



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

Your Ref EN010132

Our Ref IPP-146

Wednesday 28 February 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: Deadline 4 Response, West Burton Solar Project

We have examined the Deadline 2 and 3 documents and wish to make the following comments:

Draft Development Consent Order

We welcome the inclusion of the protective provisions for the Trust in Part 13 of Schedule 16 and, as stated previously, the amendment to article 6(1)(i) to ensure the disapplication of legislation listed in Schedule 3 does not impact on the operation or maintenance of the River Trent as a navigable river. These reflect the provisions included in the draft DCOs for Gate Burton and Cottam projects. This wording is agreed by the Trust subject to any changes to the draft DCO or changes to the project which would impact the Trust.

Land South of Marton Grid Connection Options Report

The report considers the cable route options to the south of Marton village and east of the River Trent. In our Relevant Representation we advised that we own a dredging tip on the east side of the River Trent, which initially lay immediately north of the cable route corridor. The below extract is taken from the Environmental Constraints Plan – Figure 3-1 and shows the current red line site area excluding the eastern dredging tip. The dredging tip is not mentioned as a constraint on the Environmental Constraints Figure 1a.



Option 2 (if the order limits are altered) does include land in the southeast corner of the eastern dredging tip. The inclusion of this land within order limits raises the potential need for Protective Provisions for the Trust and a Land Agreement if the route is altered. This is a similar situation to that is proposed for the southwest corner of the Trust's western dredging tip as part of the West Burton Solar Project. The same would be the case for options 3, 4 and 5 which also appear to include land in the southeast corner of the eastern dredging tip, but do not appear to be the preferred options. We would wish to work with the applicant (and applicants for the interrelated projects) to ensure this matter is discussed and included within future amendments. We have already provided these observations to them.

Canal & River Trust

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

T 0303 040 4040 E canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us W canalrivertrust.org.uk

Concept Design Parameters & Principles

We welcome that the updated at Deadline 3 version of this document includes the wording *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* as previously agreed with the applicant.

Joint Report on Interrelationships

As previously mentioned, we note that on page 47 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.

Land Agreement

The parties continue to negotiate the agreement for the rights required for the project in respect of the cable route beneath the Trust's dredging tip (parcel 07-121). We are confident agreement will be reached prior to the end of the Examination.

Yours faithfully,

Hazel Smith MRTPI
Area Planner – Midlands

██████████ [@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:██████████@canalrivertrust.org.uk)

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

Canal & River Trust

Fradley Junction, Alrewas, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 7DN
T 0303 040 4040 E canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us W canalrivertrust.org.uk