements of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).</p> <p>Developing an emergency response plan with LFR to minimise the impact of an incident during construction, operation and decommissioning of the facility.</p> <p>Ensuring the BESS is located away from residential areas. Prevailing wind directions should be factored into the location of the BESS to minimise the impact of a fire involving lithium-ion batteries due to the toxic fumes</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>produced.</p> <p>The emergency response plan should include details of the hazards associated with lithium-ion batteries, isolation of electrical sources to enable fire-fighting activities, measures to extinguish or cool batteries involved in fire, management of toxic or flammable gases, minimise the environmental impact of an incident, containment of fire water run-off, handling and responsibility for disposal of damaged batteries, establishment of regular onsite training exercises.</p> <p>The emergency response plan should be maintained and regularly reviewed by the occupier and any material changes notified to LFR.</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		Environmental impact should include the prevention of ground contamination, water course pollution, and the release of toxic gases.		
Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	<p>The BESS facilities should be designed to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adequate separation between containers. - Provide adequate thermal barriers between switch gear and batteries, - Install adequate ventilation or an air conditioning system to control the temperature. <p>Ventilation is important since batteries will continue to generate flammable gas as long as they are hot. Also, carbon monoxide will be generated until the batteries are completely cooled through to their core.</p>	Yes	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Install a very early warning fire detection system, such as aspirating smoke detection/air sampling. - Install Carbon Monoxide (CO) detection within the BESS containers. - Install sprinkler protection within BESS containers. The sprinkler system should be designed to adequately contain and extinguish a fire. - Ensure that sufficient water is available for manual fire-fighting. An external fire hydrant should be located in close proximity of the BESS containers. – The water supply should be able to provide a minimum of 1,900 l/min for at least 120 minutes (2 hours). Further hydrants should be strategically located across the development. These should be 		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>tested and serviced at regular intervals by the operator. If the site is remote from a pressure feed water supply, then an Emergency Water Supply (EWS) meeting the above standard should be incorporated into the design of the site e.g. an open water source and/or tank(s). If above ground EWS tanks are installed, these should include facilities for the FRS to discharge (140/100mm RT outlet) and refill the tank.</p> <p>- The site design should include a safe access route for fire appliances to manoeuvre within the site (including turning circles). An alternative access point and approach route should be provided and maintained to enable appliances to approach from an up-</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		wind direction.		
Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	As the majority of BESS are remotely monitored, consideration should include the fixing of an Information Box (IB) at the FRS access point. the purpose of the IB is to provide Information for first responders e.g. Emergency Response Plan, to include water supplies for firefighting, drainage plans highlighting any Pollution Control Devices (PCDs) / Penstocks etc for the FRS.	N/A	Noted.
Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service	Battery Energy Storage Systems	LFR are aware that large scale BESS is a fairly new technology, and as such risks may or may not be captured in current guidance in pursuance of the Building Regulations (as amended) and the	Yes	Noted. Related matters are addressed in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9] submitted in support of the application.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. This will highlight challenges the FRS have when responding to Building Regulations consultations. For this reason, we strongly recommend applying the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 855 Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems.		
Anglian Water	Hydrology	Jacobs has been acting as Anglian Water's agent liaising with you on project interactions and protection of Anglian Water's assets. I can now advise that your projects and specifically the Cottam Solar Project does not need to include Anglian Water's previously proposed Strategic Pipeline (Gainsborough Spur) in your assessment of cumulative impacts from reasonably foreseeable future	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		projects.		
Marine Management Organisation	General	Please be aware that any works within the Marine area require a licence from the Marine Management Organisation. It is down to the Applicant themselves to take the necessary steps to ascertain whether their works will fall below the Mean High Water Springs mark.	N/A	Noted.
NHS Lincolnshire CCG	General	Thank you for sharing the consultation documentation regarding West Burton Solar Project. The CCG notes the work however we are not in a position to comment at this time.	N/A	Noted.



2 Table 5.13.2: Section 42 response to targeted consultation held on updated proposals for West Burton 3.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
National Highways	General	<p>Thank you for consulting National Highways on the proposed changes for the West Burton 3 site area.</p> <p>The proposed changes will have no impact on the Strategic Road Network owned and operated by National Highways. As such, we have no comments to make on these changes.</p>	No	Noted.
The Coal Authority	General	Further to your email below regarding the updated proposals for the West Burton Solar Project, I can confirm that as the project site lies outside the coalfield, the Coal Authority's planning team have no specific comments to make.	No	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
NATS Safeguarding	General	The proposed development has been examined from a technical safeguarding aspect and does not conflict with our safeguarding criteria. Accordingly, NATS (En Route) Public Limited Company ("NERL") has no safeguarding objection to the proposal.	No	Noted.
NHS Lincolnshire ICB	General	NHS Lincolnshire ICB notes the work but do not have any comments at this time.	No	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Northern Powergrid	Cable Route	<p>Many thanks for sending over information setting out updated proposals for West Burton 3.</p> <p>Further to my previous email, guiding you to our safe dig application (so you can check where our assets lie), I was writing to ask if your team would be able to send over the latest plans (pdf – via email) showing the latest available cable routes and where any solar panels may sit beneath overhead lines.</p> <p>For DCO's we also look to arrange Protective Provisions and I was wondering if your team are also looking to set up such provisions?</p>	N/A	<p>The Applicant responded to this request via email on 13/12/2022 and provided the materials the consultee requested.</p> <p>The applicant also confirmed that protective provisions will be in place for the Solar Project.</p>
The Forestry	Ecology and Biodiversity	Thank you for consulting the Forestry Commission. As the Governments forestry experts, we endeavour to	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Commission		<p>provide as much relevant information to enable the project to reduce any impact on irreplaceable habitat such as Ancient\semi natural Woodland as well as other woodland.</p> <p>The Forestry Commission notes that there is no Ancient Woodland within the project area and we have previously responded to your consultations.</p> <p>However, on further investigation, there are a couple of areas of land within or bordering the draft order area that have been in receipt of public money to plant woodland, either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the English Woodland Grant Scheme (EWGS), Farm Woodland Payments (FWP) the Farm Woodland Premium Scheme 		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>(FWPS)</p> <p>Specifically:</p> <p>West Burton 2 – land near Ingleby FWPS 7133 West Burton 3 – Brampton Grange FWPS 7598</p> <p>These grants are still in ‘obligation’. The obligation period can last for up to thirty years from the date the first instalment of grant was paid, depending on the species planted at the start, and the percentages used of each species. The landowner is expected to meet all of the Terms and Conditions of the agreement contract. Failure to do so is likely to require the Forestry Commission to seek to recover all of the relevant grant that has been</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>paid.</p> <p>The Terms and Conditions of the scheme require that a woodland must be created before the end of the obligation period. Failure to do so will result in the recovery of all grant payments that are still in obligation.</p>		
Severn Trent Water	General	Please be advised that there are no Severn Trent Water assets within the West Burton 3 site area.	N/A	Noted.
North Kesteven District Council	General	I can confirm that North Kesteven District Council has no comments to make in relation to the proposed scheme changes set out in your notification letter dated 25 November 2022. We would however refer you to the attached comments submitted by the Council in relation to the Scoping	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		Report.		
UK Health Security Agency	General	<p>Thank you for your letter of 25th November 2022 inviting the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) to provide comments relating to the above Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).</p> <p>Please note that we request views from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) and the response provided is sent on behalf of both UKHSA and OHID.</p>	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>On this occasion, we have no additional comments to provide at this stage of the NSIP application.</p> <p>We note that we have replied to earlier consultations, as listed below, and this response should be read in conjunction with that earlier correspondence: Request for Scoping Opinion 10/02/22 Public Consultation - Section 42 22/07/22</p> <p>The additional information supplied does not cause any change to UKHSA's responses above.</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Nottinghamshire County Council	Hydrology, Water and Flood Risk	Due to the nature of the proposals these do not appear to seek to significantly increase the impermeable area of the site, and as such the LLFA would only like to comment that surface water runoff from the site should not be exacerbated. Any runoff from any hardstanding/small buildings on the site should be captured on site, to prevent increasing runoff from the site.	N/A	Noted.
Nottinghamshire County Council	Minerals and Waste	The County Council have no additional comments to make with regards to Minerals or Waste.	N/A	Noted.
Nottinghamshire County Council	Transport and Access	The County Council does not have any additional strategic transport planning observations to make.	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Nottinghamshire County Council	General	It should be noted that all comments contained above could be subject to change, as a result of ongoing negotiations between the County Council, the Local Planning Authority and the applicants. These comments are based on the information supplied and are without prejudice to any comments the County Council may make on any future planning applications submitted for this site.	N/A	Noted.
Southern Gas Networks	General	I am in receipt of your correspondence dated 25 November 2022 and can advise that Southern Gas Networks Plc do not cover Lincolnshire. Cadent may be able to assist	N/A	The Applicant notes that Cadent Gas was also contacted regarding the Targeted Consultation for West Burton 3 on 25th November 2022, alongside all other statutory consultees.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
NGET Assets (National Grid)	General	<p>I refer to your notice dated 25th November 2022 regarding the Proposed Development. This is a response on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (NGET). Having reviewed the documents, I confirm that I have no further comments to make on behalf of NGET in addition to those made in my response dated 19th July 2022 to the original Section 42 consultation.</p>	N/A	Noted.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
HSE	Hazards and contamination	<p>Will the proposed development fall within any of HSE's consultation distances?</p> <p>According to HSE's records the proposed DCO application boundary corridor for this Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project falls into the inner, middle and outer zones of a Major Accident Hazard Pipeline and Major Accident Hazard Site. This is based on the plans contained in drawing: Illustrative Layout, Dated 18/11/2022 V.6, West Burton Solar Project Limited, 1:5000 Scale.</p> <p>The Major Accident Hazard Pipeline is : 11166 - Operated by Uniper.</p> <p>The Applicant should make the necessary approaches to the relevant</p>		<p>The Applicant has been in preliminary correspondence with gas and fuel pipeline operators to determine safe working distances and statutory setoff distances for permanent infrastructure.</p> <p>These have been secured through the measures set out in Section 21.3 of ES Chapter 21: Other Environmental Matters [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21] with appropriate identification of assets and relevant mitigation measures set out the Crossing Schedule [EN010132/APP/WB7.10] and Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.1].</p> <p>The Applicant will continue these discussions throughout the post-submission and examination stages of the DCO determination, and will seek to undertake a Statement of Common Ground with HSE to</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>pipeline operators. There are three particular reasons for this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the pipeline operator may have a legal interest in developments in the vicinity of the pipeline. This may restrict developments within a certain proximity of the pipeline. ii) the standards to which the pipeline is designed and operated may restrict major traffic routes within a certain proximity of the pipeline. Consequently, there may be a need for the operator to modify the pipeline or its operation, if the development proceeds. iii) to establish the necessary measures required to alter/upgrade the pipeline to appropriate standards. <p>The major accident hazard site is : H4266 – Oil and Pipelines Agency, Stow Park PSD</p>		<p>ensure all relevant safety matters are addressed and agreed.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>The Applicant should make contact with the above operators, to inform an assessment of whether or not the proposed development is vulnerable to a possible major accident. HSE's Land Use Planning advice is dependent on the location of areas where people may be present. Based on the information in the Consultation documents it is unlikely that HSE would advise against the development. Please note that the advice is based on HSE's existing policy for providing land-use planning advice and the information which has been provided. HSE's advice in response to a 2</p> <p>Subsequent planning application may differ should HSE's policy or the scope of the development change by the time</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		the Development Consent Order application is submitted.		
HSE	Hazards and Contamination	<p>Hazardous Substance Consent</p> <p>Based on the consultation documents found at Welcome to West Burton Solar Project - Welcome, it is unknown whether hazardous substance consent will be required. It is noted that part of the scheme involves onsite battery storage and there is insufficient detail at this stage of the consultation to provide comment.</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant has provided greater detail of the battery storage and relevant information on Hazardous Substances in the Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.9]. Further assessment of risks of major accidents and disasters is provided in Section 21.6 of Chapter 21 (Other Environmental Matters) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21].</p> <p>The Applicant will seek to undertake a</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Further information on HSC should be sought from the relevant Hazardous Substances Authority, if required or if changes to the scheme are made.</p> <p>Consideration of risk assessments</p> <p>Regulation 5(4) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 requires the assessment of significant effects to include, where relevant, the expected significant effects arising from the proposed development's vulnerability to major accidents. HSE's role on NSIPs is summarised in the following Advice Note 11 Annex on the Planning Inspectorate's website - Annex G - The Health and Safety Executive. This document includes consideration of risk assessments on page 3.</p>		<p>Statement of Common Ground with HSE to ensure all relevant safety matters are addressed and agreed.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>Explosives sites CEMHD 7's response is no comment to make in regards to the proposed development as there are no HSE licenced sites in the vicinity of the proposed development.</p> <p>Electrical safety No comment from a planning perspective</p>		
Historic England	Cultural Heritage	Please could you address our advice on the PEIR as set out below, in particular; 'On the basis of the indicative layout plans for panels with the pale of Stow Park we are as noted in the PEIR minded to object to installation of any part of the development within the former deer park (as defined by the lines of the scheduled Park Pale and its	No	The Applicant considers that the removal of all of the proposed panels from within Stow Park would be too detrimental to the scheme, and that the harm to the Scheduled Monument, though long term, would be temporary and reversible and therefore should be weighed against the substantial public benefits of the scheme.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>former course). Our concerns are focussed upon setting impacts upon the significance of the medieval bishop's palace and deer park SM 1019229 and we consider that the proposed sections of solar array sited within the medieval deer park at Stow would constitute substantial harm to the significance of the scheduled monument. That part of the scheme within the historic extent of Stow Park should we suggest be deleted prior to submission as it presents avoidable and unjustified harm to the significance of a nationally important designated heritage asset.'</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Historic England	Cultural Heritage	To assist me in allocating appropriate resources for the examination process I would be grateful if you could indicate whether the proposed area of array (within WB3), located at the medieval bishop's palace and deer park (Scheduled Monument 1019229), is to be deleted from the scheme prior to your submission of DCO application?	No	The Applicant considers that the removal of all of the proposed panels from within Stow Park would be too detrimental to the scheme, and that the harm to the Scheduled Monument, though long term, would be temporary and reversible and therefore should be weighed against the substantial public benefits of the scheme.
Autistic Nottingham	Other	<p>Hi is there any way you can summarize all of the attached in basic English so that I actually understand what's going on? please</p> <p>Also, could you let me know why we are being told about it?</p>	N/A	The Applicant notes that a response was provided to Autistic Nottingham on 05/12/2022 which explained the West Burton Solar Project and the reason why they were being contacted regarding the updated proposals for the West Burton 3 site.

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
British Transport Police	General	At present I have no adverse comments to make with regards to this application and amendments, if any crime prevention advice in relation to BTP infrastructure and or impact on the running rails, please do not hesitate to contact me.	N/A	Noted.

3 Table 5.13.3: Section 44 Response Table

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Party ID: 192238 192242 (The Green, Lancaster Road, Gringley on the hill, Doncaster DN10 4RI)	Objection	My land is next door to the proposed site and our life will be significantly changed by the building of this project and my Wife who runs a wedding venue in our Gardens has already had to stop the business due to possibility of the scheme going ahead.	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
<p>Party ID: 167249 (2nd Floor, Trafalgar House, 110 Manchester Road, Altrincham, WA14 1NU)</p>	<p>Cable Route</p>	<p>Cellnex has two assets that are located within the Cable Route Search Corridor. The details are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pylon Site off Fenton lane, Retford, Nottinghamshire, DN22 9HF (NGR 479856E 382935N) Cellnex has several antennas and transmission dishes on a pylon and also a ground based compound at this location 2. Ground based mast at Prospect Farm, Gate burton, Gainsborough, Lincs, DN21 5BD (NGR: 484000E 382600N) Cellnex has a 21m lattice mast and associated ground based equipment within a compound at this location. It is not clear from the available plans whether this site is excluded from the search 	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Order Limits and cable route have been substantially changed from PEIR to submission. At PEIR, the Pylon Site off Fenton Lane, Retford was located within the Cable Route Search Corridor. For submission, the Cable Route Corridor has been reduced to a 50m corridor located no less than 650m to the east of the Cellnex site. As such, impacts on Cellnex's are not anticipated.</p> <p>Embedded mitigation measures against impacts to utilities, telecoms, and television receptors are set out in Section 21.3 of Chapter 21 (Other Environmental Matters) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21] and secured through the Crossing Schedule [EN010132/APP/WB7.15] and Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.1].</p> <p>The ground based mast at Prospect Farm, Gate Burton was not included within the Order Limits at PEIR and has not been included for</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>area. If it is excluded then the boundary of the search area adjoins our site and therefore the comments below still apply. We request that the selected location for the cable excludes the land at, and in the immediate vicinity of the our assets to avoid any potential impacts on the our operations in relation to the following:</p> <p>(i) Access Arrangements – Existing access arrangements to the site may be impacted by the cable location (during construction and any easements associated with the cable)</p> <p>(ii) Power and Fixed Line Provision – Any impact on the provision of services to the asset (during construction and any easements</p>		<p>submission. Cellnex's activities are therefore not expected to be effected by any construction or operational activity due to its location >900m north of the Order Limits.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>associated with the cable).</p> <p>(iii) Construction - There is a possibility that, due to proximity, the construction works could impact the operation of the asset in terms of dust, vibration and the operation of plant and machinery blocking signal propagation and line of sight for transmission dishes. We would therefore require mitigation measures to be put in place to safeguard our operations from the site during the construction phase if the cable is located in proximity to our assets.</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
<p>Party ID: 184179 (2 Temple Back East, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6EG)</p>	<p>Protective provision</p>	<p>This response is submitted on behalf of WPD to your statutory consultation letter dated 14 June 2022.</p> <p>WPD is the licensed electricity distribution network operator under Section 6 Electricity Act 1989 (EA1989) for the area in which the development is proposed. Section 9 of the EA1989 places a duty on the electricity distributor to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity distribution.</p> <p>WPD is a statutory undertaker for the purposes of the project.</p> <p>Please note that Section 127 Planning Act 2008 sets out various protections from compulsory acquisition of statutory</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Embedded mitigation measures against impacts to utilities, telecoms, and television receptors (including overhead and underground power lines under control of WPD) are set out in Section 21.3 of Chapter 21 (Other Environmental Matters) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21] and secured through the Crossing Schedule [EN010132/APP/WB7.15] and Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB7.1].</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>undertakers' land or their interests in land. WPD's objective is to secure protection of its assets and agreement on any diversions or works necessary to facilitate the development. In doing so it will expect the development consent order (DCO) to include protective provisions specific to WPD. We suggest that you consider WPD-specific protective provisions secured on other DCO schemes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Triton Knoll Electrical System Order 2016 • The M54 to M6 Link Road Development Consent Order 		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
<p>Party ID: 184179 (2 Temple Back East, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6EG)</p>	<p>Protective Provisions</p>	<p>In addition, WPD will usually expect the developer to enter into an Asset Protection Agreement. We would encourage you to engage with WPD in respect of the terms of this agreement. WPD's general position on DCO schemes is to submit a holding objection to the scheme until the above requirements have been secured. This objection does not mean that WPD objects in principle to the proposed development. Given the scale of the application land to which the DCO relates, we have not undertaken an audit of WPD's assets which may be affected by the development nor have we provided an overlay plan showing WPD's affected assets.</p> <p>The above response does not take</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Noted. The Applicant will undertake further engagement with WPD.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>into account any specific engagement you may have directly with WPD's local offices. Should you require further information regarding WPD's assets which are situated on or within the DCO land, we recommend you engage with WPD's local offices to obtain this. Should you be proposing any diversionary works to WPD's assets that require land outside of the proposed DCO limits, we suggest you consider engaging with WPD on any land rights required to undertake those diversions prior to submission of your application.</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
<p>Party ID: 190773 (Gladman House, Alexandria Way, Congleton, CW12 1LB)</p>	<p>General</p>	<p>Thank you for your letter dated 14th June 2022 outlining the current consultation in relation to the West Burton Solar Project proposals.</p> <p>Gladman are currently promoting circa 12.2ha of land off Church Lane, Saxilby for future residential development on behalf of our landowners.</p> <p>The area of land being promoted is directly adjacent to the proposed West Burton 2 solar farm. A red edge plan outlining the extent of the land is included with this letter.</p> <p>We have reviewed the plans on your website and acknowledge that our land interest is not located within the area identified</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>as the 'cable route search corridor'.</p> <p>At this time, we just wanted to make you aware of our future intentions to bring the land off Church Lane forward for residential development.</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
Party ID: 192243 (Church farm, High St, Gringley on the Hill, Doncaster)	General	<p>Respondent provided feedback through Section 47 Feedback Form format. Comments have been included within [EN010132/APP/WB5.12] of the Consultation Report: Section 47 Response Table.</p> <p>Feedback related the West Burton 4 site area.</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>
Party ID: (Unnamed response, DN10 4QP)	General	<p>Respondent provided feedback through Section 47 Feedback Form format. Comments have been included within [EN010132/APP/WB5.12] of the Consultation Report: Section 47 Response Table.</p> <p>Feedback related the West Burton</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		4 site area.		Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Party ID: 167288 (3 Church Lodge Stow Lincoln LN1 2DF)	Rights of Land	<p>Section 1 - Rights over Land - Chancel Repair Liability</p> <p>Specifically, regarding: West Burton (area 3) - the PCC is concerned about the proposals about the use of land at Stow Park and the implication this might have on our right to Chancel Repair Liability.</p> <p>Our concern is compounded in the formal notice of the proposed Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 application that accompanied your letter of the 14th June 2022 in which we find the following statement at</p>	N/A	<p>The Applicant has entered into an Option Agreement for a lease with the landowner for West Burton 3. Compulsory acquisition powers are being sought in the draft DCO in order to ensure the deliverability of the Scheme in the event that this Agreement is breached or to deal with any unknown or third party interests.</p> <p>The powers set out in Article 23 of the draft DCO enable the Applicant to extinguish, override or suspend private rights or restrictive covenants. However, the exercise of these powers must be necessary in order to deliver the Scheme. The Applicant does not consider the extinguishment or suspension of a chancel</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>paragraph 4, 2nd bullet point: Compulsory acquisition of land, including interests in land, rights over land and imposition of restriction, powers to override, suspend or extinguish rights over land and powers for the temporary use of land.</p> <p>In the light of the possibility that our right for CRL may be overridden, suspended or extinguished, and the potential (in the absence of due compensation) this has for the PCC's ability to maintain a Grade 1 listed building of national and international significance the PCC must object to the proposal for West Burton 3 in relation to it's location on land to which CRL is attached.</p> <p>There is a process for buying out</p>		<p>repair liability to be necessary to deliver the Scheme and it would not therefore be justifiable to use the powers in the draft DCO for this purpose.</p> <p>In the event that compulsory acquisition powers are exercised in respect of West Burton 3, Article 23(6) of the draft DCO enables the Applicant to notify the holder of a right that the powers to extinguish or suspend rights do not apply in respect of that right. The Applicant would therefore notify PCC that power did not apply to the chancel repair liability.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>or 'compounding' the liability. This would be dealt with under the Ecclesiastical Dilapidations Measure 1923 as amended by the Ecclesiastical Dilapidations (Amendment) Measure 1929. The Appendix to this letter outlines our particular area of interest.</p>		
<p>Party ID 167288 (3 Church Lodge Stow Lincoln LN1 2DF)</p>	<p>Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>Specifically for both West Burton and Cottam: (Chapter 13 and supporting appendices in the main Preliminary Environmental Impact Reports (PEIR) for both projects are the sources). The PCC is concerned about the impact on St Mary's Church, Stow (Grade 1 of national and international significance NHLE 1146624) which is within 5 kilometres of both developments (c.1.49km to NE of West Burton 3, and c.1.15km to W</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Assessment of the settings of designated heritage assets has been undertaken by the Applicant, in accordance with the methodology proposed in the PEIR, which follows the guidance provided in Historic England's GPAN3: The Settings of Heritage Assets.</p> <p>This includes, inter alia, an assessment of Grade I listed Church of St Mary, Stow and the scheduled Site of college and Benedictine abbey of St Mary, Stow, as presented in Appendix 13.5 to Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement</p>

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		<p>of Cottam 1).</p> <p>We note the PEIR for West Burton, paragraph 13.4.6 on page 395. Consequently, this PEIR will identify all designated assets 'of the highest significance' within a 5km radius of each of the five Sites under consideration. It is proposed that the assets thus identified will then be taken forward for further assessment in accordance with the methodology detailed in The Setting of Heritage Assets (Historic England 2017). This will involve a 'sifting' exercise at Step 1, whereby a suite of techniques will be utilised to 'scope out' from further assessment those assets where it is considered that views from, or towards, would not be affected by the proposals. Such techniques</p>		<p>[EN010132/APP/WB6.2.13].</p> <p>The assessment concluded that views towards the Scheme from the immediate vicinity of the Grade I listed church and associated Scheduled Monument are screened by the surrounding built environment of the village of Stow, and likewise assessment of views towards the church from Stow Park Road the west also indicate that the surrounding built environment and trees within the village of Stow would prevent any views of the Scheme being present within the same arc of view as the Listed Building. In addition, LVIA visualisations produced from locations in the wider landscape to the north, east and south-east of Stow (e.g., from Viewpoints 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 19 and 20) illustrate that the church is not prominently visible from these locations due to the generally flat topography and intervening vegetation, and therefore views of the church are unlikely to be affected.</p>

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		<p>would include the use of Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) maps, viewshed analysis from selected receptors, analysis of online aerial and street view imagery, as well as on-site 'ground-truthing' where this is deemed appropriate and where access is possible.</p> <p>It is considered likely that this would greatly reduce the quantity of designated assets that would require more detailed analysis in subsequent stages of the assessment.</p> <p>and from Table 13.3, on page 399 the factors to be considered when assessing buildings of major significance (and in this the PCC consider the Grade 1 listed St Mary's Church, Stow to be so categorised)</p> <p>i) Changes to key historic building</p>		

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		<p>elements such that the resource is totally altered</p> <p>ii) Comprehensive changes to setting (where this affects the significance of the asset).</p> <p>Regarding the above extracts the PCC notes also Historic England and Lincolnshire County Council Archeology Services are in ongoing discussions about impact assessment generally but these were not yet complete at the time of producing the reports.</p> <p>The PCC wish to record it's concern about potential impacts on the visualisation from distance of St Mary's Church, Stow, the impact on visitor numbers and on surrounding archeology that could inform the history of Stow, and request it's further</p>		

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		<p>involvement in the ongoing discussions about the locations and size of West Burton 3 (as indeed it will so request regarding the nearby development proposals for Cottam 1 and Gate Burton Energy Park).</p> <p>It should be noted that St Mary's Church, Stow also appears on Historic England's "Heritage at Risk" register.</p> <p>The PCC would also point out that any change to the right over land for Chancel Repair Liability would materially affect the ability to maintain St Mary's Church, Stow and thus it can be deemed that any change in CRL is a change to a key historic building element such that the</p>		

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		resource is totally altered.		
<p>Party ID: 167288 (3 Church Lodge Stow Lincoln LN1 2DF)</p>	<p>General Comments</p>	<p>The PCC wishes to make the following general observations in exercising its concern for residents of the ecclesiastical parish of Stow-in-Lindsey. i) Concerns about the local infrastructure's ability to support the construction phase. Local residents have expressed concern about the inadequacy of class "C" roads, unclassified roads and green lanes to support the heavy vehicle movements required during the construction phase. Such roads, according to knowledgeable locals, were not engineered to support the</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14] describes the Applicant's assessment and consideration of vehicle routes and movements.</p> <p>Construction traffic will be controlled through a Construction Traffic Management Plan, presented as Appendix 14.2 [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.2] to Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14].</p> <p>A HGV delivery booking system will be in place, with the aim of managing arrivals and departures to ensure that they do not cross</p>

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		<p>quantity of heavy traffic envisaged in the projects and are therefore at serious risk of damage. Often quoted is a relatively recent incident of a large vehicle unable to avoid the roadside ditch in the "single" track section of the road between Stow and Ingham which closed the road for several days. Such closure of a well used local routes could easily repeated should these warning concerns not be heeded.</p> <p>ii) concerns about the impact on local residents' mental health. There are two specific examples that have been reported to the Churchwarden. One where there is a potential suicide risk because of the proximity of a scheme to the resident's home - the resident</p>		<p>each other on the local highway network.</p> <p>Following consultation, the Applicant notes that construction access is no longer proposed on the Green Lane (referred to in the consultee's response). Access will now take place on Ingham Road to the east of the Green Lane. Operational access by a light van or similar vehicle will still take place from the Green Lane. It is expected that there will only be one or two movements at the junction per month.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that Stow Lane has a weight limit of 7.5 tonnes except for access. This restriction is not enforced for structural reasons, but to limit through traffic towards Stow. Construction vehicles associated with Scheme will not travel as far as Stow, and will be using the road for access only, which is permitted by the wording of the restriction.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that mitigation measures</p>

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		<p>having chosen to live in a rural setting now finds that the proposed development to be disastrous to their wellbeing, and likely to affect the property value should the decision to sell be inevitable because of the disruption and changed environment brought about by the proposed development. In another report, a distraught farmer said that "If I don't rent them the land it will be compulsory purchased - either way I lose" and thus felt there was little value in raising objection to the proposed project. These two examples, one of which relates to the Cottam project, the other to the Gate Burton Energy Park project, nevertheless reflect the sentiments expressed to the members of the PCC to these</p>		<p>are summarised in the Transport Assessment (Section 8) the Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.1] [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.14.2], presented as Appendix 14.2 to Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14] and the Public Rights of Way Management Plan, presented as Appendix 14.3 to Chapter 14 (Transport and Access) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14].</p> <p>The Applicant notes and recognises the importance of this comment. Impacts upon human health have been assessed within Chapter 21 (Other Environmental Matters) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.21].</p> <p>Considering the potential impact to local properties, the Applicant notes that the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, such as presented in Section 8.6 and Table</p>

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		<p>massive solar projects that will surround our parish. iii) Overall the local area is in line for FOUR large schemes, not only Cottam and West Burton, but also Gate Burton Energy Park and now Tillbridge Solar. In addition there are already two large solar farms in the area between West Burton 3 and the Gate Burton Energy park proposal.</p> <p>The PCC are not sure how all this fits with the Government strategy on Food security as described by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) recently published Government Food Strategy. The following is taken from the introduction to the strategy: We are the Department for</p>		<p>8.22 of Chapter 8 (Landscape and Visual Impact) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.8], takes embedded mitigation into account to include the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Panels to be set a minimum of 3m from Site boundaries. - Panels to be set minimum of 20m from major watercourses and minimum of 8m from minor watercourses. - Panels to be set 50m (min) from boundary curtilage to outer edge of solar panel. - Site boundary fencing to be set back 5m from adjacent existing hedgerows to allow for proposed thickening and growth. - Let existing hedges grow out and managed at 5m. Encourage hedgerow trees to grow out within existing hedges to add further thickening and growth within the field boundaries.

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		<p>Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.</p> <p>We're responsible for improving and protecting the environment, growing the green economy, sustaining thriving rural communities and supporting our world-class food, farming and fishing industries.</p> <p>We work closely with our 33 agencies and arm's length bodies on our ambition to make our air purer, our water cleaner, our land greener and our food more sustainable. Our mission is to restore and enhance the environment for the next generation, and to leave the environment in a better state than we found it.</p>		<p>Additional secondary mitigation has also been designed into the Scheme, consisting of new planting proposals, details of which can be found on Figures 8.18.1-8.18.3 [EN010132/APP/WB6.4.8.18.1 – WB6.4.8.18.3] and is further described within the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) [EN010132/APP/WB7.3]</p> <p>Regarding engagement and cooperation with landowners, the Applicant has prepared a Consultation Report [EN010132/APP/WB5.1] and Book of Reference [EN010132/APP/WB4.3] as part of their application, setting out how they have referenced and consulted with landowners and occupiers.</p> <p>The Applicant initially presented a cable route search corridor, which has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners.</p> <p>The Site areas for panels have been determined through agreement with</p>

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		<p>The massing of solar projects in the area is unlikely to “sustain thriving rural communities”.</p> <p>Elsewhere in the strategy the importance of retaining agricultural land as part of the food strategy is stated: The conflict in Ukraine has shown us that domestic food production is a vital contributor to national resilience and food security. Domestic food production can reduce the offshoring of food production to countries that do not meet our high environmental and animal welfare standards.</p> <p>Not only does the Ukraine conflict bring into sharp relief the weakness of having dependence on relative few countries as major producers of a</p>		<p>landowners.</p> <p>The Applicant notes this comment and appreciates the importance of agricultural land.</p> <p>The Applicant has undertaken detailed agricultural land classification (ALC) assessment of the Sites, as presented in Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19].</p> <p>The Scheme has been amended on the basis of the detailed reports to ensure that the vast majority of the Scheme is located on lower quality agricultural land with only 26.24% of the land within the Sites classified as best and most versatile agricultural land (BMV land). The Scheme will be decommissioned with no permanent loss of agricultural land extent or quality.</p>

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		<p>given food type, the strategy emphasises the need to avoid "offshoring" food production abroad. The strategy also recognises the need to treat farmers fairly</p> <p>As the custodians of our natural environment and important contributors to our food security, farmers must be treated fairly.</p> <p>The concerns raised to us by residents would question whether local farmers are being treated fairly.</p> <p>The expediency of accessing the National Grid at the Cottam and West Burton seems to be the overriding consideration for the proposed projects.</p> <p>iv) The oft quoted "levelling-up agenda" raises questions about whether there are similar</p>		<p>Some agricultural land may be retained during the operational phase, for example pasture grazed by sheep.</p> <p>Chapter 19 (Soils and Agriculture) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.19] concludes that the 40-year lifetime of the project will facilitate a recovery in topsoil organic matter. This will enhance the functional capacity of the soil resource for future arable production.</p> <p>Paragraphs 19.5.2- 19.5.3 state (in respect of food security):</p> <p>"It should be noted that the above Lincolnshire County Council consultation response is incorrect when it states that "... all arable land of whatever agricultural classification produces food, whether for animal feed or human consumption..." Arable land can be and is used for growing energy crops. Examples include fuel crops such as biodiesel and miscanthus grass, and energy substrate crops such as maize for anaerobic digestion, or grain for ethanol manufacture. There are no food</p>

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		<p>such projects, in similar such concentrations being proposed elsewhere in the country, and thus to what extent this project is respectful of the aim to level-up across the country.</p> <p>v) At the Glasgow COP26 conference the Government was keen to address issues in Climate Change.</p> <p>Global warming is happening, and recent record temperatures in the UK (UK record of 40.30C at Coningsby on 19th July 2022) are evidence of this.</p> <p>The consequence of this is altered weather patterns, and thus inevitably alterations in the food production abilities of countries</p>		<p>security or planning policy constraints on growing these energy crops on arable land, just as there are no food security policy constraints on the use of agricultural land for solar PV. Studies have shown solar PV also produces more kWh per hectare than other renewable energy crops. This is also achieved with land remaining in agricultural production, fattening lambs, and without the environmental and land degradation hazards of the most popular energy crop, maize. Arable land is also used to produce non-food crops for markets including industrial oils, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and Christmas trees. Food security is not a material planning consideration. The relevant assessment for policy purposes is the ALC grade of the agricultural land, not its current use or the intensity of that use."</p> <p>The Applicant has been informed by Government legislation and policy in selecting the Sites for Scheme.</p>

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		<p>around the world.</p> <p>It is therefore important to retain food productive land for this purpose in those more temperate countries as the probabilities of equatorial, and thus hotter, countries to maintain production becomes evermore at risk.</p> <p>Another feature of the altered weather patterns is that historic data on sunshine levels etc. is no guarantee for the future expectation. It is therefore unwise to over proliferate massive solar schemes in the West Lindsey District Council area.</p> <p>vi) It is noted that there is an extension to the consultation deadline for West Burton 4 to 23rd August 2022 in respect to</p>		<p>Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.5] has been prepared in accordance with the EIA Regulations and builds on the preliminary information set out in the PEIR.</p> <p>NPS EN-1 states: "Applicants are obliged to include in their ES, as a matter of fact, information about the main alternatives they have studied. This should include an indication of the main reasons for the applicant's choice, taking into account the environmental, social and economic effects and including, where relevant, technical and commercial feasibility." This Chapter, supported by Appendix 5.1 (Site Selection Assessment) [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.5.1] undertakes this exercise in accordance with the above requirements.</p> <p>Local and national planning policy has been identified in Chapter 6 (Energy Need, Legislative Context and Energy Policy) of the</p>

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		<p>Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) arising from soil sampling revealed differences against the information used about ALC in the PEIR.</p> <p>It is therefore imperative that sufficient soil samples are taken across all land to be used within proposed projects to ensure that no Grade 1, Grade 2 or Grade 3a land is taken out of food production should these projects proceed.</p>		<p>Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.6].</p> <p>A Statement of Need [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] has been submitted as part of the application, setting out context, requirement and contribution of the Scheme to securing and decarbonising UK energy supply.</p> <p>The Applicant notes the data on climate change experienced in the UK and globally.</p> <p>Assessments regarding the Scheme and Climate Change are presented in Chapter 7 (Climate Change) of the Environmental Statement [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.7]. The Statement of Need submitted with the DCO Application [EN010132/APP/WB7.11] explains the need for large scale solar assets.</p> <p>Smaller development as an alternative to the Scheme does not need to be considered, because NPS EN-1 at paragraph 4.4.3 states</p>

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				that the decision maker: "...should be guided in considering alternative proposals by whether there is a realistic prospect of the alternative delivering the same infrastructure capacity (including energy security and climate change benefits) in the same timescale as the proposed development". A smaller scheme would not deliver the same generation capacity or energy security and climate change benefit as the Scheme, and as such would not represent a reasonable alternative.
<p>Party ID: 167288</p> <p>(3 Church Lodge Stow Lincoln</p>	Consultation Process	St Mary's Church, Stow has been a hub for access to project materials during the consultation period Wednesday 15th June 2022 - Wednesday 27th July 2022, including copies of all paper based material except the lever arch files containing Appendices to support the PEIRs.	N/A	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges this comment but remains confident in the level of consultation undertaken and information presented throughout the pre-application stage, as described in the Consultation Report [Document reference: WB5.1].</p> <p>For example, as part of the six-week phase two</p>

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LN1 2DF)		<p>There was no reason to believe that this was an oversight at the time, however today, Wednesday 27th July 2022 copies of all appendices were delivered to the church, together with the updated ALC data for the West Burton 4 site of the West Burton Solar project. To receive the appendices at such a late stage in the consultation process at a consultation hub (c.1.49km to NE of West Burton 3, and c.1.15km to W of Cottam 1) that is so close to the project sites could be construed as a deliberate attempt to disenfranchise consultees of relevant information.</p> <p>Not everyone has internet access</p>		<p>consultation on the Scheme, the Applicant presented consultees with as detailed information as possible by publishing a PEIR. A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme.</p>

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		<p>or capacity to use "data sticks", neither of which are user friendly when trying to cross reference material.</p> <p>We respectfully request that the consultation period for comments from the residents of the ecclesiastical parishes of Stow-in-Lindsey and St Edith's Coates is extended to 23rd August 2022 - to coincide with the extended date offered in relation to West Burton 4.</p>		
<p>Party ID: 192205 (Hawthorn House)</p>	<p>General</p>	<p>I wish to register my objection to the proposed solar farm, I feel the development will be detrimental to the environment and the local community of which I am part of.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
,Town Street ,Clayworth, DN22 9AD)				This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
Party ID: 192206 (Hawthorn House ,Town Street ,Clayworth, DN22 9AD)	General	I wish to register my objection to the proposed solar farm, I feel the development will be detrimental to the environment and the local community of which I am part of.	Yes	Noted. The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety. This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of

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				environmental assessments.
<p>Party ID: 173484 (5 South View, Tinwell Road, Stamford, PE9 2JL)</p>	Cable Route	<p>From reviewing the consultation documentation, we note from the plans included within PEIR – Volume 2, Appendix 2, Chapter 3, the extent of your cable route search corridor and its potential impact on our client's freehold ownership and underlying leasehold and other land use interests.</p> <p>The extent of your search area is shown in Figure 3.6 ("West Burton cable route search area 1"). We note the extent of the cable</p>	Yes	<p>The impact of the Scheme on the access road to the development proposal subject of extant planning permission 1/22/00047/CDM (for the extraction of sand and gravel) is considered in Chapter 12 Minerals [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.12] of the ES accompanying the DCO application. In addition, this is further addressed in our response to Tarmac aggregates contained within Appendix 5.13 ('Section 42 Applicant Response Table') of this Appendix.</p>

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		<p>search area includes land which falls within mineral protection zones and also touches and concerns the access road to our tenant's extant planning permission 1/22/00047/CDM for the extraction of sand and gravel.</p> <p>We understand from the Phase 2 consultation literature it is proposed within the cable corridor to accommodate up to 2 underground cables. No details are currently published setting out the depth to which these cables are to be laid within the corridor.</p> <p>The extent of the corridor abuts the settlement boundaries of Fenton and Sturton-le-Steeple and would sterilise land already identified for medium term residential development</p>		

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		<p>opportunities as well as live renewable energy projects.</p> <p>We note that large parts of the search area included within our client's land holding are designated flood zones 2 / 3 and that your search area includes arterial drainage channels and drains controlled by Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board, which are vitally important to support profitable agricultural operations and the extraction of my client's consented and reserved sand and gravel deposits comprised within and outside of your search area.</p>		
<p>Party ID: 173484 (5 South View,</p>	<p>Cable route</p>	<p>The consultation area also includes substantial areas of mineral protection zone identified within Inset 4 of the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The impact of the Scheme on the wider minerals resource in the area is considered in Chapter 12 Minerals [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.12] of the ES accompanying the DCO application. The extent</p>

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Tinwell Road, Stamford, PE9 2JL)		<p>Plan adopted March 2021.</p> <p>On the basis of the aforementioned comments, we request that the applicant amends, refines and reduces the extent of its cable route search area to avoid crossing our client's land where at all possible, and where unavoidable, avoids the aforementioned assets and alternative land uses and potential for creating sterilised areas.</p> <p>Until such time as the route and commercial terms are agreed, our clients OBJECT to the extent of the Cable Route Search Corridor crossing our client's landholdings, as set out ion Figure 3.6 of the consultation documentation</p> <p>We trust the aforementioned points are self-explanatory, but should you require any further</p>		<p>of the cable corridor in the vicinity of this landholding has been significantly reduced from that as shown at the PEIR stage (see DCO application Works Plan [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.3]).</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		<p>points of clarification, we look forward to hearing from you and engaging further on reaching solutions which avoid crossing our client's land wherever possible. If you should have any queries arising from the content of this letter, then please do not hesitate to contact the writer.</p>		
<p>Party ID: 192218 (Old Ford House, Town Street, Clayworth, Retford, DN22 9AD)</p>	<p>General</p>	<p>We live in close proximity to the land proposed for West Burton 4 solar farm. It will begin about 150m away from our property which will devalue the property.</p> <p>We live within a construction area and the proposed West Burton 4 encroaches on it and should not be continued.</p> <p>Our property and others nearby are prone to flooding from the run</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		off water from the proposed West Burton 4. We flooded in 2007 and again in 2019. This is going to be made worse if West Burton 4 solar farm goes ahead.		Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.
<p>Party ID: 192217 (Old Ford House, Town Street, Clayworth, Retford, DN22 9AD)</p>	General	<p>We live in close proximity to the land proposed for West Burton 4 solar farm. It will begin about 150m away from our property which will devalue the property.</p> <p>We live within a construction area and the proposed West Burton 4 encroaches on it and should not be continued.</p> <p>Our property and others nearby are prone to flooding from the runoff water from the proposed West Burton 4. We flooded in 2007 and again in 2019. Namely that the culvert underneath Town</p>	Yes	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

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		Street is too small to cope with heavy sustained rainfall, likely to be made worse if West Burton 4 solar farm goes ahead.		
<p>Party ID: 184779</p> <p>(Water management Consortium, Wellington House, Manby park, Manby, Louth, Lincolnshire, LN11 8UU)</p>	Watercourses and Hydrology	<p>Attached GIS files of watercourses and pumping station within their remit.</p> <p>Comments-</p> <p>There are numerous watercourses that are likely to be impacted by the development, either by the position of the proposed arrays, cable route or potential increase in flows.</p> <p>I would advise that the flood risk strategy is being considered by the relevant Boards. However, I feel that it is important to raise some specific issues that will need</p>	Yes	<p>A Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [EN010132/APP/WB6.3.10.1 – WB6.3.10.5] has been produced by the Applicant for each of the solar Sites which demonstrate that flood risk will not be exacerbated as a result of their installation and is likely to provide betterment over the existing surface water regime due to the reintroduction of natural land cover beneath the panels.</p> <p>Where additional infrastructure is proposed, such as battery sites, additional Drainage Strategies have been produced which indicate how SuDS will be provided on-Site to attenuate any increased runoff to greenfield rates.</p> <p>The Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy also fed into the masterplan</p>

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		<p>to be considered further and in detail as a part of the DCO process.</p> <p>All Board watercourses are subject to Byelaws, which are intended to protect the watercourses and the Boards ability to maintain them. With this in mind I would advise the following.</p> <p>Byelaw Number 3 states that:</p> <p>No person shall as a result of development (within the meaning of section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended ("the 1990 Act")) (whether or not such development is authorised by the 1990 Act or any regulation or order whatsoever or none of them) for any purpose by means of any</p>		<p>cogniscent of the IDB Byelaws.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges that West Burton 4 and the associated cabling infrastructure have been removed from the Scheme in its entirety.</p> <p>This decision was reached by considering the extensive consultation feedback received alongside a range of factors as part of the design refinement process of the Scheme. The Applicant notes that these factors included the advancement of the technical design for the Scheme, and the results of a range of environmental assessments.</p>

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		<p>channel, siphon, pipeline or sluice or by any other means whatsoever introduce any water into any watercourse in the District so as to directly or indirectly increase the flow or volume of water in any watercourse in the District (without the previous consent of the Board)."</p> <p>Consent will only be granted for the increase in flow to a watercourse where the Board is happy that in doing so no demonstrable harm will be caused. It may be the case that appropriate mitigations are required to be put in place to either attenuate flow or to enhance the existing watercourse to ensure no detriment. If this is not possible alternative outfall</p>		

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		<p>locations may need to be considered.</p> <p>Early investigations have identified two areas of concern (with regard to West Burton and Cottam) where historic flooding has occurred. These are Toft Dyke at Clayworth and Cuckstool Dyke, East of Ossington at Sutton on Trent. Further investigations on these watercourses should be considered as a part of the development process.</p> <p>Byelaw Number 10 states that:</p> <p>No person without the previous consent of the Board shall erect any building or structure, whether temporary or permanent, or plant any tree, shrub, willow or other similar growth within nine metres</p>		

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		<p>of the landward toe of the bank where there is an embankment or wall or within nine metres of the top of the batter where there is no embankment or wall, or where the watercourse is enclosed within nine metres of the enclosing structure.</p> <p>This will relate primarily to the location of the arrays, compounds and transformer stations.</p>		
<p>Party ID: 184779 (Water management Consortium, Wellington House,</p>	<p>Watercourses and Hydrology</p>	<p>Byelaw number 17 states that:</p> <p>No person shall without the previous consent of the Board -</p> <p>(a) place or affix or cause or permit to be placed or affixed any gas or water main or any pipe or appliance whatsoever or any electrical main or cable or wire in,</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Noted</p>

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
<p>Manby park, Manby, Louth, Lincolnshire, LN11 8UU)</p>		<p>under or over any watercourse or in, over or through any bank of any watercourse;</p> <p>(b) cut, pare, damage or remove or cause or permit to be cut, pared, damaged or removed any turf forming part of any bank of any watercourse, or dig for or remove or cause or permit to be dug for or removed any stone, gravel, clay, earth, timber or other material whatsoever forming part of any bank of any watercourse or do or cause or permit to be done anything in, to or upon such bank or any land adjoining such bank of such a nature as to cause damage to or endanger the stability of the bank;</p> <p>(c) make or cut or cause or permit to be made or cut any excavation</p>		

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		<p>or any tunnel or any drain, culvert or other passage for water in, into or out of any watercourse or in or through any bank of any watercourse;</p> <p>(d) erect or construct or cause or permit to be erected or constructed any fence, post, pylon, wall, wharf, jetty, pier, quay, bridge, loading stage, piling, groyne, revetment or any other building or structure whatsoever in, over or across any watercourse or in or on any bank thereof;</p> <p>(e) place or fix or cause or permit to be placed or fixed any engine or mechanical contrivance whatsoever in, under or over any watercourse or in, over or on any bank of any watercourse in such a manner or for such length of time</p>		

Respondent	Theme	Comment	Has this resulted in a change to the Scheme or the Applicant's evidence?	Applicant response
		as to cause damage to the watercourse or banks thereof or obstruct the flow of water in, into or out of such watercourse.		
<p>Party ID: 184779</p> <p>(Water management Consortium, Wellington House, Manby park, Manby, Louth, Lincolnshire, LN11 8UU)</p>	Watercourses and Hydrology	<p>Provided that this Byelaw shall not apply to any temporary work executed in an emergency but a person executing any work so excepted shall, as soon as practicable, inform the Board in writing of the execution and of the circumstances in which it was executed and comply with any reasonable directions the Board may give with regard thereto.</p> <p>The Board will require all watercourses to be crossed by means of HDD at a depth no less than 2 metres PLUS the cable safety distance below the hard bed level of all watercourses (to</p>	N/A	Noted.

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		<p>ODN if EA or IDB maintained). This will allow the IDBs to have the flexibility to improve watercourses in the future due to climate change (works will include deepening & widening of watercourses).</p> <p>It is anticipated that the above requirements would be covered by SOCGs, MOU, and via Protective Provisions within the DCO. This matter should be discussed further and in more detail as the proposed cable route is refined.</p> <p>Any culverting or other works within the bed of any riparian watercourse within the Boards district be they temporary or permanent will also require consent.</p>		

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		<p>It should be noted that the Boards consent is required irrespective of any permission gained under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The Board's consent will only be granted where proposals are not detrimental to the flow or stability of the watercourse/ culvert or the Board's machinery access to the watercourse/ culvert which is required for annual maintenance, periodic improvement and emergency works.</p> <p>infrastructure's ability to support the construction phase. Local residents have expressed concern about the inadequacy of class "C" roads, unclassified roads and green lanes to support the heavy vehicle movements required</p>		

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		<p>during the construction phase. Such roads, according to knowledgeable locals, were not engineered to support the quantity of heavy traffic envisaged in the projects and are therefore at serious risk of damage. Often quoted is a relatively recent incident of a large vehicle unable to avoid the roadside ditch in the "single" track section of the road between Stow and Ingham which closed the road for several days. Such closure of a well used local routes could easily repeated should these warning concerns not be heeded.</p>		