

# West Burton Solar Project

## The Applicant's Cover Letter for Deadline 4 Submissions

Prepared by: Lanpro Services  
February 2024

PINS reference: EN010132

Document reference: EX4/WB8.1.29

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010



West Burton Solar Project Limited  
Unit 25.7, Coda Studios  
189 Munster Road  
London  
SW6 6AW

Louise Harraway  
Case Manager  
The Planning Inspectorate  
National Infrastructure Directorate  
Temple Quay House  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

28<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Louise,

**West Burton Solar Project - Deadline 4 Submissions**  
**Application Ref: EN010132**

This letter sets out the documents which are submitted by West Burton Solar Project Limited ('the Applicant') for Deadline 4 of the Examination of West Burton Solar Project.

These documents have been provided in response to the requests made in the Rule 8 Letter of 16 November 2023 and made at the Issue Specific Hearings of 23 January, 7 February, 8 February 2024, Compulsory Acquisition Hearing of 6 February 2024 and Open Floor Hearing of 24 January 2024.

New versions of a number of documents have also been submitted as a result of the acceptance of the Applicant's Change Application by the Examining Authority on 24 January 2024. These new versions incorporate the changes made as part of the Change Application.

In addition, these submissions provide a number of minor clarifications and corrections. Further details can be found in the Schedule of Changes **[EX4/WB8.1.8\_C]** referred to below.

## Submitted Documents

*Note: For revised documents, clean and tracked changes versions of each are submitted when appropriate*

Ref or plan/ drawing number	Document Title
Application Information	
EX4/WB1.3_F	Guide to the Application (Revision F)
Plans and Drawings	
EX4/WB2.1_B	Location Plan/Order Limits (Revision B)
EX4/WB2.2_C	Land Plan (Revision C)
EX4/WB2.3_D	Works Plan (Revision D)
EX4/WB2.4_C	Public Rights of Way Plan (Revision C)
EX4/WB2.5_B	Access Plan (Revision B)
EX4/WB2.6_A	Waterbodies River Basin Management Plan (Revision A)
EX4/WB2.7_B	Ecology and Nature Conservation Features Plan (Revision B)
EX4/WB2.8_A	Historic Environment Features Plan (Revision A)
EX4/WB2.9_B	Important Hedgerows Plan (Revision B)
EX4/WB2.11_C	Streets Plan (Revision C)
Draft Development Consent Order	
EX4/WB3.1_E	Draft Development Consent Order (Revision E)
EX4/WB3.2_C	Draft Explanatory Memorandum (Revision C)
Compulsory Acquisition Information	
EX4/WB4.1_B	Statement of Reasons (Revision B)
EX4/WB4.2_B	Funding Statement (Revision B)
EX4/WB4.3_E	Book of Reference (Revision E)
Environmental Statement	
Environmental Statement Appendices	
EX4/WB6.3.13.7_A	ES Appendix 13.7 Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Mitigation (Revision A)

EX4/WB6.3.14.1_C	ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment (Revision C)
EX4/WB6.3.14.2_D	ES Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan (Revision D)
EX4/WB6.3.14.3_D	ES Appendix 14.3 Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan (Revision D)
<b>Other Documents</b>	
EX4/WB7.1_C	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (Revision C)
EX4/WB7.3_D	Outline Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plan (Revision D)
EX4/WB7.4_A	Consents and Agreements Position Statement (Revision A)
EX4/WB7.5_B	Planning Statement (Revision B)
EX4/WB7.10_A	Outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan (Revision A)
EX4/WB7.13_C	Concept Design Parameters and Principles (Revision C)
EX4/WB7.14_C	Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan (Revision C)
EX4/WB7.15_B	Crossing Schedule (Revision B)
<b>Examination Submissions</b>	
<b>Core Submissions</b>	
EX4/WB8.1.8_C	Schedule of Changes (Revision C)
EX4/WB8.1.9_C	Report on the Interrelationships with other NSIP's (Revision C)
EX4/WB8.1.11_B	Statement of Commonality (Revision B)
EX4/WB8.1.12_B	Schedule of progress regarding objections and agreements in relation to Compulsory Acquisition, Temporary Possession, other land rights and blight (Revision B)
EX4/WB8.1.13_B	Schedule of Negotiations (Revision B)
EX4/WB8.1.14_B	Schedule of progress regarding Protective Provisions and Statutory Undertakers (Revision B)
EX4/WB8.1.23	The Applicant's Response to Deadline 2 and 3 Submissions
EX4/WB8.1.24	Written Summary of the Applicant's Oral Submissions at the Issue Specific Hearing (ISH2)
EX4/WB8.1.25	Written Summary of the Applicant's Oral Submissions at the Open Floor Hearing (OFH2)
EX4/WB8.1.26	Written Summary of the Applicant's Oral Submissions at the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH1)
EX4/WB8.1.27	Written Summary of the Applicant's Oral Submissions at the Issue Specific Hearing (ISH3)
EX4/WB8.1.28	Written Summary of the Applicant's Oral Submissions at the Issue Specific Hearing (ISH4)

EX4/WB8.1.29	The Applicant's Cover Letter for Deadline 4 Submission
<b>Supplementary Submissions</b>	
EX4/WB8.2.5	Technical Note on Cumulative Effects of Additional Schemes
EX4/WB8.2.6	Comparison of Archaeological Evaluation Investigations on Solar Schemes
EX4/WB8.2.7	Aerial Flyover Footage using Google Earth Data (Low Resolution)
EX4/WB8.2.8	Technical Note on Horizontal Directional Drilling and Cabling under the River Trent
EX4/WB8.2.9	Without Prejudice Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation of Archaeological Mitigation
<b>Environmental Statement Addenda</b>	
EX4/WB8.4.13.1	ES Addendum: Chapter 13: Archaeological Trial Trenching Evaluation Fieldwork Report for the Shared Cable Corridor
EX4/WB8.4.21.1	ES Addendum Chapter 21: Human Health and Wellbeing Effects

### Schedule of changes to submitted documents

A new Schedule of Changes [EN010132/EX4/WB8.1.8\_C] sets out revisions made to previously submitted documents and the reasons for those changes.

### Detailed schedules of changes to the draft Development Consent Order

The Schedule of Changes [EN010132/EX4/WB8.1.8\_C] contains detailed schedules setting out all changes to the draft Development Consent Order.

### Report on the Interrelationship with other Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects

The applicants for West Burton, Cottam, Gate Burton and Tillbridge solar NSIP DCOs continue to collaborate on the Report on the Interrelationship with other NSIPs. The latest version of the Report is included in the list of documents above [EN010132/EX4/WB8.1.8\_C].

### Planning Statement

On 17 January 2024, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero confirmed that the November 2023 version of the revised Energy National Policy statements were designated. The Applicant has reviewed these versions and updated the Planning Statement at Deadline 4 to reflect this.

### Comparison of Archaeological Evaluation Investigations on Solar Schemes

This document was submitted for Cottam Solar Project at Deadline 3 and is now submitted for this Scheme for consistency. The document provides an overview on the extent of archaeological evaluation works undertaken to support solar based DCO's and Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

## Without Prejudice Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation

In line with the request made during ISH2 (Cottam) / ISH4 (West Burton) a without prejudice archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WPWSI) has been prepared that includes a requirement to undertake further trenching post-determination of the application, in advance of construction of the Scheme. The WPWSI is aimed at addressing concerns raised by Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire County Council in the event that the Secretary of State is minded to agree that further trenching to confirm the absence/presence of archaeological remains is required prior to the commencement of construction. The WPWSI has been issued to Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire County Councils, and we are presently awaiting a response. Comments have been received on the WPWSI for the Cottam Solar Project and these are being reviewed.

## Environmental Statement Addenda

Where information that is additional or supplementary to the Environmental Statement has been requested or provided, addenda to the Environmental Statement are being submitted as new documents which at Deadline 4 include:

- ES Addendum Chapter 13: Archaeological Trial Trenching Evaluation Fieldwork Report for the Shared Cable Corridor – This has been prepared by the Applicant for the Gate Burton Energy Park Limited (EN10131) and provides archaeological trial trenching evaluation for the shared cable corridor of the Gate Burton, Cottam Solar Project and the Scheme. There is a small section of the shared cable corridor within the Scheme's order limits.
- ES Addendum Chapter 21: Human Health and Wellbeing Effects – The Applicant committed to providing this at Issue Specific Hearing 4 on 8 February 2024.

## Concept Design Parameters

In the **WB8.1.21 Applicants Response to ExA First Written Questions [REP3-038]** response to ExQ1 1.8.8, the Applicant provided a response which related to the separation distances between the directionally drilled cable circuits. It confirmed that as set out in the **WB7.13\_B Concept Design Parameters and Principles Revision B [REP3-020]** and **6.2.4 Environmental Statement - Chapter 4 Scheme Description [APP-042]** that the 3.0m separation distance describes multiple circuits at 132kV and their recommended separation distance (found in the parameters describing Work No.5 (High voltage electrical cables connecting Work Nos. 3A and, 3B to Work No.3C), and the 5.0m separation distance applies to those circuits described as High voltage electrical cables connecting Work No.3C to Work No.4.

The Applicant's technical advisor has undertaken further cable calculations when considering the design of the route and the further work has shown that the separation can be reduced to 3m for the high voltage cables (400kV) connecting Work No.3C to Work No.4. Therefore, this change has been made to **WB7.13\_C Concept Design Parameters and Principles Revision C [EN010132/EX4/WB7.13\_C]**. This change will result in minimisation of impacts during construction and landowner easement widths.

## Aerial Flyover Video

At the Examination Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) 3 on 7th February 2024, the Applicant advised that they had provided a similar flyover on Cottam Solar Project at Deadline 4 and would do the same for the Scheme. The Aerial Flyover uses videography based on aerial drone imagery to present the Scheme in the context of other cumulative solar developments at Gate Burton, Cottam and Tillbridge. An Aerial flyover utilising Google Aerial imagery has been produced and submitted at Deadline 4 **[EN010132/EX4/WB8.2.17]**. The flyover uses topographical information available to Google to demonstrate basic terrain mapping. This allows the flyover to provide an illustrative visualisation of the changing topography across the route of the flight path. Buildings, individual trees and small woodlands are not picked up in this mapping as three-dimensional imagery, however some larger woodlands are given illustrative elevation.

The imagery commences at the West Burton 1 Site, then moves west across West Burton 2 and West Burton 3 Sites to give an aerial perspective of each of these three areas in succession with field numbering and place naming to aid the viewer. The imagery then moves north towards Gate Burton Energy Park (in green) and then continues east and north across Cottam 1, Cottam 2 and Cottam 3a and 3b solar sites (in pink). The imagery then rises to give a perspective of the Cottam, Gate Burton, West Burton and Tillbridge solar sites cumulatively before finally passing directly over the Tillbridge Solar Site (in yellow). The imagery is to be read alongside the Environmental Statement and the Joint Report on Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects Revision C **[EN010132/EX4/WB8.1.9\_C]**.

Please do not hesitate to contact us using the details provided below if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Eve Browning

West Burton Solar Project Ltd.

0808 1691858

info@westburtonsolar.co.uk