

10 Trentport Road,

Marion,

Gainsborough.

Lincs. DN21 5AP

Dear Sir/Madam,

I represent the parishioners of Marion and Gate Burton as Chair of the parish council. We have concerns over the large concentrations of solar panels proposed for this area. A large percentage of the arable land in both parishes will be covered in these devices. This will take good productive agricultural land out of use and visually blight most of the vicinity.

The narrow corridor of land between these solar developments will be excavated to bury the cables carrying the power to the Cottam Power Station connecting point. All four of these proposed large solar parks have chosen virtually the same route to Cottam and they would all like to cross the river Trent at the same point. This is where there are already two high voltage overhead power lines, a large diameter gas pipeline and a major drainage channel. At this point there is a large flood defence embankment. This bank is not situated here to protect Marion or Gate Burton which have never flooded at least since Roman times. These defences prevent floodwater running down the drainage ditches and ultimately ending up in the Brayford Pool in the centre of Lincoln causing major flood damage.

Laying these cables with the necessary heavy machinery required will ruin the productive land, decimate the wildlife and compromise the flood defences on the river Trent. The river authorities are also concerned about these proposals and have expressed their reservations. (see enclosed letter)

The parish council is also alarmed at the idea of installing large battery storage systems in both parishes. The regulatory bodies do not seem to have any plan

how to extinguish fires or control associated potential hazards. What risk assessments have been made?

We consider these proposed developments are a waste of productive arable land. There are other derelict and brownfield sites available, along with millions of domestic and industrial roofs that could accommodate them.



4th May 2023

S.W.Spence

pp. Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council.

Marton, Gainsborough

- Canal 6 Solar Project EN000101
- Canal 6 Energy Park EN000102
- Canal 6 Solar Project EN000103
- Canal 6 Solar Project EN000104

Canal 6 River Trust, the charity which looks after 2100 miles of inland waterways. The Trust is responsible for the purposes of the Planning Act 2008 and is navigation authority for the River Trent.

It is my and my colleagues' intention that there are potentially four nationally significant infrastructure projects, a cable route under the River Trent at the same location. Canal 6 Solar Project, Gate Burton Energy Park and West Burton Solar Project have recently had applications accepted for examination. The Trust is aware of the fact that where the cable crossing point is proposed within these applications, the West Burton Solar Project is planning to submit an application and consulted with the Trust on its application documentation.

In terms of efficiency, we should be grateful if a representative from each project would submit to the Trust the proposed cable route under the River Trent has indeed been identified as being in the same location. For example, Works Plan Sheet 17 of 19 for the Canal 6 Solar Project accepted 9 February 2023, Works Plan number 024, the Works Plan Sheet 13 for the Gate Burton Energy Park accepted 22 February 2023, Works Plan number 25, and the Works Plan Sheets 7 and 8 for the West Burton Solar Project accepted 18 February 2023, Works Plan number W023.

We would like to know that the cable routes are the same, or similar, please indicate whether or not the project teams are working together to achieve development consent and how the Trust can engage most effectively with the project teams.

If the cable crossing under the River Trent is the same, or similar, for the four projects, the Trust would welcome proposals from the Planning Inspectorate as to how the Trust's interests in respect of that part of each project can be met with most efficiency. An early joint stakeholder meeting with all parties would be supported by the Trust.

I would be pleased to hear from you all.

Yours faithfully,

Simon Spence
Chairman

Canal 6 River Trust, Canal 6 Navigation, Clevers Point, South Park, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, LN45 4WJ
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NI Mail Distribution



**Canal &
River Trust**

Making life better by water

By email only:

The Planning Inspectorate
Cottam Solar Project
Gate Burton Energy Park
West Burton Solar Project
Tillbridge Solar Project
The Crown Estate

Your Ref EN010131, EN010132,
EN010133, EN010142
Our Ref River Trent cable crossing
(IPP-146, IPP-148, IPP-153,
IPPT66)

4th May 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Dear Sirs and Madams,

Cable crossing under the River Trent, south of Trent Port, Marton, Gainsborough
Cottam Solar Project EN010133
Gate Burton Energy Park EN010131
West Burton Solar Project EN010132
Tillbridge Solar Project EN010142

I write on behalf of the Canal & River Trust, the charity which looks after 2,000 miles of inland waterways. The Trust is a statutory consultee for the purposes of the Planning Act 2008 and is navigation authority for the River Trent.

It has come to my and my colleagues' attention that there are potentially four nationally significant infrastructure projects proposing a cable route under the River Trent at the same location. Cottam Solar Project, Gate Burton Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project have recently had applications accepted for examination. The Trust is leaseholder of the River Trent where the cable crossing point is proposed within these applications. Tillbridge Solar Project have notified the Planning Inspectorate of their intention to submit an application and consulted with the Trust on their pre-application documentation.

In the interests of efficiency, we should be grateful if a representative from each project would confirm to the Trust that the proposed cable route under the River Trent has indeed been identified as being in the same location for those projects (see for example Works Plan Sheet 17 of 19 for the Cottam Solar Project accepted 9 February 2023, reference number C2.4; the Works Plan Sheet 13 for the Gate Burton Energy Park accepted 22 February 2023, reference number 2.5; and the Works Plan Sheets 7 and 8 for the West Burton Solar Project accepted 18th April 2023, reference number WB2.3).

If it is the case that the cable routes are the same, or similar, please indicate whether or not the project teams are working together to achieve development consent and how the Trust can engage most effectively with the projects.

If the cable crossing under the River Trent is the same, or similar, for the four projects, the Trust would welcome suggestions from the Planning Inspectorate as to how the Trust's interests in respect of that part of each project can be dealt with most efficiently. An early joint online meeting with all parties would be supported by the Trust.

We look forward to hearing from you all.

Yours faithfully

Hazel Smith MRTP
Area Planner – Midlands

Canal & River Trust Planning Team
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