

National Infrastructure Planning Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol BS1 6PN

Your Ref EN010132 Our Ref IPP-146 Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

RE: Deadline 2 Response, West Burton Solar Project

Comments on any submissions received by deadline 1

Draft DCO

Art 6(1)(i)

We welcome the amendment to article 6(1)(i) of the draft DCO which addresses the issue raised by the Trust in its deadline 1 response.

Protective Provisions for the Trust

We welcome the inclusion of the protective provisions for the Trust in Part 13 of Schedule 16 of the draft DCO submitted at deadline 1. The wording of the protective provisions has recently been agreed between the Applicant and the Trust and we understand the Applicant will adopt that agreed wording in the next revision of the draft DCO, due be submitted at deadline 2. These reflect the provisions included in the draft DCOs for the Cottam and Gate Burton projects and include wording required in respect of the Trust's dredging tip. This wording is agreed by the Trust subject to any changes to the DCO or changes to the project which would impact the Trust. A copy is enclosed for information.

We trust this assists the Examining Authority (ExA) in answering question 1.5.29 of the ExA's First Written Questions.

Concept Design Parameters

We have been reviewing the revised Concept Design Parameters and Principles Revision A document but are unable to find that in principle HDD will be at least 5m below the River Trent. We also think it would be helpful to include in this description a reference point for measuring that 5m. The Trust has agreed the following wording with the Gate Burton project, which is set out in the Outline Design Principles document for that project:

The HDD depth will be a maximum of 25m below the bottom of the riverbed and a minimum of 5m below the lowest surveyed point of the River Trent riverbed in order to prevent risk of any scour exposing cable. (See PDF p10 of the latest revision at:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010131/EN010131-001393-2.3%20Outline%20Design%20Principles_D5_tracked.pdf)

The Applicant has confirmed to us that they are happy to use the above wording for the West Burton proposal and this will be updated in the next version of the Concept Design Parameters and Principles submitted at deadline 2.

Canal & River Trust

Fradley Junction, Alrewas, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 7DN **T E** canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us **W** canalrivertrust.org.uk

Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan

The Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan Revision A includes at page 59 a Hedgerow Removal Plan HR26. This shows that H146 and H147 respectively south and west of our dredging tip are proposed to be retained. We note that this plan also shows the temporary removal of a section of H148 to the southwest of our dredging tip and we await the Applicant's publication of a revised Crossing Schedule following further engineering consideration of the use of horizontal directional drilling of the cable routes in relation to our dredging tip and the adjacent flood bund.

Joint report on Interrelationships between NSIPs

We note that on page 46 of the Joint Report on Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects the entry on the date 10/08/23 mentions Canal. We believe this may be a typing error as we haven't had discussions with the Applicants and EDF regarding Cottam substation.

Yours faithfully,

Hazel Smith MRTPI Area Planner – Midlands

Canal & River Trust

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https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/specialist-teams/planning-and-design

Enc. draft protective provisions agreed 03.01.2024

Fradley Junction, Alrewas, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 7DN