

West Burton Solar Project

Statement of Common Ground with National Highways

Prepared by: Transport Planning Associates
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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 National Highways

Prepared by:

Name: Robert Roughan

Title: Associate

Approved by:

Name: James Darrall

Title: Director

Revision	Date	Prepared by:	Approved by:
0	2 October 2023	RR	JD

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 and 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 on 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) National Highways Limited ('National Highways') as the highway authority responsible for the Strategic Road Network.
- 1.2.2 Collectively, West Burton Solar Project Ltd. and National Highways 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.

2 Record of Engagement

2.1 Summary of Consultation

2.1.1 The parties have been engaged in consultation since the beginning of the proposed development through the formal consultation process. A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between West Burton Solar Project and National Highways in relation to the Application is outlined in **Table 2.1**.

Table 2.1: Record of Engagement

Date	Form Correspondence	Key topics discussed	Key outcomes
16/06/22	Section 42 Consultation	<p>6.2.14 Environmental Statement - Chapter 14 Transport and Access [APP-052] and 6.3.14.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-127], including the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trip Generation; • Trip Distribution; • Impact on Strategic Road Network; • Abnormal Indivisible Loads. 	The Applicant agreed to include requested information as part of the DCO submission.
23/02/23	Meeting with National Highways Operations Directorate	<p>6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126] and 6.3.14.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-127], including the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trip Generation; • Trip Distribution; • Impact on Strategic Road Network; • Abnormal Indivisible Loads. 	<p>National Highways agreed to review Transport Assessment and Construction Traffic Management Plan</p> <p>Applicant agreed to prepare a draft Statement of Common Ground for agreement</p>
08/06/23	Relevant Representation [RR-232]	National Highways reserved the right to make written representations if appropriate, stating <i>"In relation to the West Burton Solar Project, our principal</i>	

		<p><i>interest is in safeguarding the A46, A160, and A180 trunk roads; and the M180 motorway. Although the SRN is outside the Order Limits, it is understood that construction traffic will be routed via the A46, A160, and A180 trunk roads and the M180 motorway. As such, we reserve the right to make written representations if an impact of construction traffic on the SRN is identified, or if changes to the application are made which result in impacts to the SRN"</i></p>	
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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) National Highways in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

3 Matters Agreed

Table 3.1 below details the matters agreed with National Highways.

3.1 Matters Agreed

Table 3.1 Matters Agreed (Transport)

Main Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
TA-1 Transport Assessment [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14.1]	a. Construction Vehicle HGV Route	All HGVs associated with the construction phase of the Scheme will follow the designated route as illustrated in the following figures set out in 6.2.14 Environmental Statement - Chapter 14_Transport and Access [APP-052] . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Figure 6.1: West Burton 1 Construction Vehicle Route Figure 6.2: West Burton 2 Construction Vehicle Route Figure 6.3: West Burton 3 Construction Vehicle Route Figure 6.4: Cable Route Corridor Construction Vehicle Route Figure 7.1: Construction Vehicle Route – Abnormal Loads
	b. 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 6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126] is accepted and will not have a material impact upon the capacity, operation, and safety of the Strategic Road Network.
	c. 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 6.3.14.1 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-126] are acceptable.

<p>TA-2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010132/APP/WB6.2.14.2]</p>	<p>a. Management Measures</p>	<p>The measures set out in 6.3.14.2 Environmental Statement - Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-127] are appropriate to manage the effects of construction traffic on the Strategic Road Network.</p>
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4 Matters Under Discussion

4.1.1 There are no matters “under discussion” with National Highways.


5 Matters Not Agreed

5.1.1 There are no matters “not agreed” with National Highways.

6 Signatories

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

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

Name:	Robert Roughan
Job Title:	Associate
Date:	02/10/2023
Signature:	

Duly authorised for and on behalf of **National Highways**

Name:	Catherine Townend
Job Title:	Spatial Planner
Date:	02/10/2023
Signature:	