

# West Burton Solar Project

## Draft Statement of Common Ground with Lincolnshire County Council

Prepared by: Lanpro Services  
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Planning Act 2008  
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## Issue Sheet

Report Prepared for: West Burton Solar Project Ltd.  
Pre-Examination

### Statement of Common Ground Lincolnshire County Council

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## **1 Introduction**

### **1.1 Purpose of the Document**

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared as part of the proposed West Burton Solar Project Development Consent Order (the Application) made by West Burton Solar Project Ltd (the Applicant) to the Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero (the Secretary of State) pursuant to the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).
- 1.1.2 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the Application documents. All documents are available in the deposit locations and/or the Planning Inspectorate website.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority (ExA) where agreement has been reached between the parties, and where agreement has not yet been reached. SoCGs are an established means in the DCO consenting process of allowing all parties to identify and focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.

### **1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground**

- 1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) West Burton Solar Project Ltd. as the Applicant and (2) Lincolnshire County Council. Lincolnshire County Council is a host authority for the three Sites, referred to as West Burton 1, 2, and 3, that will house the PV panels, BESS and associated development.
- 1.2.2 Collectively, West Burton Solar Project Ltd. and Lincolnshire County Council are referred to as 'the parties'.

### **1.3 Terminology**

- 1.3.1 In the tables in **Sections 3 - 5** of this SoCG:
- "Agreed" indicates where the issue has been resolved.
  - "Not Agreed" indicates a final position, and
  - "Under discussion" indicates where these points will be the subject of ongoing discussion wherever possible to resolve, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the parties.

## 1.4 Topic Referencing for All Matters

1.4.1 All matters agreed, under discussion and not agreed have been given unique references which relate to the topic matter. The referencing system is defined as follows:

**Table 1.1: Topic Referencing**

Topic	Unique Identifying Code
Air Quality	AIR-xx
Alternatives and Design Evolution	ALT-xx
Climate Change	CLI-xx
Cultural Heritage	CUL-xx
Ecology and Biodiversity	ECO-xx
Energy Need	ENE-xx
General	GEN-xx
Glint and Glare	GLI-xx
Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	HFD-xx
Landscape and Visual Impact	LAN-xx
Minerals	MIN-xx
Noise and Vibration	NOI-xx
Other Environmental Matters	OEM-xx
Planning History	PHI-xx
Planning Policy	PPO-xx
Principle of Development	PRI-xx
Scheme Description	SCH-xx
Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	STR-xx
Soils and Agriculture	SOI-xx
Transport and Access	TRA-xx
Waste	WAS-

## 2 Record of Engagement

### 2.1 Summary of Consultation

2.1.1 The parties have been engaged in consultation since September 2021 prior to the Non-Statutory Consultation which ran from November to December 2021. A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between West Burton Solar Project and Lincolnshire County Council in relation to the Application is outlined in **Table 2.1**.

**Table 2.1: Record of Engagement**

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
<b>Principle of Development/General</b>		
15 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	Initial Project kick off meeting	The range of topics addressed in the SoCG. The representatives of LCC present were: Neil McBride – Head of Planning Emily Anderson – Trainee Planner
6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Councillor Briefing	The applicant and consultant team briefed the Planning Committee at Lincolnshire County Council.
	Monthly meetings with Planning Officers.	Covering the range of topics addressed in the SoCG. The representatives of LCC present at these meetings is: Neil McBride – Head of Planning
<b>Cultural Heritage (Lincolnshire County Council Historic Places Team (LHPT))</b>		

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
9 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Online meeting with The Planning Inspectorate, Lincolnshire County Council (including LHPT) and the Applicant	<p>Discussion on Trial Trench Requirements. Due to the disagreement regarding evaluation trial trenching sample in 'blank' areas, no trenching works were able to commence prior to the meeting with PINS, which caused delay to the commencement of intrusive archaeological works.</p> <p>Full details of the meeting are set out in ES Chapter Appendix 13.9.1 <b>[APP-124]</b>. Discussions referred to in the LHPT relevant representations include:</p> <p><i>"LCC confirmed that it had requested 3+1% trenching, which it considered was required in order to ensure that impacts on unknown buried archaeological remains would be avoided. It particularly highlighted the impact of piling on burials. LCC suggested that its approach was proportionate to characterise the baseline to inform decision making. It also highlighted the limitations of magnetometry surveys in the Trent Valley area, which it emphasised was very sensitive archaeologically. LCC stated that the very large sites should not be treated differently from other sites and that their size did not remove the need for comprehensive evaluation."</i></p> <p><i>"LCC confirmed that it is broadly content with the draft WSI for trenching in areas of archaeological sensitivity identified by geophysical survey. It stated that here is no need to delay work for these agreed trenching locations. The Applicant welcomed this approach. LCC remained of the view that trenching in blank areas would require further discussion and potentially remain an area of disagreement and a matter for examination. "</i></p> <p><i>"The Inspectorate questioned whether there were any means of focussing the survey approach for trenching activity in blank areas. LCC suggested that features such as geology and other desk-based/survey data could be used to focus trenching activity but could not fully be relied upon and that staged approaches to trenching were possible, e.g., using soil strip rather than full trial trenching."</i></p>



Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<p><i>“The Inspectorate also queried whether some works could be undertaken post-consent drawing on examples such as the Cleeve Hill and Triton Knoll projects. LCC highlighted the need to provide sufficient information on baseline, impacts and mitigation to satisfy the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, however it acknowledged that some works could be undertaken post-consent. The Applicant’s legal representative supported this position.”</i></p> <p><i>“Both parties acknowledged that whilst they anticipated that there may be some continued disagreement, their goals are to achieve common ground and move forward. LCC emphasised that provided the Applicant can provide further detail in relation to the impacts of the Proposed Development, this would enable LCC to work with them to develop a targeted survey approach for blank areas.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>LCC agreed that work could commence on trenching of sensitive locations identified by the geophysical survey;</i></li> <li>• <i>Applicant committed to provide additional information on specific locations of intrusive works required for the Proposed Development; and</i></li> <li>• <i>LCC continues to recommend that the EIA needs to contain sufficient information on the archaeological potential which will be impacted by the development to allow for an appropriate mitigation strategy.”</i></li> </ul>
07/2022 to 10/2022	Sites visits with LHPT and the Applicant	<p>Numerous site visits were undertaken between July and October 2022 in line with the written scheme of investigation agreed with LHPT for the evaluation trial trenching. During site visits LHPT and the Applicant concurred that the standard of works were undertaken to a sufficient level and agreed sign off and backfill of trenches, for full details see <b>[APP-124]</b>.</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023	Online meeting with LHPT, The Gate Burton Scheme, The Cottam Scheme and the Applicant.	<p>Meeting to discuss the archaeological assessment works undertaken for the shared cable route corridor—which runs between Stow Park Road and the Cottam Power Station—and agree mitigation strategy between all attendees.</p> <p>LHPT agreed that the scope and extent of archaeological assessment works were sufficient, and that the proposed mitigation strategy was appropriate to safeguard buried archaeological remains.</p>
22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023	Online meeting with Historic England (HE), LHPT and the Applicant for the Cottam Solar Project.	<p>Meeting to establish a SoCG between LHPT and the Applicant for the Cottam Solar Project. As the same methodology has been adopted in accruing baseline information and formulating a mitigation strategy for the Cottam and West Burton Schemes, topics discussed in the meeting are considered by the Applicant to be relevant to reaching common ground on the West Burton scheme.</p> <p>Three main topics were discussed within the meeting: baseline information, evaluation trial trenching, and mitigation strategy.</p> <p>No concerns were raised by LHPT or HE regarding desk-based research or information acquired through non-intrusive evaluation techniques (i.e., air photo and LiDAR analysis, geophysical survey and desk-based geoarchaeological assessment).</p> <p>LHPT were concerned by the lack of evaluation trial trenching in areas where geophysical survey (along with other non-intrusive techniques) had not identified any archaeological potential. Subsequently, LHPT were of the opinion that a mitigation strategy could not be prepared for areas that had not been subject to evaluation trial trenching. LHPT questioned whether there was enough information to demonstrate that concrete anchors would not impact on archaeological remains during commissioning, operation and decommissioning phases. Consequently, LHPT believed that there was insufficient information to understand the impact of the development and so considered the proposed mitigation strategy to be inadequate.</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<p>HE stated that the areas not subjected to evaluation trial trenching appeared to be quite large and so the Scheme contained a high level of risk. HE believed that a middle ground (between no trenching or a high sample of trenching) should be found to proportionately manage risk. Although the preference would be to undertake additional trenching pre-consent, a phase of additional trenching post-determination (but as far ahead of construction as possible) would be suitable to 'de-risk' areas that had not been subject to a programme of trenching.</p> <p>No issues were raised by LHPT or HE regarding the archaeological evaluation undertaken or the proposed mitigation for the 'shared cable corridor' running between Till Bridge Lane and the Cottam Power Station. LHPT concerned by the lack of evaluation trial trenching on the Cable Route Corridor running between Cottam 3 and Till Bridge Lane, which was evaluated using geophysical survey.</p>
27 <sup>th</sup> March 2023 – 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Email exchange between Historic England, LHPT and the Applicant for the Cottam Solar Project	<p>Email exchange following the meeting to establish the SoCG for the Cottam Solar Project on the 22.03.2023. As the same methodology has been adopted in accruing baseline information and formulating a mitigation strategy for the Cottam and West Burton Schemes, points raised in the following email discussion are considered by the Applicant to be relevant to reaching common ground on the West Burton scheme.</p> <p>In line with comments from Historic England, the Applicant for the Cottam Solar Project proposed a programme of post-determination trenching with a 1% sample in an email dated 27.03.2023 to LHPT and Historic England.</p> <p>No objections were raised from Historic England, who recommended that any programme of trenching should be discussed with the LHPT (email dated 30.03.2023).</p> <p>In an email dated 03.04.2023, LHPT rejected the proposal for a programme of post-determination trenching. They believed there was insufficient baseline information to identify and assess the impact on known and potential heritage assets as required by</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<p>Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, and that it was necessary that the whole scheme, including the cable route, was evaluated using trial trenching pre-determination with a 2% sample (plus 2% contingency).</p> <p>In an email dated 04.04.2023 the Applicant for the Cottam Solar Project requested further information to clarify LHPT's refusal for post-determination trenching at a 1% sample rate in areas where no evaluation trenching had been undertaken. Specifically the Applicant for the Cottam Solar Project requested LHPT to clarify why:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• their position on post-determination trenching was in discord with the opinions of the Planning Inspectorate (meeting note dated 09.06.2022), Historic England (meeting dated 22.04.2023), as well as other Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in the East and North of England (the Applicant has identified case studies of schemes in Nottinghamshire, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, North Yorkshire, East Riding of Yorkshire and County Durham).</li> <li>• there is inconsistency in the area percentages of the trench samples that LHPT have required for other proposed solar DCOs. The Applicant highlighted that the Gate Burton Scheme, which lies in close proximity to the Cottam Scheme (and West Burton Scheme), and was referenced by LHPT in the meeting on 22.03.23, undertook an evaluation trial trenching sample of 1.07%, which is significantly lower than the 2% sample (plus 2% contingency) requested for the Cottam Scheme.</li> </ul> <p>In their response (email dated 05.04.2023) LHPT stated that sufficient pre-determination evaluation was required and has been a principle of the archaeological process since Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning was published. Consequently, LHPT will only agree proposed mitigation in areas where evaluation trial trenching has been undertaken (which totals c.17.5% of the Cottam Solar Project). Although they were unable to address specific questions relating to other schemes,</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<p>LHPT stated the Gate Burton Scheme contained significant areas of woodland (estimated by the Applicant to total c.23ha or c.3.2% of the Scheme) and exclusion areas (estimated by the Applicant to total c.33ha or c.4.6% of the Scheme) that were not required to be trenched (the Applicant estimates that with omission of woodland and exclusion zones not trenched the evaluation trial trenching for the Gate Burton Scheme totalled 1.16% of its area). LHPT stated that they had more confidence in the Gate Burton Scheme undertaking evaluation works as determined reasonable by LHPT. No further reasoning was provided to demonstrate the difference in approach required for the two projects. LHPT concluded that they had originally asked for a sample of 3% (with a 1% contingency) and <i>“in the spirit of cooperation following the Planning Inspectorate meeting”</i> agreed to a reduction of 2% trenching with a 2% contingency, which they did not believe to be a high sample.</p>
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Lincolnshire County Council Relevant Representations <b>[RR-188]</b>	<p>LHPT are of the opinion that <i>“inadequate field evaluation has been undertaken with 342 trenches across 886ha, less than 0.34% of the red line boundary. Informed appropriate mitigation measures therefore cannot exist for nearly 80% of the site, and proposed ‘preservation in situ’ mitigation for those archaeologically sensitive areas which have been identified would cause damage and destruction to uninvestigated and unrecorded significant archaeology. Neither evaluation nor proposed mitigation has been competently undertaken and the submitted documents are not robust.”</i></p> <p>LHPT highlighted their concern during the pre-application stage to the Applicant’s proposed coverage of trial trench evaluation. LHPT stated that <i>“a meeting was held with LCC archaeologists, the applicant, their archaeological consultants (Lanpro) and the Planning Inspectorate. The applicant agreed in the meeting to a programme of around 2% evaluation trenching (with a 2% contingency) of the entire redline boundary...”</i>. LHPT believe that a 2% sample is required across all areas within the Scheme to adequately inform the EIA, ES Chapter and provide a basis for a mitigation strategy. LHPT believe that large areas of the Scheme have not been evaluated and consequently stated <i>“all</i></p>

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		<p><i>the areas within the redline boundary and the grid connection corridor which have not been subject to evaluation trenching remain unknown in terms of archaeological potential, therefore impact cannot be determined nor can there be informed effective reasonable mitigation”.</i></p> <p>LHPT consider that concrete anchors are unacceptable form of mitigation as there will be impacted to buried archaeological remains during installation, operation (i.e. compaction), and decommissioning phases. LHPT stated mitigation using concrete anchors is <i>“entirely inappropriate and unacceptable and would cause any surviving archaeology, especially in areas of shallow deposits which encompasses much of this agricultural landscape, to be damaged or destroyed without investigation and recording.”</i></p> <p>LHPT also stated that no archaeological mitigation is proposed from <i>“ground impacts from other proposed mitigations such as wildlife ponds, miscanthus planting, woodland and shelterbelt planting, and bird habitat scrapes up to 0.5m deep.”</i></p> <p>LHPT concluded that <i>“insufficient evaluation has been undertaken to allow for an understanding of the archaeological potential or to provide the basis for reasonable mitigation to deal with the impacts of this development. Sufficient baseline information on the archaeology to be impacted across the site is required by NPPF, EIA Regulations and National Policy Statement EN-1”.</i></p>
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Email from the Applicant to LHPT	<p>Email from the Applicant to LHPT to confirm if the approach required by LHPT would be in line with that required for the nearby Cottam Solar Scheme (See communications above regarding online meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March and email exchange between 27<sup>th</sup> March and 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 between LHPT and the Applicant for the Cottam Solar Project).</p> <p>In summary the Applicant requested confirmation that:</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LHPT required evaluation trial trench evaluation with a 2% sample (plus 2% contingency) pre-determination across all areas within the West Burton Solar Scheme</li> <li>• as agreed in a meeting on the 23.01.2023, LHPT were still in agreement with the proposed mitigation for the Shared Cable Route running between Stow Park Road and land to the west of the River Trent</li> <li>• LHPT agreed with mitigation in the form of no development areas, 'strip, map and sample', open excavation, and archaeological watching brief in areas where evaluation trial trenching had been completed.</li> <li>• LHPT agreed with mitigation in the form of 'strip, map and sample' where geophysical survey has identified concentrations of archaeological remains along the cable route for the West Burton scheme (i.e. external to the cable route shared with the Gate Burton and Cottam Schemes)</li> <li>• LHPT consider concrete anchors to be an unacceptable form of mitigation for archaeological remains as they consider that there is a potential for impact during installation, operation (i.e. compaction), and decommissioning phases.</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2023	Email from LHPT to the Applicant	<p>In response to the Applicant's email dated 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023, LHPT stated:</p> <p><i>"Regarding Baseline Information/Evaluation these questions have all been answered in all our previous responses and discussions, and we will continue to ask for the same.</i></p> <p><i>In relation to Mitigation we will be able to discuss appropriate methodologies once an appropriate level of baseline evaluation across the redline boundary can provide the basis for meaningful discussion.</i></p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<p><i>If you wish to put forward site-specific mitigation proposals for those areas which have been sufficiently evaluated we would be pleased to discuss this.</i></p> <p><i>We maintain our position on those areas which have not been sufficiently evaluated."</i></p>
<b>Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage</b>		
12 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Meeting with Ian Field, Growth Manager – Special Projects, LCC	<p>Discussion of Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report and Environmental Statement Chapter for Hydrology Flood Risk and Drainage.</p> <p>LCC requested that drainage strategies would be required for large areas of infrastructure, runoff rates should be limited to greenfield rates with appropriate SuDS measures provided.</p> <p>LCC highlighted that the issue of point erosion should be considered within the Drainage Strategies.</p> <p>LCC also requested that resilience to surface water flooding should be considered within the design of solar sites.</p>
1 <sup>st</sup> August 2022	Section 42 Consultation response	<p>Discussion of Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report and Environmental Statement Chapter for Hydrology Flood Risk and Drainage.</p> <p>LCC stated that they were encouraged that a hydrological assessment had to be undertaken and that the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy <b>[APP-089]</b> 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.</p>
<b>Landscape and Visual Impact</b>		



Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
8 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	Initial LVIA Kick Off/Briefing Meeting with LCC and Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC).	<p>Representatives present at this meeting were:</p> <p>Lincolnshire CC (Head of Planning)</p> <p>Lincolnshire CC (AAH Planning Consultants) Landscape Architect</p> <p>Nottinghamshire CC (VIA East Midlands) Landscape Architects</p> <p>Lanpro Director of Urban Design and Landscape Architecture</p> <p>Lanpro Associate Director of Landscape Architecture</p> <p>Lanpro Senior Landscape Architect</p> <p>Liz Lake Associates Senior and Chartered Landscape Architect</p> <p>Key topics discussed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions to the project team</li> <li>• Project background</li> <li>• Progress to date</li> <li>• Identification of additional matters on scoping</li> <li>• Consultation feedback</li> <li>• Site visits</li> <li>• Projected timescales/next steps</li> <li>• Process for future meetings and workshops.</li> </ul>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		See minutes of meeting <b>6.3.8.4 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.4 Consultation [APP-075]</b> for full details.
31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022	LVIA Workshop 1	<p>Representatives present at this meeting were:</p> <p>Lincolnshire CC (AAH Planning Consultants) Landscape Architect  Lanpro Associate Director of Landscape Architecture  Lanpro Senior Landscape Architect  Liz Lake Associates Senior and Chartered Landscape Architect</p> <p>Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of LVIA Workshop Questionnaires for Lincolnshire CC input</li> <li>• Discussion of appendices and figures to be produced in support of the assessment</li> <li>• Discussion of relevant landscape related legislation and planning policy to be relied upon in support of the assessment</li> <li>• Discussion of Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria</li> <li>• Presentation of assessment viewpoints for West Burton 1, 2 and 3</li> <li>• Clarification and discussion of additional viewpoints requested by LCC</li> <li>• Lanpro Heritage Representative joined the meeting to discuss topic overlap</li> </ul>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumulative impacts were yet to be agreed</li> <li>• Draft Viewpoint Review Sheets produced during the workshop</li> <li>• Workshop Viewpoint Review Sheets with full suite of viewpoint photography issued to LCC for comment and review.</li> </ul> <p>See minutes of meeting <b>6.3.8.4 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.4 Consultation [APP-075]</b> for full details.</p>
7 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	LVIA Workshop 2	<p>Representatives present at this meeting were:</p> <p>Archaeological Research Services (Heritage Lead)</p> <p>Bassetlaw DC (Heritage Officer)</p> <p>Lincolnshire CC (AAH Planning Consultants) Landscape Architect</p> <p>Nottinghamshire CC (VIA East Midlands) Landscape Architects</p> <p>Lanpro Associate Director of Landscape Architecture</p> <p>Lanpro Senior Landscape Architect</p> <p>Liz Lake Associates Senior and Chartered Landscape Architect</p> <p>Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of LVIA Workshop Questionnaires for Lincolnshire CC input</li> </ul>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of Study Area/Scope of Assessment</li> <li>• Discussion of landscape character assessments to be relied upon for the baseline</li> <li>• Discussion of approach to embedded and additional mitigation</li> <li>• LCC had visited Site to assist with review of assessment viewpoints for West Burton 1, 2 and 3</li> <li>• Clarification and discussion of additional viewpoints requested by LCC and Bassetlaw District Council (BDC). These viewpoints were referenced as BH_VP1 to BH_VP4 for BDC, LCC-VP-A to LCC-VP-O for LCC and VL_VP1 to VL_VP6 for NCC.</li> <li>• Draft Viewpoint Review Sheets updated during the workshop</li> <li>• Workshop Viewpoint Review Sheets with the additional and issued to LCC, BDC and NCC for comment and review</li> <li>• Lanpro agreed to provide verified photography of the additional viewpoints, subject to client approval</li> </ul> <p>See minutes of meeting <b>6.3.8.4 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.4 Consultation [APP-075]</b> for full details.</p>
11 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	LVIA Design Update Meeting	<p>Representatives present at this meeting were:</p> <p>Lincolnshire CC (AAH Planning Consultants) Landscape Architect</p> <p>Nottinghamshire CC (VIA East Midlands) Landscape Architects</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<p>Lanpro Associate Director of Landscape Architecture</p> <p>Lanpro Senior Landscape Architect</p> <p>Liz Lake Associates Senior and Chartered Landscape Architect</p> <p>Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design updates, including the crossing over the River Trent and topic overlaps between ecology and landscape</li> <li>• Discussion over draft landscape mitigation plans, and how they will be tied with the planning process and carried forward within any consent</li> <li>• Discussion of approach to the Landscape Assessment Tables</li> <li>• Discussion over use of 360-degree viewer for verified viewpoint photography</li> <li>• Discussion of approach to cumulative matters</li> <li>• Discussion of approach to cable route corridor</li> </ul> <p>See minutes of meeting <b>6.3.8.4 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.4 Consultation [APP-075]</b> for full details.</p>
29 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	LVIA Workshop 3	<p>Representatives present at this meeting were:</p> <p>Nottingham CC (VIA East Midlands) Landscape Architects</p> <p>Lincolnshire CC (AAH Planning Consultants) Landscape Architect</p> <p>Lanpro Associate Director of Landscape Architecture</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<p>Lanpro Senior Landscape Architect</p> <p>Liz Lake Associates Senior and Chartered Landscape Architect</p> <p>Key Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of LVIA Workshop Questionnaires for Lincolnshire CC input</li> <li>• LCC approval of cumulative matters yet to be provided</li> <li>• LCC approval of cumulative matters needed in order to run the Cumulative ZTVs</li> <li>• Discussion of assessment viewpoints to be scoped out for West Burton 1, 2 and 3 and also including the additional viewpoints from NCC and BDC</li> <li>• Discussion of presentation of Accurate Visual Representations (AVRs)</li> <li>• Discussion of approach to finer grained assessment</li> <li>• Discussion of LCC preference for succinct chapter text backed up with detailed technical appendices</li> <li>• Discussion over use of 360-degree viewer for verified viewpoint photography</li> <li>• Presentation of draft landscape mitigation plans and LCC agreement that they show the right scale of detail with a good balance between ecology and landscape.</li> </ul> <p>See minutes of meeting <b>6.3.8.4 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.4 Consultation [APP-075]</b> for full details.</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
4 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	Email from Lincolnshire CC (AAH Planning Consultants) Landscape Architect to Lanpro Associate Director of Landscape Architecture	<p>Lincolnshire CC (AAH Planning Consultants) Landscape Architect confirmed with the Applicant's Associate Landscape Architect the following documents were acceptable to be taken forward to the ES (refer to <b>6.3.8.1 Environmental Statement</b> - Appendix 8.1 LVIA Methodology <b>[APP-072]</b>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8.1.1 LVIA Methodology</li> <li>• 8.1.2 Visual assessment of residential properties methodology</li> <li>• 8.1.3 Cumulative assessment methodology</li> <li>• 8.1.4 Zone of Theoretical Visibility methodology</li> </ul>
<b>Minerals</b>		
14 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Meeting with Lincolnshire County Council	<p>Representatives of LCC present were:</p> <p>Richard Leonard – Minerals Officer</p> <p>Discussion over Study Area/Scope of Minerals Assessment.</p> <p>Acknowledgement from LCC that mineral deposits would be affected.</p> <p>Discussion that the Scheme only impacts on a relatively small part of a much larger area of safeguarded mineral reserves and Area of Search for future aggregate supply. Given the temporary nature of the Scheme, no concerns regarding sterilisation of mineral resources or impacts on mineral supply were raised by LCC.</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		The cabling options for connection to the national grid, east of the River Trent are within a Sand and Gravel Mineral Safeguarding Area. No specific concerns were expressed by LCC given the relatively small land take.
<b>Transport and Access (Lincolnshire County Council Highways)</b>		
25 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Scoping Opinion response	<p>Scoping of <b>6.2.14 Environmental Statement - Chapter 14_Transport and Access [APP-052]</b>, <b>6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126]</b>, and <b>6.3.14.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-127]</b>.</p> <p>LCC Commented that <i>"The proposed scope for Transport and Access is acceptable to the Council as the Highway Authority"</i>.</p>
22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2022	Pre-application Meeting (MS Teams)	<p>Scoping of <b>6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126]</b>, and <b>6.3.14.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-127]</b>.</p> <p>Discussion between TPA and Ian Field (Growth Manager (Special Projects)) at LCC via MS Teams where LCC agreed that the construction vehicle routes and accesses that are proposed are appropriate, and the construction vehicle trip generation is unlikely to cause any highway capacity issues. However, LCC noted that the Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) <b>[APP-127]</b> should include measures to prevent construction vehicle movements during the peak hours (08:00-09:00 and 17:00-18:00).</p>



Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		LCC also requested a cumulative assessment that considers all proposals in the area. This was undertaken and included in <b>6.2.14 Environmental Statement - Chapter 14_Transport and Access [APP-052]</b> and Transport Assessment <b>[APP-126]</b> .
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	Section 42 Consultation Response	<p><b>6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126]</b>, and <b>6.3.14.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-127]</b>.</p> <p>LCC commented “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, it is noted that some routes will experience large percentage increases in HGV movements (&gt;100%) however these are currently very low trafficked routes. Details of access arrangements, swept paths, parking, storage and plant areas and a Travel Plan for construction staff are proposed to be provided in a Construction Management Traffic Plan”.</p>
8th June 2023	DCO Relevant Representation	<p><b>6.2.14 Environmental Statement - Chapter 14_Transport and Access [APP-052]</b>, <b>6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126]</b>, and <b>6.3.14.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-127]</b>.</p> <p>LCC commented “Consider that the assessment within the Transport and Access Chapter is appropriate and provides a reasonable estimate of HGV and car traffic associated with the development during construction. For most of the construction routes the impact will be within acceptable levels on the highway network.</p>

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<p>However, concern is raised regarding the access route proposed for West Burton 1...".</p> <p>LCC and the Applicant are working to resolve LCC's concerns with regards to access to West Burton 1.</p>
13 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	DCO Relevant Representation Meeting (MS Teams)	<p>Meeting to discuss LCC relevant representation on highways matters, in particular the access route to West Burton 1.</p> <p>Agreed that the Applicant will prepare a technical response note to include drawings showing an indicative location for pass-by bays on the West Burton 1 access route. Also agreed that the Applicant will provide swept path analysis for the abnormal load vehicle using the West Burton 1 access route.</p>

2.1.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between (1) West Burton Solar Project Ltd. and (2) Lincolnshire County Council in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

### 3 Matters Agreed

Tables 3.1 to 3.21 below detail by topic the matters agreed with Lincolnshire County Council.

#### 3.1 Matters Agreed (Air Quality)

Table 3.1

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

#### 3.2 Matters Agreed (Alternatives and Design Evolution)

Table 3.2

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.3 Matters Agreed (Climate Change)

**Table 3.3**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.4 Matters Agreed (Cultural Heritage)

**Table 3.4**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.5 Matters Agreed (Ecology and Biodiversity)

**Table 3.5**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.6 Matters Agreed (Energy Need)

Table 3.6

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.7 Matters Agreed (General )

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.8 Matters Agreed (Glint and Glare)

Table 3.8

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.9 Matters Agreed (Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage)

**Table 3.9**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

**3.10 Matters Agreed (Landscape and Visual Impact)**

**Table 3.10**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

**3.11 Matters Agreed (Minerals)**

**Table 3.11**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

**3.12 Matters Agreed (Noise and Vibration)**

**Table 3.12**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.13 Matters Agreed (Other Environmental Matters)

Table 3.13

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.14 Matters Agreed (Planning History)

Table 3.14

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.15 Matters Agreed (Planning Policy)

Table 3.15

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.16 Matters Agreed (Principle of Development)

Table 3.15

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.17 Matters Agreed (Scheme Description)

Table 3.17

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.18 Matters Agreed (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation)

Table 3.18



Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.19 Matters Agreed (Soils and Agriculture)

Table 3.19

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.20 Matters Agreed (Transport and Access)

Table 3.20

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

### 3.21 Matters Agreed (Waste)

Table 3.21

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

## 4 Matters Under Discussion

Tables 4.1 to 4.21 below detail by topic matters under discussion with Lincolnshire County Council.

### 4.1 Matters Under Discussion (Air Quality)

Table 4.1

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
AIR-01 Air Quality	Baseline Conditions	The baseline conditions which are detailed within Section 17.5 of <b>6.2.17 Environmental Statement - Chapter 17_Air Quality [APP-055]</b> are representative of the site conditions.
AIR-02 Air Quality	Methodology and Assessment	The methodology adopted within the Air Quality assessment ( <b>Environmental Assessment - Appendices 17.1-17.4 [APP-133 to APP-136]</b> ) has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies. The assessment methodology is detailed within Section 17.4 of ES Chapter 17: Air Quality <b>[APP-055]</b> and is considered acceptable.
AIR-03 Air Quality	Methodology and Assessment (Construction Vehicles)	As detailed within the Air Quality assessment ( <b>Environmental Assessment - Appendices 17.1-17.4 [APP-133 to APP-136]</b> ) the proposed construction vehicle numbers will not exceed the relevant IAQM/EPUK thresholds e.g., 100 HGV Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT), therefore there is no requirement for detailed construction air quality modelling. Assessment has therefore been scoped out of <b>6.2.17 Environmental Statement - Chapter 17_Air Quality [APP-055]</b> . This approach is considered acceptable.
AIR-04 Air Quality	Methodology and Assessment (Operational Vehicles)	As detailed within the Air Quality assessment ( <b>Environmental Assessment - Appendices 17.1-17.4 [APP-133 to APP-136]</b> ) the proposed operational vehicle numbers will be limited and will not exceed the relevant IAQM/EPUK thresholds (e.g., 100 HGV Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT), therefore there is no requirement for detailed air quality modelling. Assessment has therefore been scoped out of <b>6.2.17 Environmental Statement - Chapter 17_Air Quality [APP-055]</b> . This approach is considered acceptable.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
AIR-05 Air Quality	Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 17.8 of <b>6.2.17 Environmental Statement - Chapter 17_Air Quality [APP-055]</b> are acceptable.

## 4.2 Matters Under Discussion (Alternatives and Design Evolution)

Table 4.2

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
ALT-01 Alternatives and Design Evolution	Site Selection Assessment	The methodology used in <b>6.3.5.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-071]</b> is appropriate given that there is no standard methodology for the site selection of solar farms and NPS EN-1 4.4.3 states <i>"the consideration of alternatives in order to comply with policy requirements should be carried out in a proportionate manner"</i> .
ALT-02 Alternatives and Design Evolution	ES Chapter 5: Alternatives and Design Evolution	The scope of <b>6.2.5 Environmental Statement - Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-043]</b> including the assessment of alternatives and description of design evolution has been carried out in a proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.

## 4.3 Matters Under Discussion (Climate Change)

Table 4.3

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
CLI-01 Climate Change	ES Chapter 7: Baseline Conditions	The baseline conditions detailed within Section 7.6 of <b>6.2.7 Environmental Statement - Chapter 7_Climate Change [APP-045]</b> are considered representative of the baseline site conditions and therefore acceptable.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
CLI-02 Climate Change	ES Chapter 7: Methodology and Assessment	The assessment methodology detailed within Section 7.4 of <b>6.2.7 Environmental Statement - Chapter 7_Climate Change [APP-045]</b> is considered acceptable.
CLI-03 Climate Change	ES Chapter 7: Mitigation	Section 7.9 of <b>6.2.7 Environmental Statement - Chapter 7_Climate Change [APP-045]</b> has not identified the need for any additional mitigation or enhancement measures
CLI-04 Climate Change	Construction Outcomes	The Scheme will have a negligible impact on CO2e emissions during the construction phase from the production of materials, transport and construction work on site as set out within Section 7.8, paragraph 7.8.46 of ES Chapter 7: Climate Change <b>[APP-045]</b> .
CLI-05 Climate Change	Operational Outcomes	The development will have a major significant beneficial effect on Climate Change as the development will reduce reliance on fossil fuels and will result in a net reduction in Carbon Dioxide and Equivalent emissions as set out within Section 7.8, paragraph 7.8.68 and 7.8.69 of ES Chapter 7: Climate Change <b>[APP-045]</b> .

#### 4.4 Matters Under Discussion (Cultural Heritage)

Table 4.4

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
CUL-01 Cultural Heritage	Legislation and Planning Policy / Assessment Methodology  Standards and guidance used	As agreed with LHPT, all assessments undertaken were completed in line with local (Lincolnshire Archaeology Handbook 2019) and national guidance (National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1), National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3), draft National Policy Statements for Energy EN-1 and EN-3, NPPF, ClfA Guidance, Historic England Guidance).  The methodology for the geophysical survey was discussed with LHPT during a meeting on 23.02.2022, and a WSI for geophysical survey along the cable route corridor was agreed by email on 27.07.2022. A WSI for the trial trench evaluation was agreed on 14.07.2022. Numerous site

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
		visits were undertaken between LHPT and the Applicant between July and October 2022. All parties agreed that the standards of works were undertaken to a sufficient level and in line with appropriate professional standards and guidance.
CUL-02 Cultural Heritage	Baseline Conditions – Desk-Based Assessments: Scope and level of desk-based research	<p>As agreed with LHPT, full and detailed desk-based assessments have been completed and have been used to inform <b>6.2.13 Environmental Statement - Chapter 13_Cultural Heritage [APP-051]</b>, intrusive field evaluation (<b>6.3.13.6 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.6 Archaeological Evaluation Trenching Reports [APP-120 and APP-121]</b>) and the production of a detailed mitigation strategy (<b>6.3.13.7 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.7 Archaeological Mitigation WSI [APP-122]</b>).</p> <p>Desk-based assessments included an assessment of the full range of cartographic sources, and the following available archaeological records: Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS), Historic Landscape Character (HLC), National Record of Historic Environment (NRHE), National Heritage List for England (NHLE), National Mapping Programme (NMP) and Historic Environment Record (HER) data, as well as the results of specifically commissioned air photo and LiDAR analysis and geophysical survey. Please see <b>6.3.13.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.1 Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments [APP-105 to APP-108]</b>; <b>6.3.13.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.2 Archaeological Geophysical Survey Reports [APP-109 to APP-114]</b>; and <b>6.3.13.4 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.4 AP and LiDAR Reports [APP-116]</b>.</p>
CUL-03 Cultural Heritage	Baseline Conditions: Scope of non-intrusive survey (geophysical survey, air photo and LiDAR analysis)	<p>The scope and extent of non-intrusive survey was discussed with LHPT during a meeting on 23.02.2022. A WSI for geophysical survey along the cable route corridor was agreed by email on 27.07.2022.</p> <p>Both parties were in agreement that the methodology used, scope, extent, and quality of collected data was sufficient to inform the baseline for <b>6.2.13 Environmental Statement - Chapter 13_Cultural Heritage [APP-051]</b>.</p>

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
	and geo-archaeological desk-based assessment).	
CUL-04 Cultural Heritage	Intrusive Archaeological Evaluation Fieldwork: Characterisation of identified archaeological features.	The WSI for trial trench evaluation was agreed with LHPT on the 14.07.2022. Trench plans for individual areas were signed-off by LHPT between July and September 2022. Numerous site visits were undertaken between July and October 2022. The Applicant and LCC/ LHPT agreed that the standards of works were undertaken to a sufficient level to understand the character, quality and preservation, and significance of identified archaeological remains.
CUL-05 Cultural Heritage	Baseline Conditions / Archaeological Evaluation Fieldwork / Approach to Additional Archaeological Mitigation: Shared Cable Corridor	The scope and results of works carried out to assess the potential impact on archaeological remains within the 'shared cable route corridor', proposed to be shared by the Cottam Solar Project, the West Burton Solar Project and the Gate Burton Solar Project, between Stow Park Road and land to the west of the River Trent were discussed and agreed during meetings between the Applicant and LHPT on 12.01.2023, 22.02.2023 and 22.03.2023.  LCC/LHPT are in agreement that the extent and quality of collected baseline data was sufficient to inform an appropriate mitigation strategy set out in <b>6.3.13.7 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.7 Archaeological Mitigation WSI [APP-122]</b> .
CUL-06 Cultural Heritage	Approach to Additional Archaeological Mitigation:	In line with LHPT's response to the PEIR (2022; see appendix 13.9.2 of <b>6.3.13.9 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.9 Consultation Response Tables [APP-124]</b> ), the Applicant agrees that earthworks impacted by construction phases of the Scheme will be reinstated as set out in Section 13.8 of <b>6.2.13 Environmental Statement - Chapter 13_Cultural Heritage [APP-051]</b>

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
	Reinstatement of earthworks	and are provided for in <b>6.3.13.7 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.7 Archaeological Mitigation WSI [APP-122]</b> . These provisions are secured in <b>3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-017]</b> , through Requirement 12 of Schedule 2, which states that <i>“the authorised development must be implemented in accordance with the written scheme of investigation.”</i>
CUL-07 Cultural Heritage	Approach to Embedded Archaeological Mitigation: Areas of no development	Applicant enquired in an email dated 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023 if mitigation by the design in the form of ‘no development areas’ was considered sufficient mitigation. In a response email dated 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2023 LHPT stated that they would be able to discuss <i>“site-specific mitigation proposals for those areas which have been sufficiently evaluated.”</i>  Areas proposed as ‘no development areas’ are detailed in <b>6.3.13.7 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.7 Archaeological Mitigation WSI [APP-122]</b> .  LHPT to confirm if they agree that the proposed mitigation is sufficient.
CUL-08 Cultural Heritage	Approach to Additional Archaeological Mitigation: Strip map and sample / excavation / watching brief	The Applicant enquired in an email dated 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023 if mitigation by the design in the form of ‘strip, map and sample’ was considered sufficient mitigation. In a response email dated 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2023 LHPT stated that they would be able to discuss <i>“site-specific mitigation proposals for those areas which have been sufficiently evaluated.”</i>  Areas proposed for ‘strip-map and sample’ are detailed in <b>6.3.13.7 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.7 Archaeological Mitigation WSI [APP-122]</b> .  LHPT to confirm if they agree that the proposed mitigation is sufficient.
CUL-09 Cultural Heritage	Approach to Additional Archaeological Mitigation: Decommissioning	Comments provided by LHPT in response to the PEIR (2022) regarding decommissioning phases of the development are addressed in paragraph 13.7.54 of <b>6.2.13 Environmental Statement - Chapter 13_Cultural Heritage [APP-051]</b> .  LHPT to confirm if they agree that a Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan prepared prior to decommissioning and secured through a decommissioning strategy secured



Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
		through a requirement in the DCO [APP-017] will be sufficient to safeguard any archaeological remains during the decommissioning phase <b>[APP-051]</b> .
CUL-10 Cultural Heritage	Intrusive Archaeological Evaluation Fieldwork: Identification of presence/absence of Archaeological features	<p>Lack of agreement regarding what constitutes a sufficient level of archaeological field evaluation to identify the absence/presence of archaeological features in order to inform the DCO application, and what works could be undertaken as part of a post-consent requirement.</p> <p>LHPT of the opinion that <i>“insufficient evaluation has been undertaken to allow for an understanding of the archaeological potential or to provide the basis for reasonable mitigation to deal with the impacts of this development.”</i> (Lincolnshire County Council Relevant Representations 08.06.2023, Ref EN010132). LHPT considers that non-intrusive survey (i.e. geophysical survey) is not a sufficient field evaluation method for identifying the archaeological potential of the development area, and that a programme of evaluation trial trenching that covers a 2% (plus contingency at 2%) area sample of the whole Scheme is required to identify the absence/presence of archaeological remains.</p> <p>The Applicant considers that the phased programme of geophysical survey, which covered all accessible areas within the Scheme, and informed trial trenching was a sufficient evaluation and fulfilled the aim of a field evaluation as defined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) <i>Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation (2020): “a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts and their research potential, within a specified area or site on land”.</i></p>
CUL-11 Cultural Heritage	Approach to Additional Archaeological Mitigation: Informative Trenching	<p>Lack of agreement regarding the suitability of a programme of informative trenching post-DCO determination.</p> <p>A programme of informative trenching targeting geophysical anomalies and cropmarks identified from air photo and LiDAR mapping interpreted as having an unknown origin, in line with that detailed in <b>6.3.13.7 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.7 Archaeological Mitigation WSI [APP-122]</b>, was discussed between LHPT and the Applicant of the Cottam Solar Project on the 22.03.2023. LHPT were of the opinion that evaluation trial trenching should be</p>

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
		<p>undertaken pre-determination across the whole site at a sample of 2% (plus contingency). LHPT confirmed that their position for the West Burton Solar Project would be the same as that for the Cottam Solar Project in an email dated 03.07.23 to the Applicant of the West Burton Solar project.</p> <p>The Applicant is of the opinion that the field evaluation, comprising geophysical survey and targeted evaluation trenching, was sufficient to inform the archaeological assessment of the Scheme that was undertaken for the DCO application, and the scope of works undertaken as a post-consent requirement. A programme of uninformed trial trenching with a high sample rate (i.e., 2%) is considered by the Applicant to be disproportionate to the assessed archaeological potential of the land within the Order Limits. If further trenching across the Scheme is deemed necessary, the Applicant considers that, in line with correspondence with the Planning Inspectorate and Historic England and guided by case studies across LPAs in the North and East of England, this should be undertaken post DCO determination at a low sample, and limited to areas where the proposed development will cause a high level of ground disturbance.</p>
CUL-12 Cultural Heritage	Approach to Embedded Archaeological Mitigation: Use of concrete feet	<p>Ongoing disagreement regarding whether there is sufficient information to support the use of concrete anchors as a form of archaeological mitigation by design to preserve buried archaeological remains in situ.</p> <p>LHPT are of the opinion that the use of concrete anchors is unacceptable. They consider that there is insufficient information to demonstrate that there is no impact on buried archaeological remains during the commissioning, operational (i.e., compaction) and decommissioning phases of concrete anchors.</p> <p>The Applicant considers that concrete anchors are a nationally recognised method for archaeological mitigation by design, as demonstrated by guidance provided by Cornwall Council (<a href="#">BRE National Solar Centre, 2013</a>, P.13), and the numerous examples of solar schemes where</p>

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
		LPA's have agreed the use of concrete anchors to safeguard buried archaeological remains (i.e. Nottinghamshire, North Yorkshire, North Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk etc).
CUL-13 Cultural Heritage	Approach to Additional Archaeological Mitigation: Watching brief (cable route)	<p>Ongoing discussion regarding whether a watching brief is a sufficient form of mitigation along the cable route.</p> <p>LHPT are of the opinion that mitigation cannot be determined outside of the areas where evaluation trial trenching was completed.</p> <p>The Applicant is of the opinion that geophysical survey is a sufficient field evaluation to identify the absence/presence of buried archaeological remains. Archaeological mitigation in the form of strip, map and sample is proposed in <b>6.3.13.7 Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.7 Archaeological Mitigation WSI [APP-122]</b>, where geophysical survey has identified concentrations of buried archaeological deposits. The Applicant considers that an archaeological watching brief is required to record any discrete features not detected by the geophysical survey.</p>

#### 4.5 Matters Under Discussion (Ecology and Biodiversity)

Table 4.5

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
ECO-01 Ecology and Biodiversity	Methodology	The methodology adopted within Section 9.4 of <b>6.2.9 Environmental Statement - Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-047]</b> has been derived from the information obtained through consultation and engagement with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable in so far as it relates to those elements of the Scheme within Lincolnshire County.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
ECO-02 Ecology and Biodiversity	Baseline Conditions	The baseline conditions which are detailed within Section 9.5 of <b>6.2.9 Environmental Statement - Chapter 9_Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-047]</b> are representative of the baseline site conditions in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Lincolnshire County.
ECO-03 Ecology and Biodiversity	Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 9.8 of <b>6.2.9 Environmental Statement - Chapter 9_Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-047]</b> are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Lincolnshire County.
ECO-04 Ecology and Biodiversity	Residual Effects	The judgements on the likely residual effects and conclusions for the effects to ecology set out within Section 9.7 of <b>6.2.9 Environmental Statement - Chapter 9_Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-047]</b> are considered acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Lincolnshire County.

## 4.6 Matters Under Discussion (Energy Need)

Table 4.6

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
ENE-01 Energy Need	Need for Large Scale Solar	The principle of the need for large scale solar projects is established in national planning policy, as detailed in Section 4 of <b>7.5 Planning Statement [APP-313]</b> and <b>7.11 Statement of Need [APP-320]</b> ; and the principle that large scale solar is an essential part of the UK's generation mix which will bring benefits to national decarbonisation and energy security agendas as well as support the affordability of clean electricity is supported by Lincolnshire County Council.

#### 4.7 Matters Under Discussion (General)

Table 4.7

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
GEN-01 General	Examination of Cumulative Effects	The Applicant will provide a summary of significant cumulative effects anticipated to be generated by the multiple solar NSIPs proposed in Lincolnshire. This will be submitted to the examination for the Scheme, so that the Examining Authority can be best placed to understand and consider the identified cumulative effects. The Applicant is also open to the holding of joint examination hearings with other local solar NSIP developers wherein cumulative effects are examined in public.

#### 4.8 Matters Under Discussion (Glint and Glare)

Table 4.8

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
GLI-01 Glint and Glare	Baseline Conditions	As agreed with LCC, the baseline conditions detailed at Section 16.5 of <b>6.2.16 Environmental Statement - Chapter 16_Glint and Glare [APP-054]</b> and within Section 5 of <b>6.3.16.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 16.1 Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [APP-132]</b> are representative of the baseline site conditions within Lincolnshire County.
GLI-02 Glint and Glare	Methodology and Assessment	The assessment methodology adopted in the Glint and Glare assessment has been agreed with LCC. The methodology has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing any relevant guidance and studies. The assessment methodology is detailed within Section 16.4 of <b>6.2.16 Environmental Statement - Chapter 16_Glint and Glare [APP-054]</b> and within Appendix A of <b>6.3.16.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 16.1 Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [APP-132]</b> . The methodology used in the report has been used in other 1,000 glint and glare assessment and has been tested for NSIP solar schemes before. Therefore, it is considered to be acceptable.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
GLI-03 Glint and Glare	Significance of Impacts and Mitigation Measures	<p>No significant impacts are predicted because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where effects are predicted to have a 'Moderate' impact or higher the Applicant has proposed mitigation in the form of screening to significantly obstruct the visibility of the reflective area;</li> <li>Where effects are predicted to have a 'Low' impact mitigation is not recommended.</li> <li>Therefore, once the proposed mitigation strategy is in place, the overall impact of the Scheme upon the nearby identified receptors is predicted to be 'Minor/Negligible Adverse', in EIA terms.</li> </ul> <p>Further information can be found in Section 16.8 and 16.9 of <b>6.2.16 Environmental Statement - Chapter 16_Glint and Glare [APP-054]</b> and Section 7 of <b>6.3.16.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 16.1 Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [APP-132]</b>.</p>

#### 4.9 Matters Under Discussion (Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage)

Table 4.9

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
HFD-01 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Methodology	The methodology adopted within Section 10.4 of <b>6.2.10 Environmental Statement - Chapter 10_Hydrology Flood Risk and Drainage [APP-048]</b> has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.
HFD-02 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Baseline Conditions	The baseline conditions which are detailed within Section 10.5 of <b>6.2.10 Environmental Statement - Chapter 10_Hydrology Flood Risk and Drainage [APP-048]</b> are representative of the baseline site conditions within Lincolnshire County.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
HFD-03 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 10.8 of <b>6.2.10 Environmental Statement - Chapter 10_Hydrology Flood Risk and Drainage [APP-048]</b> are acceptable.
HFD-04 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Surface Water Flooding	It is agreed that Surface Water Flood Risk is appropriately addressed at this stage as set out in Section 3.0 of <b>6.3.10.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 10.1 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [APP-089]</b> .
HFD-05 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	Drainage	<p>Paragraph 10.8.19 of <b>6.2.10 Environmental Statement - Chapter 10_Hydrology Flood Risk and Drainage [APP-048]</b> details maintaining the existing surface water run-off regime by utilising permeable surfacing for the site accesses, linear infiltration trenches around any proposed infrastructure (substations and batteries) and wildflower planting at the leeward edge of solar panels will ensure that the Scheme is unlikely to generate surface water runoff rates beyond the baseline scenario.</p> <p>Lincolnshire County Council have stated that <i>'The surface water drainage strategy is appropriate for the development and an appropriate worded requirement can be included within the DCO for the full details.'</i></p> <p>Requirement 11, 'Surface and Foul Water Drainage' is included within <b>3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-01]</b>.</p>

#### 4.10 Matters Under Discussion (Landscape and Visual Impact)

Table 4.10

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
LAN-01 Landscape and Visual Impact	ES Chapter 8: Appendices and Figures	The Appendices and Figures listed within Section 8.1 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> , are presented in sufficient detail to inform the baseline, underpin the LVIA process and to identify the likely significant effects of the Scheme.
LAN-02 Landscape and Visual Impact	Meetings and Workshops	The meetings and workshops with statutory consultees set out within Section 8.2 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.4 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.4 Consultation [APP-075]</b> , have been effective in informing decision making and monitoring the LVIA assessment process of the Scheme to date. The engagement has been timely and has been a valuable tool in seeking understanding and agreement about the key issues.
LAN-03 Landscape and Visual Impact	Legislation and Planning Policy	The summary of relevant legislation and planning policy set out within Section 8.3 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> , is relevant to the landscape and visual assessment is up to date and complete, for the purposes of the decision making process on the DCO application.
LAN-04 Landscape and Visual Impact	Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria	The methodology adopted within Section 8.4 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> has been derived from the information obtained through consultation and engagement with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable in so far as it relates to those elements of the Scheme within Lincolnshire County.
LAN-05 Landscape and Visual Impact	Study Area/Scope of Assessment	The Study Areas and Scope of Assessment set out within Section 8.5 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> is sufficient to inform the assessment baseline conditions.
LAN-06	Baseline Conditions	The description of the existing baseline landscape and visual conditions set out within Section 8.5 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact</b>



Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
Landscape and Visual Impact		<b>Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.2 Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects [APP-073]</b> and <b>6.3.8.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.3 Assessment of Potential Visual Effects [APP-074]</b> , is representative of the baseline site conditions and therefore acceptable to inform the assessment.
LAN-07 Landscape and Visual Impact	Landscape Character Assessments	The published landscape character assessments that are relied upon at the national, regional, and local level and set out within Section 8.5 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.2 Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects [APP-073]</b> and <b>6.3.8.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.3 Assessment of Potential Visual Effects [APP-074]</b> , are considered acceptable to inform the assessment baseline conditions.
LAN-08 Landscape and Visual Impact	Visual Receptors: Assessment Viewpoints for the main Sites	The viewpoints set out within Section 8.5 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.3 Assessment of Potential Visual Effects [APP-074]</b> are considered acceptable to inform the assessment baseline conditions.
LAN-09 Landscape and Visual Impact	Visual Receptors: Additional Assessment Viewpoints for the Cable Route Corridor	The viewpoints set out within Section 8.5 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.3 Assessment of Potential Visual Effects [APP-074]</b> are considered acceptable to inform the baseline conditions for the Cable Route Corridor and Substations.
LAN-10 Landscape and Visual Impact	Landscape Receptors: Value	The judgements on value for the landscape receptors, as set out within Section 8.5 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.2 Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects [APP-073]</b> , are considered acceptable to inform the assessment baseline conditions.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
LAN-11 Landscape and Visual Impact	Visual Receptors: Value	The judgements on value for the visual receptors, as set out within Section 8.5 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.3 Assessment of Potential Visual Effects [APP-074]</b> , are considered acceptable to inform the assessment baseline conditions.
LAN-12 Landscape and Visual Impact	Embedded Design Mitigation	The approach and proposals for embedded mitigation set out within Section 8.6 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.2 Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects [APP-073]</b> and <b>6.3.8.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.3 Assessment of Potential Visual Effects [APP-074]</b> , of both the landscape and visual effects is considered acceptable.
LAN-13 Landscape and Visual Impact	Additional Mitigation	The approach and proposals for additional mitigation set out within Section 8.6 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.2 Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects [APP-073]</b> and <b>6.3.8.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.3 Assessment of Potential Visual Effects [APP-074]</b> , of both the landscape and visual effects is considered acceptable.
LAN-14 Landscape and Visual Impact	Residual Effects	The judgements on the likely residual effects and conclusions for the effects to landscape and visual receptors, as set out within Section 8.11 of <b>6.2.8 Environmental Statement - Chapter 8_Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [APP-046]</b> and <b>6.3.8.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.2 Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects [APP-073]</b> , are considered to be robust and accurate.
LAN-15 Landscape and Visual Impact	Presentation of Assessment Findings	The approach to the assessment (this being a succinct chapter text backed up with detailed technical appendices) is considered acceptable. The volume of the information in the appendices (rather than the chapter) is in part due to the fragmented nature of the Scheme and cable routes over a wide area, creating additional elements to consider beyond a simple

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
		singular red line boundary. The Applicant has submitted a summary and narrative of effects at Deadline 1 set out in the Supplementary ES Landscape Information: Landscape Effects Tables [EN010132/PEX/WB8.2.1] and in Supplementary ES Landscape Information: Visual Effects Tables [EN010132/PEX/WB8.2.2] which summarises the main findings of the LVIA. This non-technical summary is to assist readers understand the conclusions of the LVIA and contains a list of potentially affected receptors with summarising narrative to provide context and identify what the key issues are.
LAN-16 Landscape and Visual Impact	Detail within Assessment Findings	A lot of supporting information is provided within associated appendices which provide very detailed information relating to the assessment.
LAN-17 Landscape and Visual Impact	Summary of assessment findings	LCC considers that the volume of information provided within the LVIA and associated appendices makes the identification and clear understanding of key landscape and visual issues difficult at this stage.  The Applicant will provide a clear summary and narrative of effects within update documents as WB8.2.1 Supplementary Landscape Effects Summary Tables [EN010132/EX1/WB8.2.1] and WB8.2.2 Supplementary Visual Effects Summary Tables [EN010132/EX1/WB8.2.2] at Deadline [1].. nt.
LAN-18 Landscape and Visual Impact	Landscape Character Effects	LCC considers that the mass and scale of the Scheme would lead to significant adverse effects on landscape character spread throughout a wide area with an over-reliance on landscape mitigation in assessing the residual effects as being beneficial.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
		<p>The detailed matters relating to the Landscape Character Effects within the LVIA and associated appendices are under discussion with LCC.</p> <p>).</p>
<p>LAN-19 Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>Visual Amenity Effects</p>	<p>LCC considers that the scale and extent of the Scheme would lead to significant adverse effects on views from visual receptors and that the landscape mitigation has the potential to change the character and extent of existing views.</p> <p>The detailed matters relating to the Visual Amenity Effects within the LVIA and associated appendices are under discussion with LCC.</p> <p>.</p>
<p>LAN-20 Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>Close Range Views: Justification and Clarification</p>	<p>LCC considers that the significant effects for views that are assessed as beneficial should be investigated and clarified at the examination.</p> <p>The Applicant considers that the justification for the conclusions reached are set out within the LVIA and associated appendices to make clear as to why these visual benefits would be gained. This can be clarified further at examination.</p>

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
LAN-21 Landscape and Visual Impact	ES Chapter 8: Wider Highways Elements	<p>LCC considers the wider highways elements do not appear to be fully considered in the LVIA and associated appendices beyond increased traffic during construction phases.</p> <p>The Applicant considers that in certain locations where existing accesses do not exist, some very minor hedgerow removal is necessary to accommodate the access road between fields, land parcels and solar panel areas. Hedgerows to be removed are set out in WB8.2.3 Hedgerow Removal Plans [EN010132/EX1/WB8.2.3]. This removal will involve only very short sections of hedgerow to accommodate internal access roads and will not involve loss of trees, in particular trees protected under any Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs).</p>
LAN-22 Landscape and Visual Impact	Existing Trees and Hedgerows	<p>LCC considers that the Applicant has not provided sufficient information in regards to the impact upon, or protection of, existing trees, hedgerows and other important vegetation in order for comment to be made at this stage.</p> <p>The Applicant considers that in certain locations where existing accesses do not exist, some very minor hedgerow removal is necessary to accommodate the access road between fields, land parcels and solar panel areas. Hedgerows to be removed are set out in WB8.2.3 Hedgerow Removal Plans [EN010132/EX1/WB8.2.3]. This removal will involve only very short sections of hedgerow to accommodate internal access roads and will not involve loss of trees, in particular trees protected under any Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs).</p>
LAN-23 Landscape and Visual Impact	Long Range Views	LCC has concern over the effects on the long-range views in particular across the low lying Till Vale towards the Ridge Area if Great Landscape Value (AGLV) to the east.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
		<p>The Applicant considers that the LVIA recognises the importance of these long views and that the effects would be 'Not Significant' (in EIA terms). The LVIA includes a suite of 57 initial viewpoints, some of which cover long range views and there are also an additional 15 viewpoints that were included in the assessment at the request of LCC covering long-range views as agreed at the LVIA Workshops held prior to submission.</p>
<p>LAN-24 Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>Cumulative Effects</p>	<p>LCC has concern over the cumulative landscape and visual effects of the Scheme with Gate Burton, Cottam and Tillbridge Solar application sites.</p> <p>The detailed matters relating to the Cumulative Landscape and Effects within the LVIA and associated appendices are under discussion with LCC.</p>
<p>LAN-25 Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>Landscape and Ecological Management Plan: Landscape and Ecological Improvements</p>	<p>LCC require that the landscape and ecological mitigation measures should be further explored and refined at the detailed design stages.</p> <p>The detailed matters relating to Landscape and Ecological Mitigation can be clarified further at Examination.</p>
<p>LAN-26 Landscape and Visual Impact</p>	<p>Wording of Requirements: Embedded Mitigation</p>	<p>LCC require that the wording requirements of embedded mitigation should be further explored and refined.</p> <p>The Applicant considers that the provision for the submission and approval of details in relation to Embedded Mitigation, are set out by Requirement 7 in Schedule 2 of 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-017], and that this is acceptable to LCC.</p>

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
LAN-27 Landscape and Visual Impact	Wording of Requirements: Additional Mitigation	LCC require that the wording requirements of additional mitigation should be further explored and refined.  The Applicant considers that the provision for the submission and approval of details in relation to Additional Mitigation, are set out by Requirement 7 in Schedule 2 of the 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-017], and that this is acceptable to LCC.
LAN-28 Landscape and Visual Impact	Wording of Requirements: Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP)	LCC require that the wording requirements of the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) should be further explored and refined.  That Applicant considers that the provision for the submission and approval of details in relation to the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan, are set out by Requirement 7 in Schedule 2 of 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-017], and that this is acceptable to LCC.
LAN-29 Landscape and Visual Impact	Wording of Requirements: No Further Mitigation Sought	LCC require that any further landscape and ecological mitigation measures should be further explored and refined at the detailed design stages.  The Applicant considers that no further mitigation is considered necessary to that already identified within the suite of application documents, particularly 7.17 Outline Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy [APP-326] and Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plans (Environmental Statement - Figures 8.18.1 to 8.18.3 [APP-281 to APP-283]). The mechanisms for securing the Embedded and Additional Mitigation measures for the Scheme are acceptable.
LAN-30	Wording of Requirements:	LCC require the correlation between the LEMP and Landscape and Ecology Mitigation Plans should be explored and refined further.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
Landscape and Visual Impact	Correlation between LEMP [APP-326] and Landscape and Ecology Mitigation Plans (Figures 8.18.1 to 8.13.3) [APP-281 to APP-283].	The detailed matters relating to correlation between the LEMP and Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plans can be clarified further at Examination.

#### 4.11 Matters Under Discussion (Minerals)

Table 4.11

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
MIN-01 Minerals	Legislation and Planning Policy	The summary of relevant legislation and planning policy set out within Section 12.3 of <b>6.2.12 Environmental Statement - Chapter 12 Minerals [APP-050]</b> , is relevant to the Minerals Assessment and is up to date and complete for the purposes of the decision-making process .
MIN-02 Minerals	Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria	The assessment methodology and significance criteria set out within Section 12.4 of <b>6.2.12 Environmental Statement - Chapter 12 Minerals [APP-050]</b> provides an appropriate approach to assessing the potential likely significant effects on mineral resources.
MIN-03 Minerals	Study Area/identification of known	The extent of the Study Area/ identification of known resources set out within Section 12.5 of <b>6.2.12 Environmental Statement - Chapter 12 Minerals [APP-050]</b> are sufficient to inform the Minerals assessment.



Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
	resources (baseline)	
MIN-04 Minerals	Identification and Evaluation of Likely Significant Effects: Assessment of Impact on Mineral Resources (sand and gravel)	The conclusion set out within Section 12.7 of <b>6.2.12 Environmental Statement - Chapter 12_Minerals [APP-050]</b> that Scheme only impacts on a relatively small area of safeguarded mineral reserves and Area of Search for future aggregate supply. The safeguarded mineral reserves and Area of Search relate to a much larger area of deposits associated with the Trent Valley. Given the nature and characteristics of the Scheme, there would be minimal impact in terms of any sterilisation of mineral resources or mineral supply within the County.
MIN-05 Minerals	Identification and Evaluation of Likely Significant Effects: Assessment of Impact on Mineral Resources (Petroleum)	The conclusion set out within Section 12.7 of <b>6.2.12 Environmental Statement - Chapter 12_Minerals [APP-050]</b> that the Scheme does not affect an existing oil field or associated mineral consultation zone. The Scheme would not have any implications for existing or proposed exploration and eventual exploitation of oil and gas resources.
MIN-06 Minerals	Mitigation Measures: Cable Route Corridor	The mitigation set out within Section 12.8 of <b>6.2.12 Environmental Statement - Chapter 12_Minerals [APP-050]</b> addresses the impact on the Safeguarded Mineral Resource in the Trent Valley within the Cable Route Corridor and states that, wherever possible, cable routes should follow existing infrastructure corridors or alternatively follow the edge of significant landscape features rather than directly crossing open fields to avoid creating further obstructions to future mineral exploitation.

#### 4.12 Matters Under Discussion (Noise and Vibration)

**Table 4.12**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
NOI-01 Noise and Vibration	Baseline Monitoring	The baseline noise monitoring detailed within Section 15.5 of <b>6.2.15 Environmental Statement - Chapter 15_Noise and Vibration [APP-053]</b> and <b>6.3.15.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 15.1 Noise Survey Information [APP-129]</b> is representative of the sound levels in the vicinity of the Sites and experienced by nearby sensitive receptors. The selected sensitive receptors represent those locations which would potentially be worst affected by noise and vibration.
NOI-02 Noise and Vibration	Methodology and Assessment	The methodology detailed in Section 15.4 and the assessments in Sections 15.7, 15.8 and 15.9 of <b>6.2.15 Environmental Statement - Chapter 15_Noise and Vibration [APP-053]</b> and <b>6.3.15.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 15.3 Assessment of Key Effects [APP-131]</b> for noise and vibration associated with both the construction and operational phases of the Scheme is acceptable.
NOI-03 Noise and Vibration	Assessment Outcomes	The effects of noise and vibration detailed in <b>6.2.15 Environmental Statement - Chapter 15_Noise and Vibration [APP-053]</b> and <b>6.3.15.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 15.3 Assessment of Key Effects [APP-131]</b> from the construction and operational phases of the Scheme have been assessed robustly in accordance with relevant policy and guidance on noise and vibration assessments and do not result in any significant impacts and are therefore acceptable.

#### 4.13 Matters Under Discussion (Other Environmental Matters)

**Table 4.13**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
OEM-01 Other Environmental Matters	Electromagnetic Fields	The technical reporting in paragraphs 21.2.3 to 21.2.8 in <b>6.2.21 Environmental Statement - Chapter 21_Other Environmental Matters [APP-059]</b> is sufficient to demonstrate there are no adverse impacts to human health from electromagnetic fields.
OEM-02 Other Environmental Matters	Telecommunications, Utilities and Television Receptors	The information provided within Section 21.3 of <b>6.2.21 Environmental Statement - Chapter 21_Other Environmental Matters [APP-059]</b> is sufficient, and the protective mitigation measures set out in <b>7.1 Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [APP-309]</b> ; <b>7.14 Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [APP-323]</b> and <b>7.15 Crossing Schedule [APP-324]</b> are appropriate and therefore acceptable.
OEM-03 Other Environmental Matters	Major Accidents and Disasters (excluding fire safety)	The scope and methodology of the assessment undertaken throughout the ES and signposted within Section 21.6 of <b>6.2.21 Environmental Statement - Chapter 21_Other Environmental Matters [APP-059]</b> including the identification of likely significant effects and likely significant cumulative effects has been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.
OEM-04 Other Environmental Matters	Major Accidents and Disasters (fire safety)	The assessment undertaken and relevant mitigation measures provided with regard to fire safety as set out within Section 21.6 of <b>6.2.21 Environmental Statement - Chapter 21_Other Environmental Matters [APP-059]</b> and as set out in <b>7.9 Outline Battery Fire Safety Management Plan [APP-318]</b> have been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and are considered acceptable. The design of the BESS is suitable to address the requirements of the Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service.
OEM-05 Other Environmental Matters	Human Health	The scope and methodology of the assessment undertaken throughout the ES and signposted in Section 21.5 of <b>6.2.21 Environmental Statement - Chapter 21_Other Environmental Matters [APP-059]</b> including the identification of likely significant effects and likely significant cumulative effects has been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.

#### 4.14 Matters Under Discussion (Planning History)

Table 4.14

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
PHI-01 Planning History	Planning History	The relevant planning history for the Scheme insofar as it relates to land within Lincolnshire is set out at <b>7.5 Planning Statement [APP-313]</b> in Appendix A: Planning Application History Search West Burton Sites (pg.156-164) and Appendix B: Planning Application History Search Cable Route Corridor (pg.165-171) respectively.

#### 4.15 Matters Under Discussion (Planning Policy)

Table 4.15

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
PPO-01 Planning Policy	Legislation and Policy	<p>The Scheme should be considered and determined under Section 105 of the Planning Act 2008 (Decisions in cases where no national policy statement has effect).</p> <p>National Policy Statement (NPS) EN-1, NPS EN-3, NPS EN-5, and in the light of the Government's pronouncements in respect of transitional effects of the draft NPSs, draft NPS EN-1, Draft NPS EN-3 and Draft NPS EN-5, should be important and relevant considerations for the purposes of S105(2)(c) of the Planning Act 2008.</p> <p>Draft NPS EN-3 contains technology specific policy relating to large scale solar development.</p> <p>The Scheme has been assessed against the relevant and up to date Lincolnshire planning policies as set out within Section 6 of <b>7.5 Planning Statement [APP-313]</b>.</p>

#### 4.16 Matters Under Discussion (Principle of Development)

**Table 4.16**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
PRI-01 Principle of Development	Project Components	Whether the siting of the individual project components, as set out in <b>3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-017]</b> and <b>7.6 Design and Access Statement [APP-314 to APP-315]</b> , are acceptable.
PRI-02 Principle of Development	Acceptability of Development Consent Order and Requirements	Whether the drafting of <b>3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-017]</b> is acceptable, including the scope and wording of the requirements.

#### 4.17 Matters Under Discussion (Scheme Description)

**Table 4.17**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
SCH-01 Scheme Description	Scheme Description	The Scheme description set out at <b>6.2.3 Environmental Statement - Chapter 3_The Order Limits [APP-041]</b> is accurate.

#### 4.18 Matters Under Discussion (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation)

**Table 4.18**

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
STR-01	Methodology	The methodology used in the assessment of socio-economic, tourism and recreation impacts as set out within Section 18.4 of <b>6.2.18 Environmental Statement - Chapter 18 Socio Economics</b>

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation		<b>Tourism and Recreation [APP-056]</b> is appropriate, given that there is no standard methodology for the assessment of socio-economic and associated impacts for EIA.
STR-02 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	Assessment Scope	The scope of the assessment undertaken within Sections 18.7, 18.9, and 18.10 of <b>6.2.18 Environmental Statement - Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-056]</b> including the identification of likely significant effects and likely significant cumulative effects has been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.
STR-03 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Measures	The proposed embedded and additional mitigation and enhancement measures as set out within Sections 18.6 and 18.9 of <b>6.2.18 Environmental Statement - Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-056]</b> are considered proportionate and acceptable.
STR-04 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	Public Rights of Way	Works that may cause disruption to public rights of way, including diversions and temporary closures where necessary are controlled through the measures set out in 6.3.14.3 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.3 Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [APP-128]. This is secured through Requirement 18 in Schedule 2 of 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-017]. The measures set out in this Plan are deemed to be acceptable.
STR-05 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	Community Benefits	The proposed embedded and additional enhancement measures as set out in Sections 18.6 and 18.9 of 6.2.18 Environmental Statement - Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-056] are proportionate and acceptable to provide sufficient socio-economic, tourism and recreational benefits.

#### 4.19 Matters Under Discussion (Soils and Agriculture)

Table 4.19

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
SOI-01 Soils and Agriculture	Baseline Conditions	The baseline conditions detailed within Section 19.8 of <b>6.2.19 Environmental Statement - Chapter 19_Soils and Agriculture [APP-057]</b> and within <b>6.3.19.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 19.1 Agricultural Land Quality, Soil Resources and Farming Circumstances Report [APP-137]</b> are representative of the site conditions within Lincolnshire County.
SOI-02 Soils and Agriculture	Methodology and Assessment	The assessment methodology detailed within Section 19.6 of <b>6.2.19 Environmental Statement - Chapter 19_Soils and Agriculture [APP-057]</b> is considered acceptable.
SOI-03 Soils and Agriculture	Assessment Outcomes – impacts to ALC graded land and soil quality	<p>Natural England document Agricultural Land Classification: protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land (TIN049) <a href="https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/35012">https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/35012</a> explains the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system and its use in informing land use planning decisions for agricultural land. The Applicant has submitted an ALC assessment for agricultural land within the Sites showing it is predominantly ALC Grade 3b, not best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>The Scheme is unlikely to result in loss of best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Scheme will be decommissioned at the end of its operational life;</li> <li>• Land will retain its existing Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) grade baseline after decommissioning of the Scheme as set out at Section 19.10 of <b>6.2.19 Environmental Statement - Chapter 19_Soils and Agriculture [APP-057]</b>;</li> <li>• The Scheme will have minimal impact on soil quality as set out at Section 19.10 of <b>6.2.19 Environmental Statement - Chapter 19_Soils and Agriculture [APP-057]</b>;</li> </ul> <p>A Soil Management Plan (SMP) will be included within the agreed Construction, Operational and Decommissioning Environmental Management Plans (CEMP, OEMP, DEMP) with the aim of conserving the soil resource and its functional capacity for support of agricultural production as</p>

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
		set out at paragraph 19.10.1 of <b>6.2.19 Environmental Statement - Chapter 19_Soils and Agriculture [APP-057]</b> .

## 4.20 Matters Discussion (Transport and Access)

Table 4.20

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
TRA-01 Transport and Access	Methodology	The methodology adopted within Section 14.4 of <b>6.2.14 Environmental Statement - Chapter 14_Transport and Access [APP-052]</b> has been derived from the information obtained through consultation and engagement with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant policy, guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.
TRA-02 Transport and Access	Baseline Assessment	The baseline conditions which are detailed in Section 14.5 of <b>6.2.14 Environmental Statement - Chapter 14_Transport and Access [APP-052]</b> are representative of the baseline site conditions.
TRA-03 Transport and Access	Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 14.6 of <b>6.2.14 Environmental Statement - Chapter 14_Transport and Access [APP-052]</b> are considered acceptable.
TRA-04 Transport and Access	Transport Assessment and Construction Traffic Management Plan: Construction Vehicle (HGV Route)	All HGVs associated with the construction phase of the Scheme will follow the designated routes as illustrated in the following figures set out in <b>6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126]</b> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Figure 6.1: West Burton 1 Construction Vehicle Route</li> <li>Figure 6.2: West Burton 2 Construction Vehicle Route</li> <li>Figure 6.3: West Burton 3 Construction Vehicle Route</li> </ul>



Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Figure 6.4: Cable Route Corridor Construction Vehicle Route</li> <li>Figure 7.1: Construction Vehicle Route – Abnormal Loads</li> </ul>
TRA-05 Transport and Access	Vehicle Movements: Trip Generation	The forecast number of construction vehicles set out at Table 5.1 (HGV deliveries), Table 5.2 (construction worker vehicle movements) and paragraph 5.17 (cable route corridor vehicle movements) of <b>6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126]</b> is accepted and will not have a material impact upon the capacity, operation, and safety of the Local Highway Network.
TRA-06 Transport and Access	Abnormal indivisible Loads	The routes identified for the delivery of abnormal loads, as set out in Figure 7.1 and described at paragraph 7.10 of <b>6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126]</b> , are acceptable.
TRA-07 Transport and Access	Construction Traffic Management Measures	The measures set out in <b>6.3.14.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-127]</b> are appropriate to manage the effects of construction traffic on the Local Highway Network.
TRA-08 Transport and Access	Access to West Burton 1	LCC has requested pass-by bays on the approach to the West Burton 1 Site. This is being reviewed by the Applicant's transport consultants. We hope to have matters agreed prior to submission of the SoCG.

#### 4.21 Matters Under Discussion (Waste)

Table 4.21

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
WAS-01	Waste Policy	Applicable waste policy is set out within Section 20.3 of <b>6.2.20 Environmental Statement - Chapter 20_Waste [APP-058]</b> and is therefore considered acceptable.

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
Waste		
WAS-02 Waste	Waste Site Safeguarding	The Order limits as set out in <b>2.1 Location Plan [APP-006]</b> confirm no existing or safeguarded proposed waste sites are impacted by the location of the Scheme.
WAS-03 Waste	Assessment scope	The scope of the assessment undertaken within Sections 20.7, 20.9, and 20.10 of <b>6.2.20 Environmental Statement - Chapter 20_Waste [APP-058]</b> including the identification of likely significant effects and likely significant cumulative effects has been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.
WAS-04 Waste	Proposed Mitigation	The proposed embedded and additional mitigation measures as set out within Sections 20.6 and 20.9 of <b>6.2.20 Environmental Statement - Chapter 20_Waste [APP-058]</b> are considered proportionate and acceptable.



## **5 Matters Not Agreed**

5.1.1 There are no matters “not agreed” with Lincolnshire County Council.

## 6 Signatories

6.1.1 The above SoCG is agreed between West Burton Solar Project Ltd. (the Applicant) and Lincolnshire County Council as specified below.

Duly authorised for and on behalf of **West Burton Solar Project Ltd.**

Name:	
Job Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	

Duly authorised for and on behalf of **Lincolnshire County Council**

Name:	
Job Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	