

West Burton Solar Project

Explanatory Memorandum Revision D – Deadline 6

Prepared by: Pinsent Masons LLP

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Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010



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Issue Sheet

Report Prepared for: West Burton Solar Project Ltd.

**Explanatory Memorandum
Revision D – Deadline 6**

Prepared by:

Pinsent Masons LLP

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Revision: D

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared on behalf of the Applicant and forms part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) Application to construct, operate, maintain and decommission the West Burton Solar Project (the “Scheme”).
- 1.1.2 The Scheme comprises a number of land parcels (the ‘Site’ or ‘Sites’) described as West Burton 1, 2 and 3 for the solar arrays, grid connection infrastructure and energy storage, and the Cable Route Corridors. The Sites are located approximately 7.4km south and up to 7.4km southeast of Gainsborough.
- 1.1.3 A DCO is required for the Scheme as it falls within the definition and thresholds for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under sections 14(1) and 15 of the 2008 Act. This is because it consists of a generating station in England with a capacity of more than 50MW.
- 1.1.4 The DCO, if made, would be known as The West Burton Solar Project Order 202[*]. A draft of the Order has been submitted with the Application and updated during the Examination. The latest version is Revision G submitted with the Application **[EX6/WB3.1_G]**.
- 1.1.5 This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared to explain the purpose and effect of each article of, and Schedules to, the Order, as required by Regulation 5(2)(c) of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the “APFP Regulations”). It should be read in conjunction with the suite of documents accompanying the Application, in particular the draft Order **[EX6/WB3.1_G]**, the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**, the Works Plan **[REP5-035]**, the Land Plan **[EX6/WB2.2_D]**, Book of Reference **[EX6/WB4.3_F]**, Statement of Reasons **[EX6/WB4.1_C]**, Consultation Report **[APP-022]** and Statement of Need **[APP-320]**.

1.2 West Burton Solar Project Limited

- 1.2.1 The Applicant is a limited company registered at Companies House under company number 13049324 and whose registered office is at Unit 25.7 Coda Studios, 189 Munster Road, London, SW6 6AW. Further information on the Applicant's ownership and corporate structure is set out in the Funding Statement **[REP4-030]**.

1.3 The Site

- 1.3.1 For the purposes of the Application, the areas within the Site are referred to as follows:
- The Sites referred to as West Burton 1, West Burton 2 and West Burton 3 – areas within the Order limits for solar modules, onsite substations and associated infrastructure;

- Substation and energy storage – areas forming part of the West Burton 3 Site which will contain the main substation and energy storage facility;
- Cable Route Corridor – area within the Order limits for the grid connection infrastructure between the onsite substations and the main substation and energy storage facility at West Burton 3 Site and between the main substation and the National Grid Substation at West Burton Power Station.

1.3.2 The Order Limits is the area within which the Scheme may be carried out. The Order Limits are shown on the Works Plan **[REP5-035]** and the Land Plan **[EX6/WB2.2_D]**. The powers in the Order enabling the acquisition of land, new rights over land and the imposition of restrictions over land, relate to the Order Land only, which is all the land within the Order Limits, with the exception of part of National Grid’s existing substation at West Burton Power Station which is shown on the Land Plan.

1.3.3 Information about the Site, including about the current land use and any environmental constraints, is provided in greater detail in the Environmental Statement at Chapter 3: The Order Limits **[APP-041]**.

1.4 The Proposed Scheme

1.4.1 A detailed description of the Scheme can be found in Chapter 4 of the Environmental Statement **[APP-042]**. It comprises three generating stations of more than 50MW, being the NSIP, and is described in Work No. 1 in Schedule 1 to the Order. The Scheme also includes Associated Development, which comprises Work Nos. 2 to 11 in Schedule 1 to the Order.

1.4.2 All elements of the NSIP are described in the sub-paragraphs below, and the Associated Development is described in paragraph 1.4.7:

- **Work No. 1A:** a ground mounted solar photovoltaic generating stations with a gross electrical output capacity of over 50 MW, including:
 - (1) solar modules fitted to mounting structures;
 - (2) DC electrical cabling and combiner DC boxes;
 - (3) Conversion units including inverters, transformers, switchgear, and monitoring and control systems; and
 - (4) electrical and communications cabling.
- **Work No. 1B:** a ground mounted solar photovoltaic generating stations with a gross electrical output capacity of over 50 MW, including:
 - (1) solar modules fitted to mounting structures;
 - (2) DC electrical cabling and combiner DC boxes;

- (3) conversion units including inverters, transformers, switchgear, and monitoring and control systems; and
 - (4) electrical and communications cabling.
 - **Work No. 1C:** a ground mounted solar photovoltaic generating stations with a gross electrical output capacity of over 50 MW, including:
 - (1) solar modules fitted to mounting structures;
 - (2) DC electrical cabling and combiner DC boxes;
 - (3) conversion units including inverters, transformers, switchgear, and monitoring and control systems; and
 - (4) electrical and communications cabling.
- 1.4.3 The description of Work No. 1 refers to a gross electrical output capacity of over 50MW. This is consistent with sections 14 and 15 of the 2008 Act which stipulates that a generating station with a capacity exceeding 50MW will be an NSIP and therefore development consent will be required.
- 1.4.4 The description of the NSIP at Work No. 1 does not refer to an upper limit on the capacity of the generating station that development consent is being sought for. It is not considered that imposing an upper limit is desirable or necessary. The Order includes reference to the means by which the parameters of the Scheme will be constrained and it is on this basis that the Environmental Impact Assessment has been undertaken, as set out in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**, and explained further in relation to the ‘consent envelope’. There is no reason to limit the electrical output capacity of the Scheme provided those parameters of the consent envelope are adequately captured in the Order. The Applicant is confident that those parameters are adequately secured in the Order.
- 1.4.5 There are clear advantages in not imposing an upper limit on capacity. For example, the Applicant may take advantage of technological improvements and innovation that may emerge before construction, which would enable it to still construct the Scheme within the assessed parameters, but increase capacity beyond that which is currently anticipated. It is in the public interest and accords with national policy to facilitate efficient and maximum generation from renewable sources, which is explained further in the Statement of Need **[APP-320]**. The approach taken has precedent in the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020** and the **Little Crow Solar Park Order 2022** and the **Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023**.
- 1.4.6 The Associated Development for the purposes of section 115 of the 2008 Act comprises Work Nos. 2 to 11 of the Scheme as provided for in Schedule 1 of the Order. This comprises the following elements:

- **Work No 2:** an energy storage facility comprising battery energy storage cells with automatic fire suppression system or dry pipe sprinkler system, a structure protecting the battery energy storage cells, interconnection units including heating, ventilation, cooling and temperature management, conversion units, monitoring and control systems, electrical cabling, surface water drainage, water storage facility for firefighting and infrastructure to contain used firewater;
- **Work No 3:** works in connection with onsite substations, including (Work No. 3C) an up to 400kV substation, (Work No 3A and 3B) an up to 132 kV substation. Work No 3 also includes bays, transformers, switchgear buildings and ancillary equipment, control building or container relay rooms and welfare facilities, monitoring and control systems, maintenance compounds, electrical cabling and earthworks.
- **Work No 4:** works at the existing 400kV substation at West Burton Power Station owned and operated by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc including busbars and connectors, a 400kV circuit breaker, current transformers, metering current transformer/voltage transformer units, line disconnectors, sealing ends, capacitor voltage transformer and building to house feeder protection systems, metering systems and other equipment and apparatus.
- **Work No.5:** comprising Work No. 5A being grid connection cable works connecting the three Solar Farm Sites (Work No.1A – 1C) to the main on-site substation at West Burton 3 (Work No. 3C) and from Work No. 3C to the existing substation at West Burton Power Station (Work No. 4) and Work No. 5B being part of the grid connection cable works from Work No. 3C to Work No. 4 that are located within the Shared Cable Corridor with the proposed Gate Burton Energy Park Project, the proposed Tillbridge Solar Project and the proposed Cottam Solar Project. Works also include the provision of access tracks, drainage infrastructure, jointing bays, link boxes and communications chambers, tunnelling, boring and drilling works, and temporary construction and decommissioning laydown areas.
- **Work No. 6:** works associated with each of the Sites including fencing, gates, boundary treatment and other means of enclosure; the provision of security and monitoring measures such as CCTV columns, lighting columns and lighting, cameras, weather stations, communication infrastructure, and perimeter fencing; landscaping and biodiversity mitigation and enhancement measures including planting; improvement, maintenance and use of existing private tracks; laying down of internal access tracks, ramps, means of access, footpaths, permissive paths, cycle routes and roads, including the laying and construction of drainage infrastructure, signage and information boards; temporary footpath diversions; earthworks; sustainable drainage system ponds, runoff outfalls, general drainage and irrigation infrastructure and

improvements or extensions to existing drainage and irrigation systems; acoustic barriers; electricity and telecommunications connections; and secondary temporary construction and decommissioning laydown areas;

- **Work No 7:** temporary construction and decommissioning laydown areas within each of the Sites and works associated with these including areas of hardstanding; car parking; site and welfare offices and workshops; security infrastructure, including cameras, perimeter fencing and lighting; area to store materials and equipment; site drainage and waste management infrastructure (including sewerage); and electricity, water, waste water and telecommunications connections.
- **Work No 8:** works to facilitate access to Work Nos. 1 to 7 and 9 to 11 including Work No. 8A to facilitate temporary construction access to Work Nos. 1 to 7 and 9 to 11, and Work 8B to facilitate permanent access to Work Nos. 1 to 7 and 9 to 11. Works involve the creation of accesses from the public highway, visibility splays, and works to alter the layout of streets or highways. Work No. 8A also includes works adjacent to highways land to facilitate movement of abnormal indivisible loads associated with Work Nos. 3 and 5.
- **Work No. 9:** works to create and maintain habitat management areas including fencing, gates, boundary treatment and other means of enclosure, earth works, landscaping and biodiversity mitigation, planting, means of access and drainage.
- **Work No. 10:** works to create and maintain a habitat management area including fencing, gates, boundary treatment and other means of enclosure, earth works, landscaping and biodiversity mitigation, planting, means of access and drainage.
- **Work No.11:** works to provide a permissive footpath from the track off Sykes Lane along the Codder Lane Belt and then south and west to re-join Sykes Lane opposite Hardwick Scrub including fencing, gates, boundary treatment and other means of enclosure and landscaping and biodiversity mitigation and enhancement measures.

1.4.7 The Associated Development includes such other works or operations as may be necessary or expedient for the purposes of or in connection with the construction, operation and maintenance of the Scheme but only within the Order limits and insofar as these works or operations are unlikely to give risk to any materially new or materially different environmental effects from those assessed in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308 revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**, including:

- fencing, gates, boundary treatment and other means of enclosure;
- bunds, embankments, trenching and swales;

- works to the existing irrigation system and works to alter the position and extent of such irrigation system;
- surface water drainage systems, storm water attenuation systems including storage basins, oil water separators, including channelling and culverting and works to existing drainage networks;
- electrical, gas, water, foul water drainage and telecommunications infrastructure connections, diversions and works to, and works to alter the position of, such services and utilities connections;
- works to alter the course of, or otherwise interfere with, non-navigable rivers, streams or watercourses;
- ramps, bridges and other means of access;
- works for the provision of security and monitoring measures such as CCTV columns, lighting columns and lighting, cameras, lightning protection masts, weather stations, storage containers, communication infrastructure, and perimeter fencing;
- improvement, maintenance and use of existing private tracks;
- temporary footpath diversions and footpath enhancement;
- landscaping and related works;
- habitat creation and enhancement;
- site establishments and preparation works including site clearance (including vegetation removal, demolition of existing buildings and structures); earthworks (including soil stripping and storage and site levelling) and excavations; the alteration of the position of services and utilities; and works for the protection of buildings and land;
- works to maintain and repair streets and access roads;
- tunnelling, boring and drilling works; and
- other works to mitigate any adverse effects of the construction, maintenance, operation or decommissioning of the authorised development.

1.4.8 The detailed design of the Scheme must be in accordance with the Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**, as secured in Requirement 5 of Schedule 2 to the Order. This approach is taken to ensure suitable flexibility in the design of the Scheme, such that new technology or different layouts can be used within that envelope, while ensuring that the development will not fall outside of the scope of the development assessed in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**. The principle of using a design envelope is recognised as appropriate for a wide range of NSIPs and is described in PINS' Advice Note 9: Rochdale Envelope (July 2018).

- 1.4.9 In addition to the Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]** other DCO requirements, certified documents and plans will operate to control and manage the detailed design of the Scheme, as well as its construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning. The way in which those mechanisms work together as an envelope within which the authorised development is to be undertaken, is explained in more detail below.
- 1.4.10 Article 3 (*Development consent etc. granted by this Order*) and Schedule 2 (*Requirements*) operate to create a "consent envelope" within which the Scheme would be brought forward:
- The Scheme is described in Schedule 1 of the Order, where it is referred to as the "authorised development". The authorised development is granted consent pursuant to article 3(1).
 - In Schedule 1 the Scheme (the authorised development) is divided into a series of component parts, referred to as "numbered works".
 - Article 3(2) requires that the numbered works authorised by the Order are situated in the areas shown on the Works Plans.
 - The design of the Scheme is also controlled via Requirement 5 (detailed design approval) of Schedule 2 of the Order which requires approval of details of the Scheme's design and requires that the details submitted accord with the Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**. The Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]** set out the basis on which the assessment set out in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]** has been undertaken, and secures the key design mitigation measures referenced in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**. The Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]** capture the important parameters that are necessary to ensure that the Scheme is constructed and operated in such a way that the impacts and effects would not exceed the maximum scenario assessed in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**.
 - In addition to the Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]** and Works Plan **[REP5-035]**, the design of the Scheme is also controlled by:
 - (1) approval and implementation of the Battery Storage Safety Management Plan (Requirement 6);
 - (2) approval and implementation of the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (Requirement 7);

- (3) approval and implementation of the Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy (Requirement 8);
- (4) approval and implementation of a biodiversity net gain strategy (Requirement 9);
- (5) approval and implementation of temporary and permanent fencing and other means of enclosure (Requirement 10);
- (6) approval and implementation of any surface and foul water drainage scheme or system (Requirement 11);
- (7) implementation of the written scheme of investigation for archaeology (Requirement 12);
- (8) approval and implementation of the Operational Environmental Management Plan (Requirement 14);
- (9) approval implementation of the operational noise assessment (Requirement 16);
- (10) provision of the permissive path (Requirement 17); and
- (11) approval of an updated flood risk assessment and implementation of any mitigation or compensation measures identified (Requirement 22).

Where the Concept Design Parameters and Principles do not include guidance or controls for an aspect of a numbered work, this is justified on the basis of the conclusions of the environmental impact assessment and having regard to the other controls in place via the measures listed at 1 to 10 above.

- The construction phase of the Scheme (as set out in Schedule 1 of the Order and which is required to be constructed within the areas on the Works Plan) is also controlled by:
 - (1) approval and implementation of temporary fencing and means of enclosure (Requirement 10);
 - (2) approval and implementation of any surface and foul water drainage scheme or system (Requirement 11);
 - (3) implementation of the written scheme of investigation for archaeology (Requirement 12);
 - (4) approval and implementation of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (Requirement 13);

- (5) approval and implementation of the Construction Traffic Management Plan (Requirement 15);
 - (6) approval and implementation of a Public Rights of Way Management Plan (Requirement 18);
 - (7) approval and implementation of a Soil Management Plan (Requirement 19);
 - (8) approval and implementation of a Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan (Requirement 20); and
 - (9) approval of an updated flood risk assessment and implementation of any mitigation or compensation measures identified (Requirement 22).
- The operation and maintenance of the Scheme is controlled by:
 - (1) approval and implementation of the Battery Storage Safety Management Plan (Requirement 6);
 - (2) approval and implementation of the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (Requirement 7);
 - (3) approval and implementation of the Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy (Requirement 8);
 - (4) approval of a biodiversity net gain strategy (Requirement 9);
 - (5) approval and implementation of permanent fencing and other means of enclosure (Requirement 10);
 - (6) approval and implementation of any surface and foul water drainage scheme or system (Requirement 11);
 - (7) implementation of the written scheme of investigation for archaeology (Requirement 12);
 - (8) approval and implementation of the Operational Environmental Management Plan (Requirement 14);
 - (9) approval implementation of the operational noise assessment (Requirement 16);
 - (10) provision of the permissive path (Requirement 17);

- (11) approval and implementation of a Public Rights of Way Management Plan (Requirement 18);
 - (12) approval and implementation of a Soil Management Plan (Requirement 19);
 - (13) approval and implementation of the Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan (Requirement 20); and
 - (14) approval and implementation of any maintenance and monitoring requirements for any mitigation or compensation measures identified by the updated flood risk assessment (Requirement 22).
- The decommissioning of the Scheme is controlled by the approval and implementation of a Decommissioning Plan (Requirement 21).

1.4.11 The Application seeks flexibility to undertake the Scheme within the above envelope, in particular within the maximum areas and parameters secured via the Works Plan **[REP5-035]** and Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**. As set out in Chapter 2 of the Environmental Statement **[APP-040]** and the individual technical chapters, the environmental impact assessment has assessed the upper extent of the areas and sizes allowed by the Works Plan **[REP5-035]** and Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**. As a result, the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]** has assessed a worst case and has considered and confirmed that any scheme built within the maximum areas and parameters would have effects no worse than those assessed.

1.4.12 The illustrative site layouts have been submitted to provide illustrative examples of the different design layouts that have been considered for the Scheme that could be built out within the "consent envelope" (the design aspect of which is controlled primarily through the Works Plan **[REP5-035]** and Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**). These are provided for illustration only within the Environmental Statement figures **[APP-144, APP-145, REP1-022, REP1-024]** and are not sought to be secured.

2 THE PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE OF THIS DOCUMENT

2.1.1 This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared to explain the purpose and effect of each article of, and the Schedules to, the Order, as required by Regulation 5(2)(c) of the APFP Regulations. This Explanatory Memorandum also explains why each article of, and Schedule to, the Order is required for the Scheme.

2.1.2 It also seeks to identify and explain departures from the Infrastructure Planning (Model Provisions) (England and Wales) Order 2009 (the "model provisions"). While the power for the Secretary of State to designate, and the requirement to have regard to, model provisions have both been removed by the Localism Act 2011, the

Applicant considers that it is still relevant to note and explain variations made in the Order compared to the model provisions.

2.1.3 The Order includes a number of provisions to enable the construction, maintenance, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme. This reflects the integrated consenting objective of the 2008 Act regime. The provisions have been drafted to accord with the wide-ranging powers at section 120 of the 2008 Act, but also the limitations, requirements and exceptions imposed by section 120(8) and sections 122 to 152 so far as these are relevant to the Scheme. All powers provided for within the Order come within the scope of section 120 of, and Schedule 5 to, the 2008 Act.

2.1.4 The provisions contained in the Order are briefly described below and then considered in more detail in the following sections:-

- **Part 1 (Preliminary): Article 1** sets out what the Order may be cited as and when it comes into force. **Article 2** sets out the meaning of the defined terms used in the Order;
- **Part 2 (Principal Powers): Articles 3 to 7** provide development consent for the Scheme, and allow it to be constructed, operated and maintained by the undertaker. **Articles 6 and 7** relate to the application and modification of certain legislative provisions and defence to proceedings in respect of statutory nuisance respectively;
- **Part 3 (Streets): Articles 8 to 15** provide the undertaker with a suite of powers in relation to street works. The powers include the ability for the undertaker to be able to carry out works to and within streets; to alter the layout of streets; to construct and maintain new or altered means of access; to temporarily prohibit or restrict the use of streets and public rights of way; to use private roads; to enter into agreements with street authorities and provisions relating to traffic regulation measures;
- **Part 4 (Supplemental Powers): Articles 16 to 19** set out four supplemental powers relating to the discharge of water; the removal of human remains; undertaking protective works to buildings; and the authority to survey and investigate land;
- **Part 5 (Powers of Acquisition): Articles 20 to 33** provide for the undertaker to be able to compulsorily acquire the Order Land, compulsorily acquire rights and impose restrictions over and within the Order Land, and to be able to temporarily use parts of the Order Land for the construction or maintenance of the Scheme. **Article 21** sets out a time limit for the exercise of the compulsory acquisition powers and **article 23** provides for the undertaker to suspend or extinguish certain private rights. The provisions provide for compensation to be payable to affected persons in respect of these powers, where that is not already secured elsewhere. **Articles 29 and 30** provide for the temporary use of land for constructing and maintaining the Scheme.

Article 31 provides for powers in relation to the land and apparatus of statutory undertakers;

- **Part 6 (Miscellaneous and General): Articles 34 to 39** include various general provisions in relation to the Order:-
- **Article 34** sets out who has the benefit of the powers contained in the Order and **Article 35** sets out how those powers can be transferred.
- **Articles 36 and 37** provide (respectively) for how landlord and tenant law applies in relation to the Order and that development within the Order Limits will be "operational land";
- **Articles 38 and 39** provide (respectively) powers in relation to trees which need to be removed or lopped and for hedgerows to be removed in relation to the Scheme and in relation to trees subject to tree preservation orders;
- **Articles 40 to 49** include provisions relating to the certification of plans and documents relevant to the Order; arbitration; protection for statutory undertakers through the protective provisions (set out in Schedule 16); incorporation of a deemed marine licence (set out in Schedule 9); service of notices under the Order; procedure in relation to approvals required under the Order; guarantees in respect of the payment of compensation; the incorporation of the mineral code; and Crown rights.

2.1.5 There are then 17 Schedules to the Order, providing for:

- **Schedule 1** – the description of the Scheme;
- **Schedule 2** – the requirements that apply to the Scheme (i.e. the controls that apply to the Order, similar to planning conditions) Schedule 17 then contains details of the procedure for discharge of requirements required under the Order;
- **Schedule 3** – a list of the local legislation relating to railways, river navigation, fisheries and water that the Order will disapply insofar as the provisions (in that local legislation) still in force are inconsistent with the powers contained in the Order;
- **Schedules 4 to 8** – matters in relation to street works and alterations, streets and public rights of way to be temporarily prohibited or restricted with or without diversion, access to works and details of the streets subject to temporary traffic regulation measures during construction of the authorised development;
- **Schedule 9** – the deemed marine licence;
- **Schedule 10** – details of those parts of the Order Land in which only new rights may be acquired and restrictions imposed;

- **Schedule 11** – amendments to legislation to ensure appropriate compensation is payable where new rights over land are acquired and restrictions imposed under the Order;
- **Schedule 12** – details of those parts of the Order Land over which only temporary possession may be taken;
- **Schedule 13** – details of hedgerows to be removed;
- **Schedule 14** – the documents and plans to be certified by the Secretary of State;
- **Schedule 15** – arbitration rules that apply to most arbitrations in connection with the Order;
- **Schedule 16** – provisions for the protection of statutory undertakers and their apparatus; and
- **Schedule 17** – procedure for the discharge of requirements.

3 PURPOSE OF THE ORDER

- 3.1.1 The Scheme involves an onshore generating station with a capacity of over 50MW, located in England, and is therefore a NSIP under sections 14(1)(a) and 15 of the 2008 Act. The Applicant requires development consent under the 2008 Act in order to construct, maintain and operate the Scheme. Under section 37 of the 2008 Act, development consent may only be granted by a DCO, following an application to the Secretary of State.
- 3.1.2 The Applicant is therefore making an application to the Secretary of State for a development consent order for the Scheme. In the Order, the Scheme is referred to as the "authorised development". The Order refers to the person authorised to exercise the powers in the Order as the "undertaker" and defines the undertaker as West Burton Solar Project Limited.
- 3.1.3 The matters for which development consent is sought are summarised below and described more formally in Schedule 1 to the Order.
- 3.1.4 Section 115(1) of the 2008 Act provides that development consent may be granted for Associated Development, as well as for the NSIP. The Secretary of State must therefore be satisfied that all the elements included within the authorised development are either the NSIP or are Associated Development, in order to include them in the Order.
- 3.1.5 The solar photovoltaic generating stations within Work No. 1 in Schedule 1 to the Order constitute "development for which development consent is required", and as such is the NSIP.
- 3.1.6 The Order also includes the proposed development of an energy storage facility, substations, electrical cabling and associated development to allow for the storage, importation and exportation of electricity to the National Grid, and to support and/or mitigate the NSIP included at Work Nos. 2 to 11 of Schedule 1 of the Order.

The Applicant has considered these works against the policy and criteria in DCLG 'Guidance on Associated Development applications for major infrastructure projects' (April 2013) (the "Guidance") – it is clear that all of these works come within the guidance and are clearly capable of being granted development consent by the Secretary of State pursuant to section 115 of the 2008 Act.

3.1.7 The approach taken by the Applicant between those parts of the authorised development which form the NSIP and those parts that form Associated Development follows the approach taken by other DCO applications to date.

3.1.8 In particular, Work Nos. 2 to 11 are:

- all directly associated with the NSIP, as they are all required to support the construction, maintenance or operation of the generating station, or to mitigate its impacts (paragraph 5(i) of the Guidance);
- all subordinate to the NSIP - none of them are an aim in themselves (paragraph 5(ii));
- not only necessary as a source of additional revenue for the Applicant, in order to cross-subsidise the cost of the NSIP (paragraph 5(iii));
- all proportionate to the nature and scale of the NSIP (paragraph 5(iv));
- all of a nature which is typically brought forward alongside a solar generating station (paragraph 6);
- all listed in or analogous to the types of Associated Development listed in Annexes A and B to the Guidance. Those annexes mention:
 - (1) In Annex A, "Connections to national, regional or local networks", including electricity networks and in Annex B, "substations", "jointing pits", "control buildings" and "underground lines" would include the electrical compounds and grid connection works (Work Nos. 4, 5, and 6);
 - (2) In Annex A, "monitoring apparatus" (Work Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5);
 - (3) In Annex A, "Formation of new or improved vehicular or pedestrian access, whether temporary or permanent"; highway improvements, "Alteration or construction of roads, footpaths", "Parking spaces for workers" and "lay down areas" (Work Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11);
 - (4) In Annex A, hard and soft landscaping would include landscaping and other works to mitigate adverse impacts (Work No. 10);
 - (5) In Annex A, "Security measures" and "Working sites, site offices and laydown areas" (Work Nos. 4 and 8)

3.1.9 As the Order seeks to apply and modify statutory provisions, including those relating to the compulsory acquisition of land, the Order has been drafted as a statutory instrument, in accordance with sections 117 and 120 of the 2008 Act.

3.2 Compulsory Acquisition

3.2.1 In addition to providing for the construction, maintenance, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme, the Order will, in accordance with section 122, section 120(3) and Schedule 5 of the 2008 Act, authorise the acquisition of land and rights over land and imposition of restrictions, and the extinguishment of, or interference with, interests in or rights over land.

3.2.2 The Book of Reference **[EX6/WB4.3_F]** sets out a description of, and interests included in, the Order Land, split by "plots", and these are shown on the Land Plan **[EX6/WB2.2_D]**. The Book of Reference **[EX6/WB4.3_F]** is divided into parts, dependent upon whether interests are Category 1, 2 or 3 interests, and the identification of those interests is explained in the Book of Reference **[EX6/WB4.3_F]**. The Order provides for land to be compulsorily acquired, rights to be compulsorily acquired and restrictions imposed and other rights and interests that will be affected. The Order and the Book of Reference **[EX6/WB4.3_F]** should be read together with the Land Plan **[EX6/WB2.2_D]** and the Statement of Reasons **[EX6/WB4.1_C]**, which sets out the justification for the inclusion of compulsory acquisition powers in the Order.

3.2.3 Further information on the compulsory acquisition powers sought is provided below.

3.3 Statutory undertakers' land and apparatus

3.3.1 The interests held by each statutory undertaker identified by the Applicant as owning land or having a right to keep or access apparatus within the Order Land are identified in the Book of Reference **[EX6/WB4.3_F]**.

3.3.2 Section 127(2) of the 2008 Act states that a DCO may only include provision authorising the compulsory acquisition of statutory undertakers' land to the extent that:

- the land can be purchased and not replaced without serious detriment to the carrying on of the undertaking; or
- the land can be replaced by other land belonging to or available for acquisition by the undertakers without serious detriment to the carrying on of the undertaking.

3.3.3 Section 127(5) of the 2008 Act states that a DCO may only include provision authorising the compulsory acquisition of a right over statutory undertakers' land by the creation of a new right over land to the extent that:

- the land can be purchased without serious detriment to the carrying on of the undertaking; or

- any detriment to the carrying on of the undertaking, in consequence of the acquisition of the right, can be made good by the undertakers by the use of other land belonging to or available for acquisition by them.

3.3.4 Section 138 of the 2008 Act states that a DCO may only include provision for the extinguishment of rights of way, or rights to lay down, erect, continue or maintain apparatus on, under or over the land belonging to statutory undertakers for the purposes of their undertakings only if the Secretary of State is satisfied that the extinguishment is necessary for the purpose of carrying out the development to which the DCO relates.

3.3.5 The Order includes protective provisions in respect of statutory undertakers (see article 41 and Schedule 15). The Applicant is currently seeking to agree the form of protective provisions with the affected undertakers. Further details as to how the tests under sections 127 and 138 of the 2008 Act have been satisfied are set out in the Statement of Reasons [EX6/WB4.1_C].

4 PROVISIONS OF THE ORDER

4.1.1 The Order consists of 49 operative provisions, each referred to as articles and 17 Schedules. The articles are considered below in numerical order (split between the different Parts of the Order), and Schedules are considered along with the article which introduces them or to which they relate. Given the Order refers to the Applicant as the "undertaker", for ease when reading this document with the Order we use the term "undertaker" when explaining the provision of the Order below. Equally, the Scheme is referred to as the "authorised development" in the Order and so for ease this document refers to the "authorised development" when explaining the provisions of the Order.

4.2 Part 1 (Preliminary) and Part 2 (Principal Powers)

4.2.1 Articles 1 (*Citation and commencement*) and 2 (*Interpretation*) are preliminary provisions. Article 1 provides for the way in which the Order should be cited and when it takes effect.

4.2.2 Article 2 (*Interpretation*) provides for the interpretation of the rest of the Order, including the Schedules. Where appropriate, some Schedules also contain provisions setting out what terms mean in that particular Schedule. Article 2 makes alterations to the model provisions to accommodate departures from model provisions elsewhere in the Order, and to add required definitions, including:

- definitions of documents submitted as part of the Application and which are referred to in the Order have been added. These documents are more fully identified in the table in Schedule 14 to the Order;
- the definition of "apparatus" has the same meaning as in Part 3 of the 1991 Act. However, for the purposes of the Order this has been expanded to include pipelines, aerial markers, cathodic protection test posts, field boundary, markers, transformer rectifier kiosks, electricity cables, telecommunications

equipment and electricity cabinets. This is required to ensure that the definition of apparatus is sufficiently broad to encompass the type of apparatus that the undertaker may encounter when constructing the authorised development. This definition has precedent in the **Riverside Energy Park Order 2020** and the **Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023**;

- the definition of "authorised development" means the development and Associated Development described in Schedule 1 to the Order and includes development as defined in section 32 of the 2008 Act. The definitions of "ancillary works" and "authorised project" from the model provisions have not been used in the Order, instead the concept of Associated Development is included in the definition of "authorised development" and is described in detail in Schedule 1, as it is considered that this drafting is neater; The definition of "authorised development" is consistent with the **Longfield Solar Park Order 2023**.
- the definition of "commence" is defined so as to exclude "permitted preliminary works". This exclusion is required to enable the undertaker to carry out certain preparatory works prior to the submission of relevant details for approval under the requirements contained in Schedule 2 to the Order so that certain works can be carried out without "commencing" the authorised development, in order to build the required flexibility into how the authorised development can be constructed. The works identified in the "permitted preliminary works" include pre-commencement activities such as surveys, monitoring and site investigations which are considered appropriate as the nature of these works means they are not expected to give rise to environmental effects requiring mitigation;
- the definition of the "date of decommissioning" is, in respect of each part of the authorised development, the date that that part of the authorised development has permanently ceased to generate electricity on a commercial basis;
- definitions of "definitive map and statement" and "public right of way" is included to reflect applications made for definitive map modification orders (DMMO) in the area of the Scheme, information on which is included in the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan **[REP5-018]**.
- a definition of "maintain" has been added to make clear what activities are authorised under article 5 during the operation of the authorised development;
 - (1) The definition has been drafted to directly reflect the nature and context of the authorised development, which will need to be properly maintained, managed and protected throughout its operational lifetime. The drafting, therefore, reflects this operational period and likely framework of maintenance that will be required while enabling

technological and practice advancement and improvements within identified environmental performance standards. Therefore, some flexibility must be built-in to what maintenance of the authorised development will involve, particularly to keep up with changing standards and controls and advances in technology. The definition of “maintain” does not permit the whole of the authorised development to be removed, replaced or reconstructed;

- (2) For the purposes of the authorised development, examples of the activities anticipated to be covered are listed below:
- (A) **Maintenance and inspection:** Throughout the life of the Scheme there will be a planned maintenance regime and, on occasion, the need for unplanned maintenance due to plant failures. It is anticipated that staff will attend when required for maintenance and cleaning activities;
 - (B) **Repair / Refurbish / Replace:** Through the planned maintenance regime and indeed through any unplanned maintenance required due to plant failures, it is likely that some plant and equipment, particularly those with moving parts, will need to be repaired or refurbished or indeed replaced;
 - (C) **Adjust and alter:** Through the planned maintenance regime, and indeed outside the planned maintenance regime, there may be a need to adjust or alter elements comprising the authorised development to respond to changing conditions;
 - (D) **Remove:** Adjustment and replacement activities will require plant, equipment and material to be removed;
 - (E) **Reconstruct:** If, for example, a part has to be dismantled in order to be repaired or refurbished, then that part will need to be reconstructed;
 - (F) **Improve:** Technology will improve over the life of the authorised development and therefore there may be opportunities to "improve" the workings of the plant and equipment by, for example, the removal of an old part and replacing it with a new, more efficient part;
- (3) The activities included within the definition are consistent with those provided in the recently made energy DCOs: **Net Zero Teesside Order 2024, National Grid (Yorkshire Green Energy Enablement**

Project) Development Consent Order 2024, and The Medworth Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Facility Order 2024.

- the definition of "Order land" means the land which is required for, or is required to facilitate, or is incidental to, the authorised development and shown coloured pink, blue or yellow on the land plan **[EX6/WB2.2_D]** which is within the limits of land to be acquired or used and which is described in the Book of Reference **[EX6/WB4.3_F]**. This land is coloured:
 - (1) pink (land to be permanently acquired);
 - (2) blue (land in which the undertaker can create and acquire new rights and impose restrictions);
 - (3) yellow (land over which rights of temporary possession only can be exercised by the undertaker).
- the definition of "Order limits" means the limits shown on the Works Plan **[REP5-035]** within which the authorised development may be carried out;
- the definition of "statutory undertaker" includes reference to a public communications provider defined by section 151(1) of the Communications Act 2003. This is on the basis that a "public communication provider" is providing a network or service to members of the public and, insofar as they may have assets or apparatus within the Order Limits, it is considered appropriate to ensure that this Order applies equally to those providers as statutory undertakers under section 127(8) of the Planning Act 2008. There is precedent for this approach, for instance the **Riverside Energy Park Order 2020** and the **Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023**;
- the definition of "street works" has been amended to refer to the works listed in the street works article (Article 8(1)) so as to ensure consistency between the powers in the article and the definition itself;
- a definition of "Tillbridge Solar Project Order" is included, which relates to the use of the Shared Cable Route Corridor by this project and a subsequent update to the drafting of article 35(3)(b) (see below at paragraph 4.6.3); and
- the "undertaker" is defined as West Burton Solar Project Limited, who has the benefit of the provisions of the Order, subject to the provisions of article 35.

4.2.3 Paragraph (2) of article 2 has been included to reflect that "rights over land" include references to do or restrain or to place and maintain anything in, on or under land or in the airspace above its surface and to any trusts and incidents, including restrictive covenants. Paragraph (2) also makes it clear that references to the imposition of restrictive covenants are references to the creation of rights over land which interfere with the interests or rights of another.

- 4.2.4 Paragraphs (3) to (7) of article 2 have been added to provide clarity (respectively) that all distances, directions, capacities and lengths are approximate; that references to numbered works are to the works as described in Schedule 1 and shown on the Works Plans; as to how the word "includes" is to be construed; that any statutory body includes that body's successor in title; and that all areas described in the Book of Reference are approximate.
- 4.2.5 Article 3 (*Development consent etc. granted by this Order*) grants development consent for the authorised development. This article is adapted from the model provisions. Schedule 1 describes the authorised development in detail, split into 'work numbers', each of which represents different parts of the authorised development. This split of the authorised development between different work numbers enables the Order to refer to different parts of the authorised development by citing the relevant work number. The content of the works contained within each work number is described in greater detail above.
- 4.2.6 Paragraph (2) of article 3 requires that the works authorised by the Order are situated in the areas shown on the Works Plan **[REP5-035]**. This is in order to provide certainty as to what has been consented by the Order, in respect of which areas of land.
- 4.2.7 The purpose of article 3(2) is to provide the undertaker with a necessary, but proportionate, degree of flexibility when constructing the authorised development, reducing the risk that the authorised development as approved cannot later be implemented for reasons which, at the time the Application was made and the development consent was granted, could not reasonably have been foreseen. It also gives a proportionate amount of flexibility for the detailed design of the authorised development within the set limits.
- 4.2.8 Flexibility is appropriate in the current Order as it serves to precisely define the authorised development by reference Schedule 1, while preserving a sensible amount of flexibility in the implementation of the authorised development to allow for variances in ground conditions and choice of appropriate equipment and technology to the extent shown on the Works Plan **[REP5-035]**. The Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308 revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]** accompanying the application for development consent has assessed the authorised development within the full envelope provided by the Works Plan, and so development within this envelope will not create effects that exceed the worst-case scenario assessed in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**. Further detail in this respect is provided above.
- 4.2.9 Article 4 (*Operation of generating station*) permits the operation and use of the generating station comprised in the authorised development and is included pursuant to section 140 of the 2008 Act. Article 4(2) specifically preserves the need for the undertaker to obtain any other operational consent that may be needed for

the generating station, in addition to the Order. It is included so that the undertaker has powers to operate the generating station.

- 4.2.10 Article 5 (*Power to maintain the authorised development*) provides for the maintenance of the authorised development at any time and is required so that the undertaker has power to maintain the authorised development. Article 5 reflects the terms of the model provisions, but text has been added to make clear that maintenance must be in accordance with the provisions of the Order. Article 5(2) restricts maintenance to the Order Limits in order to provide a defined parameter within which this power can be exercised. A definition of "maintain" has been included, as referred to above, so that it is clear what the term involves. The Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]** has assessed maintenance as defined in the Order and therefore article 5(3) does not permit the undertaker to undertake such maintenance activities if they will give rise to any materially new or different environmental effects to those identified in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308, revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**.
- 4.2.11 Article 6 (*Application and modification of statutory provisions*) disapplies a number of statutory provisions. Section 120 of the 2008 Act makes comprehensive and wide-ranging provision about what may be included in a DCO, as part of the 2008 Act's integrated approach to consenting. Section 120(5) provides that, subject to specified limitations and requirements, a DCO may apply, modify or exclude a statutory provision which relates to any matter for which provision may be made in the Order; and make amendments, repeals or revocations of statutory provisions of local application. It is common for DCOs to contain such provisions, although the scope and content inevitably differs according to the circumstances of different projects. Precedent for most of the provisions sought for this Order can be found in the **Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing Development Consent Order 2020**.
- 4.2.12 Article 6 provides for the disapplication of the following specified provisions:
- section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991, which prohibits e.g. the obstruction and other works in watercourses without the consent of the lead local flood authority or relevant internal drainage board;
 - section 32 of the Land Drainage Act 1991, which would inappropriately allow the provisions of the Order relating to drainage to be revisited;
 - the provisions of any byelaws made under section 66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991;
 - the provisions of any byelaws made, or having effect, under paragraphs 5, 6 or 6A to Schedule 25 of the Water Resources Act 1991;
 - section 118 of the Water Industry Act 1991, which relates to the discharge of any trade effluent into public sewers;

- Regulation 12 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016, in respect of a flood risk activity permit only;
- legislation listed in Schedule 3, insofar as the provisions still in force are incompatible with the powers contained within this Order, and do not impact on the operation or maintenance of the river Trent as a navigable river; and
- the provisions of the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 in so far as they relate to temporary possession of land under articles 28 and 29 of this Order. At present the reforms to the temporary possession regime contained in the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 have not yet been commenced (nor consulted on). When this may happen is uncertain, as are the detailed implications of implementation for the authorised development. A DCO should achieve certainty, and it is therefore appropriate and necessary to disapply the reforms whilst taking account of their principles in the relevant articles of the Order, these being articles 28 and 29. This approach has precedent and has been accepted by the Secretary of State; see for example the **Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order 2019, the Millbrook Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2019, the Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020** and the **Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023**.

4.2.13 These disapplications are sought on the basis that they address matters whose merits and acceptability can, and will, already have been sufficiently considered and resolved if the Order is made, notably in relation to the provisions under the Land Drainage Act 1991, the Water Resources Act 1991, the Water Industry Act 1991 and the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 through protective provisions for the protection of the Environment Agency and the relevant drainage authorities (Part 8 and Part 9 of Schedule 16 to the Order). Such matters should therefore not be the subject of further regulatory consideration or control, which would cause unnecessary uncertainty and duplication, and may unjustifiably delay the implementation of the Scheme.

4.2.14 Section 150 of the Planning Act 2008 only allows requirements for prescribed consents to be disapplied if the relevant body has consented to this. The relevant consents, where applicable, are being sought in parallel with the negotiation of appropriate protective provisions, which will ensure that the disapplications will not prejudice the statutory objectives and responsibilities of the relevant regulators. The Applicant's approach to obtaining the other consents required for the Scheme is set out in greater detail in the Consents and Agreements Position Statement **[REP4-046]**.

4.2.15 Article 6 also applies section 9 of the Forestry Act 1967 to any felling required as a result of the authorised development. Section 9(1) of the 1967 Act provides that a Forestry Commission licence is required for felling growing trees. Section 9(4)(d) disapplies the requirement from felling required to implement development authorised by a planning permission – but not to development authorised by a DCO.

Paragraph (2) of article 6 extends the exception to any trees felled as a result of the authorised development.

- 4.2.16 In addition, the Applicant has conducted a review of any local legislation that might conflict with the powers and rights sought in the Order. The Applicant has included a list of the historic legislation that it seeks to disapply in Schedule 3, which relates to matters including railways, river navigation, fisheries and water within, and in the vicinity of, the Order Limits. This list has been prepared taking a precautionary approach, because in some cases it was difficult to conclusively determine whether or not the provisions of the legislation were relevant to the Order, given that plans were not available in respect of the majority of the Acts considered to make clear their precise geographic scope. Article 6 disapplies the legislation listed in Schedule 3 in so far as the provisions still in force are inconsistent with how the powers in the Order can be exercised.
- 4.2.17 Article 6(3) in effect disapplies the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010, by making clear that any building comprised in the authorised development is to be deemed to be of a type that does not trigger liability for payment of the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- 4.2.18 Article 7 (*Defence to proceedings in respect of statutory nuisance*) provides that no person is able to bring statutory nuisance proceedings under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 in respect of noise, if the noise is created in the course of carrying out construction or maintenance or decommissioning of the authorised development and for which notice has been given under section 60 or consent obtained under section 61 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 or which cannot be reasonably avoided as a consequence of the authorised development. Article 7 is a model provision, in recognition that such noise will arise and that provision to define its consequences in an appropriate and balanced manner will be needed. This will be true of the Scheme and for this reason it is necessary to include the article in the Order. It should be noted that measures to mitigate noise impacts are set out in the Requirements in Schedule 2 to the Order.

4.3 Part 3 (Streets)

- 4.3.1 Article 8 (*Street works*) allows the undertaker to carry out certain works to a street for the purposes of the authorised development. It is necessary because implementation of the authorised development will require works to be undertaken to streets. Schedule 4 sets out the streets that are subject to street works thereby clarifying the extent of the powers. Article 8 is a model provision; however, it has been modified to bring in sections 54 to 106 of the 1991 Act to apply to any street work carried out pursuant to paragraph (1). This provides protection for the street authority for the street in question. In addition, the model provision has been extended in paragraph (1)(e) to provide for works which may be required to any culvert under a street. This article is based on article 9 of the **Immingham Open Cycle Gas Turbine Order 2020** and the **Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023**.

- 4.3.2 Article 9 (*Power to alter layout, etc., of streets*) allows the undertaker to alter the layout of or carry out any works in a street. Schedule 5 then sets out the alterations to streets (split into two parts showing permanent and temporary works respectively). This article is necessary because, in order to construct, operate, maintain and decommission the authorised development, the undertaker will need to alter street layouts and establish suitable accesses to ensure that the authorised development can be accessed effectively while ensuring there is minimal disruption to the local highway network. The powers conferred by paragraph (2) (which is a general power enabling the undertaker to alter the layout of any street) require the consent of the street authority before they can be exercised. Article 9(4) has been amended such that the consent may be in a form reasonably required by the street authority. Article 9 has precedent and appears in the **Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order 2019**, the **South Humber Bank Energy Centre Order 2021** and the **Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023**.
- 4.3.3 Article 10 (*Construction and maintenance of altered streets*) provides that the permanent alterations to the streets listed in Part 1 of Schedule 5 that are maintained by the highway authority must be completed to the reasonable satisfaction of the highway authority or the street authority (as may be applicable) and, unless otherwise agreed, be maintained at the undertaker's expense for a period of 12 months from their completion. Thereafter, maintenance will be the responsibility of the highway authority or street authority (sub-paragraphs (1) and (2)).
- 4.3.4 Paragraphs (3) and (4) provide that the temporary alterations to the streets listed in Part 2 of Schedule 5 must be completed to the reasonable satisfaction of the street authority and maintained at the undertaker's expense. Any restoration works must be completed to the reasonable satisfaction of the street authority and maintained at the undertaker's expense for a period of 12 months from the completion of the restoration. Thereafter, maintenance will be the responsibility of the street authority.
- 4.3.5 Paragraphs (5) and (6) mirror the defence in section 58 of the Highways Act 1980 where the undertaker is subject to an action for damages and has taken such care as was reasonably required in the circumstances to secure that the street was not dangerous to traffic. Paragraph (7) provides that with the exception of paragraph (1) of this article, the provisions of this article do not apply where the undertaker is the street authority for a street in which the works are being carried out. This article (and the incorporation of the defences in particular) is similar to article 19 in the **Hinkley Point C (Nuclear Generating Station) Order 2013** and article 11 in the **Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order 2019** and article 10 in the **Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023**.
- 4.3.6 Article 11 (*Temporary prohibition or restriction of use of streets and public rights of way*) provides for the temporary prohibition of the use, temporary restriction of use, authorisation of use, alteration or diversion, of streets and public rights of way for

the purposes of constructing or maintaining the authorised development. It is required because, in particular, the undertaker will need to temporarily prohibit or restrict the use of, and potentially divert, certain streets and public rights of way in order to construct the authorised development. No permanent prohibition or restriction, or diversion of, any streets or public rights of way is required. Schedule 6 is comprised of three parts (temporary prohibition or restriction of the use of streets; temporary prohibition or restriction of public rights of way with diversion; and temporary prohibition or restriction of public rights of way).

- 4.3.7 Article 11 broadly follows the approach in the model provisions (save that it applies to public rights of way rather than streets generally) in that it contains provisions of general application and then also in relation to the specific streets and public rights of way that are set out in Schedule 6 to the Order and as shown on the Streets Plan **[REP5-028]** and Public Rights of Way Plan **[REP4-011]**. Article 11 mirrors article 11 of the model provisions in providing that where the street or public right of way is specified in a Schedule to the Order that there is a requirement to consult the street authority, but there would be no need to obtain its consent. In respect of other streets or public rights of way not specified in a Schedule to the Order there would be a requirement to obtain the consent of the street authority. Article 14 (see below) deals with traffic regulation more widely.
- 4.3.8 Article 11(5) provides that compensation is payable in respect of loss suffered by the suspension of any private rights of way. This provision is required so that persons who temporarily lose private rights of way because of the temporary suspension of a street or public rights of way can be appropriately compensated. Paragraph (6) provides an additional power to the undertaker which allows it to use any street or public right of way temporarily prohibited, restricted, altered or diverted as a temporary working site (which is not in the model provision). Similar wording to this article has been used in other made Orders, including article 11 of the **Wrexham Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2017**, article 12 of the **Meaford Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2016** and article 13 of the **Riverside Energy Park Order 2020**.
- 4.3.9 Article 12 (*Use of private roads*) authorises the temporary passage by the undertaker, in common with other permitted users, over private roads within the Order limits by persons or vehicles for the purposes of, or in connection with, the construction or maintenance of the authorised development. The article creates a power to ‘use’ a private road for a temporary period that is proportionate to the limited nature of the use, rather than extinguishing, suspending or permanently interfering with the private rights of a landowner. This article is necessary because the undertaker will need to use private roads inside the Order Limits.
- 4.3.10 Article 12(2) provides that the undertaker will compensate any person who has suffered loss or damage as a result of the exercise of this power. Article 12(3) clarifies that any dispute as to a person’s entitlement to compensation, or as to the

amount of compensation, is to be determined under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1961.

- 4.3.11 Article 13 (*Access to works*) is a model provision which gives the undertaker powers to form new or to improve existing means of access for the purposes of the authorised development, as set out in Schedule 7 to the Order. This article is necessary because the undertaker will need to create or improve existing means of access for the purposes of the authorised development. For clarity, Schedule 7 is split into Part 1 (*permanent means of access to works*) and Part 2 (*temporary means of access*). The article also provides that other means of access or works can also be provided in other locations reasonably required for the authorised development with the approval of the relevant planning authority, in consultation with the highway authority.
- 4.3.12 Article 14 (*Agreements with street authorities*) is a model provision which authorises street authorities and the undertaker to enter into agreements relating to strengthening, improvement, repair or reconstruction of any streets, prohibition, restriction, alteration or diversion of any street, works authorised under articles 8 (*street works*), 9 (*power to alter layout, etc of streets*) and 10 (*construction and maintenance of altered streets*) of the Order and the adoption of works. The Applicant has removed reference to the ability to enter into an agreement with a street authority to allow the construction of any new street and the maintenance of any bridge or tunnel carrying a street over or under the authorised development as those powers are not required for the authorised development. This provision has precedent in the **Riverside Energy Park Order 2020**, the **South Humber Bank Energy Centre Order 2021** and the **Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023** and is required so that the undertaker may enter into agreements with the relevant street authorities.
- 4.3.13 Article 15 (*Traffic regulation measures*) provides the undertaker with powers to place temporarily traffic signs and signals in the extents of the roads specified in Schedule 8. This Schedule identifies the relevant roads, and specifies the extents of the roads that will be subject to temporary traffic signal and banksman control areas. These specific measures are required to safely regulate traffic during the construction, maintenance and decommissioning of the Scheme. Paragraph (2) includes a general power that would authorise other temporary traffic regulation measures. The inclusion of this power is justified as it allows a degree of flexibility to respond to changing conditions on the road network over the lifetime of the Scheme. The general power is appropriately regulated as it may only be exercised with the consent of the traffic authority concerned. The article is not in the general model provisions but is common in orders granting permission for infrastructure projects where it is necessary in the interests of public safety during construction of the authorised development for the undertaker to put in place some temporary restrictions on road usage. The powers under this article are provided for in section 120(5)(a) of the 2008 Act. For example, similar provision is contained within the **Network Rail (Norton Bridge Area Improvements) Order 2014**, **National Grid**

(**Hinkley Point C Connection Project**) **Order 2016** and more recently in the **Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing Development Consent Order 2020** and the **Longfield Solar Farm Order 2023**.

4.4 Part 4 (Supplemental Powers)

- 4.4.1 Article 16 (*Discharge of water*) is a model provision that allows the undertaker to discharge water into any watercourse, public sewer or drain in connection with the construction and maintenance of the authorised development with the approval of the owner of the watercourse, public sewer or drain and subject to certain other conditions, and its purpose is to establish a clear statutory authority for doing so. The reference from the model provisions to section 85 of the Water Resources Act 1991 has been deleted as this section has now been repealed. This has been replaced with a reference to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016. The reference from the model provisions to the Homes and Communities Agency has been changed to Homes England, as this body replaced the Homes and Communities Agency in January 2018. References to the harbour authority have also been removed as they are not relevant to the Order. In relation to a drainage authority, these provisions are disapplied as sufficiently detailed provision will be made by the relevant protective provisions (see Part 8 of Schedule 15 (*protective provisions*)).
- 4.4.2 Article 17 (*Removal of human remains*) is a model provision which provides for the removal of human remains from the Order Limits and for their reburial in such burial ground or cemetery in which burials may legally take place as the undertaker thinks suitable for the purpose or for their treatment according to the wishes of any personal representatives or relatives who come forward following the giving of the necessary notices. This article has been included because the undertaker's environmental surveys indicate that there is potential for archaeological findings within the Order Limits and therefore the undertaker is not able to rule out the presence of a burial ground within the Order Limits., The legal definition of 'burial ground' does not include any exception for burial grounds of archaeological interest, meaning that a clear statutory authority for removing any human remains that may be discovered is required, separate and in addition to the management of the remains in accordance with the archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation **[REP5-016]**. This provision is considered necessary so that the discovery of any remains does not delay the implementation of the authorised development.
- 4.4.3 Article 18 (*Protective work to buildings*) is a model provision which is included in most made DCOs to date. Its purpose is to provide powers to the undertaker to enter any building and land within its curtilage to survey to determine whether protective works are needed and to carry out protective works to buildings within the Order Land, subject to a number of conditions including the service of 14 days' notice (except in cases of emergency) and the payment of compensation in the event that any loss or damage arises. Where the undertaker serves a notice stating the intention to carry out protective works or to enter a building or land within its

curtilage there is ability for a counter notice to be served by the land owner/occupier within a period of 10 days from the day on which the notice was served.

- 4.4.4 Protective works can also be undertaken after the carrying out of the works forming part of the authorised development for a period of 5 years from the date of completion of the part of the authorised development carried out in vicinity of the building. This wording is a minor update from the model provision wording, as the undertaker considered that the phrase 'open for use' which is used in the model provision is not appropriate. The Applicant is not aware of any existing buildings within, or in close proximity to, the Order land that might require protective works. However, the Applicant notes that there is an extant planning permission for agricultural barns along the Cable Route Corridor (plot number 07-095) and the land at West Burton Power Station is in the process of being decommissioned and redeveloped. The Applicant therefore considers it appropriate to include this power to ensure there is no impediment to the delivery of the Scheme.
- 4.4.5 The article includes compensation provisions in relation to the consequences of the protective works being undertaken, but also where the protective works are undertaken but they are inadequate to protect the building or land from damage (within a period of 5 years from the date of final commissioning).
- 4.4.6 Article 19 (*Authority to survey and investigate the land*) is a model provision that enables the undertaker to enter onto any land within the Order Limits or which may be affected by the authorised development for the purpose of carrying out monitoring or surveys, including bringing equipment onto the land and making trial holes, boreholes and trenches. The power is subject to a number of conditions, including a requirement of at least 14 days' notice on every owner and occupier of the land and the payment of compensation in the event that any loss or damage arises. This power is essential to implementation of the authorised development, for example in verifying ground conditions or the presence of statutory undertakers' apparatus.
- 4.4.7 The model provision has been modified so that no trial holes are to be made:
- in land located within the highway boundary without the consent of the highway authority; or
 - in a private street without the consent of the street authority.
- 4.4.8 The article applies section 13 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (refusal to give possession to acquiring authority) thereby providing an enforcement mechanism (by way of a warrant) where entry onto land under the article is refused. This is considered necessary so that there is no delay in the implementation of the authorised development, and has precedent in the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**.

4.5 Part 5 (Powers of Acquisition)

- 4.5.1 Article 20 (*Compulsory acquisition of land*) is a model provision that provides for the compulsory acquisition of such land as is required for the authorised development, or to facilitate, or is incidental to, the authorised development. The article is necessary to secure the delivery of the authorised development as set out in more detail in the Statement of Reasons [EX6/WB4.1_C] accompanying the application. The article broadly follows the model provision, although reference to compensation for the extinguishment or suspension of a private right of way has been deleted as this is dealt with in article 23 (*Private rights*). This approach has precedent in the **Riverside Energy Park Order 2020** and the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**.
- 4.5.2 Article 20(2) makes clear that the powers in this article are subject to the powers and restrictions in article 21 (*time limit for exercise of authority to acquire land compulsorily*), article 22 (*Compulsory acquisition of rights*), article 29 (*Temporary use of land for constructing the authorised development*), article 31 (*statutory undertakers*) to ensure that, where relevant, the undertaker can only acquire new rights or take temporary possession of land and cannot acquire the freehold interest in that land.
- 4.5.3 Article 21 (*Time limit for exercise of authority to acquire land compulsorily*) is a model provision which imposes a time limit of 5 years for the exercise of powers of compulsory acquisition from the date on which the Order is made, via issuing notices to treat or executing general vesting declarations. The undertaker considers that 5 years is an appropriate time limit as it is consistent with the time limit for commencing the authorised development set out in requirement 2 of Schedule 2 to the Order and has precedent in the majority of made DCOs to date.
- 4.5.4 Article 22 (*Compulsory acquisition of rights*) enables the undertaker to acquire rights or impose restrictive covenants over the Order Land as may be required for any purpose for which the land may be acquired under article 20 (*Compulsory acquisition of land*). The article also provides that rights may be created as well as enabling the undertaker to acquire those already in existence. It should be noted that this provision is subject to article 29 (*temporary use of land for constructing the authorised development*) which provides that the undertaker must not acquire, acquire new rights over or impose restrictive covenants over land listed in Schedule 12 to the Order (i.e. land over which only temporary possession may be taken).
- 4.5.5 The article provides that, in respect of the Order Land set out in Schedule 10 (*Land in which only new rights etc. may be acquired*) the undertaker's powers of acquisition of new rights and imposition of restrictive covenants are limited to the purposes set out in that Schedule. The ability to acquire new rights and impose restrictive covenants is required in order that the undertaker can construct and maintain the authorised development, and it ensures that the undertaker is able to seek a lesser interference with land where this is appropriate (whether in the context of new or existing rights) during the implementation of the authorised development. Providing the undertaker with powers to acquire rights only and impose restrictive

covenants only over the Order Land set out in Schedule 10 allows the undertaker to reduce the area of land that is required to be compulsorily acquired for the purposes of the authorised development, and therefore allows for a more proportionate exercise of compulsory acquisition powers.

- 4.5.6 Paragraphs (5) and (6) provide that where the undertaker proposes the acquisition of new rights or the imposition of restrictive covenant for the purpose of diverting, replacing or protecting the apparatus of a statutory undertaker, the undertaker may, with the consent of the Secretary of State transfer the powers to the relevant statutory undertaker.
- 4.5.7 This article is a departure from the model provisions, but it has precedent in many DCOs including the **East Anglia Three Offshore Wind Farm Order 2017**, the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020** and the **Riverside Energy Park Order 2020**.
- 4.5.8 Article 23 (*Private rights*) is a model provision that (i) extinguishes private rights and restrictions over land so far as their continuance would be inconsistent with the exercise of the compulsory acquisition powers contained in article 20 (*Compulsory acquisition of land*); (ii) provides that private rights and restrictions over land cease to have effect in so far as their continuance would be inconsistent with the exercise of compulsory acquisition of rights or the imposition of restrictive covenants under article 22 (*Compulsory acquisition of rights*); and (iii) suspends private rights and restrictions over land so far as their continuance would be inconsistent with the exercise of temporary possession powers under the Order. This is required because it enables the undertaker to take land with a clear, unencumbered title, thereby minimising impediments to the delivery of the authorised development.
- 4.5.9 Paragraph (4) provides that compensation is payable to any person who suffers loss as a result of the exercise of the powers in this article and that such compensation would be payable under section 152 of the 2008 Act rather than the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965. Paragraph (8) also clarifies that references to private land include references to any trusts or incidents to which the land is subject.
- 4.5.10 Article 24 (*Application of the 1981 Act*) is a model provision which applies the general vesting procedures in the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declarations) Act 1981 to the exercise of compulsory acquisition powers pursuant to the Order. This provides the undertaker with the option to acquire the land via the vesting process set out in the 1981 Act rather than the notice to treat procedure. Vesting declarations allow title in the land concerned to pass to the acquiring authority more quickly than using the notice to treat method. They also enable several parcels of land to be acquired under the same legal instrument and therefore more efficiently than under the notice to treat procedure.
- 4.5.11 This article has been amended from the model provision to incorporate and reflect the changes brought about by the Housing and Planning Act 2016 which has precedent in numerous DCOs including the **Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order 2019** and the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**.

- 4.5.12 Article 25 (*Acquisition of subsoil only*) is a model provision that permits the undertaker to acquire only the subsoil of land which is to be compulsorily acquired (either pursuant to article 20 or article 22), thereby giving the undertaker the ability to minimise the extent of interests acquired from landowners. This article is appropriate in the context of the cables or pipes to be laid underground as part of the authorised development, where acquisition of the 'entire' freehold may not be required. It therefore enables the undertaker to minimise as far as possible to extent of interests to be acquired, thereby reducing the impact on landowners.
- 4.5.13 Article 26 (*Power to override easements and other rights*) provides that in carrying out or using the development authorised by the Order and doing anything else authorised by the Order, the undertaker may interfere with any easement, liberty, privilege, right or advantage annexed to land and affecting other land, including any natural right to support, or breach any restriction as to use of land arising by virtue of contract. It also provides that compensation may be payable under section 7 or 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 for any such interference or breach. This is not a model provision, but is added to clarify the position with regard to rights burdening land required for the authorised development. It has precedent, for example, in article 19 of the **Immingham Open Cycle Gas Turbine Order 2020**.
- 4.5.14 Article 27 (*Modification of Part 1 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965*) modifies the provisions of Part 1 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 as applied to the Order by section 125 of the 2008 Act. This provision reflects changes introduced by the Housing and Planning Act 2016 and is required to ensure that Part 1 of the 1965 Act is applied correctly to compulsory acquisition authorised under the Order. Paragraphs (1) to (3) amend the provisions of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 so they are consistent with the terms of the Order and paragraph (5) makes it clear that the notice periods introduced by the Housing and Planning Act 2016 do not apply to the temporary possession or use of land under article 18 (*Protective work to buildings*), article 29 (*Temporary use of land for constructing the authorised development*) or article 30 (*Temporary use of land for maintaining the authorised development*). These modifications have precedent in numerous made DCOs and other legislation including Schedule 14 to the **High Speed Rail (London - West Midlands) Act 2017**, the **Wrexham Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2017** and the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**.
- 4.5.15 Article 28 (*Rights under or over streets*) is a model provision which has been included in the majority of made DCOs to date to enable the undertaker to enter on and appropriate interests within streets where required for the purpose of the authorised development without being required to acquire that land. It is therefore required in order to reduce the amount of land that needs to be compulsorily acquired for the purposes of the authorised development.
- 4.5.16 The purpose of this article is to allow the undertaker to appropriate and use land above or below streets within the Order Land, without having to acquire the street or any right or easement in it. The exercise of this power without acquisition is

prohibited in the circumstances set out in paragraph (3). Paragraphs (4) and (5) provide for the payment of compensation in certain circumstances.

- 4.5.17 Article 29 (*Temporary use of land for constructing the authorised development*) allows the land specified in Schedule 12 (*Land of which temporary possession may be taken*) to be temporarily used for the carrying out of the authorised development. There is a clear limit on the length of time that the undertaker can use land in this way, which in the case of land that may only be used temporarily is the end of the period of one year beginning with the date of final commissioning of that part of the authorised development for which temporary possession of the land was taken. The article also requires the undertaker to give 14 days' notice before taking possession, and to restore the land following the temporary works.
- 4.5.18 Wording has been added to paragraph (1)(a)(ii) in order to allow article 29 to apply to land which may later be the subject of compulsory acquisition. This reflects a common approach to designing and building infrastructure projects, whereby possession is taken of a wider area required for the purposes of construction, and once the location of new apparatus is known definitively (after it has been built), then the final area of land required permanently is defined and acquired. This allows a more proportionate approach to the extent of land acquisition.
- 4.5.19 New wording has also been added to paragraphs (4) and (5) to take into account that the Applicant may, pursuant to article 29(1)(a)(ii), temporarily use land that it may compulsorily acquire. This is also subject to a one year limit beginning with the date of final commissioning of the authorised development.
- 4.5.20 Paragraph (10) makes clear that the undertaker cannot compulsorily acquire, nor permanently acquire rights or impose restrictive covenants over, the land specified in article 29(1)(a)(i) (which is land of which temporary possession only is required). Wording has also been deleted in paragraph (9) to dovetail with the new drafting in paragraph (1). This Article has precedent in article 26 of **The Wrexham Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2017**.
- 4.5.21 Wording has been added at paragraph (11) to make clear that the article does not preclude the creation or acquisition of new rights, imposition of restrictions or acquisition of rights in land specified in Schedule 10 (*land in which only new rights etc. may be acquired*), and nor are the powers under article 25 (*Acquisition of subsoil only*) or article 28 (*Rights under or over streets*) precluded.
- 4.5.22 Article 30 (*Temporary use of land for maintaining the authorised development*) provides for the temporary use of land for maintenance of the authorised development. There are clear limits on the length of time that the undertaker can use land in this way, provisions requiring 28 days' notice to be given and restoration of the land following the temporary possession. This article is broadly based on the model provision and provides for the payment of compensation for that temporary use of the land.

- 4.5.23 The maintenance period has been adapted from the model provision to apply to the period 5 years beginning with the date of final commissioning as opposed to the date on which the project is opened for use as this is more appropriate for this type of development. Similar wording has been used in other made Orders in connection with generating stations, including the **Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order 2019** and the **Immingham Open Cycle Gas Turbine Order 2020**. However, in order to be able to carry out the landscaping commitments set out in the landscape and ecological management plan, the maintenance period has been extended to the period in the landscape and ecological management plan approved pursuant to Requirement 7. A similar provision was included in the **North Wales Wind Farm Connection Order 2016**, the **Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order 2019** and the **Hornsea Three Offshore Wind Farm Order 2020**.
- 4.5.24 Articles 29 and 30 are broadly based on the model provisions and provide for the payment of compensation for that temporary use of the land.
- 4.5.25 Article 31 (*Statutory undertakers*) provides for the acquisition of land belonging to statutory undertakers within the Order Land. This includes a power to move the apparatus of those statutory undertakers and to extinguish their rights. This article is subject to the protective provisions (see article 43 below) included at Schedule 16 of the Order. Further details on statutory undertakers' land and apparatus are included in the Statement of Reasons. This power is required over the whole of the Order Land and similar wording has been used in other made Orders including the **Wrexham Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2017** and the **Immingham Open Cycle Gas Turbine Order 2020**.
- 4.5.26 Article 32 (*Apparatus and rights of statutory undertakers in stopped up streets*) governs what happens to statutory utilities' apparatus (pipes, cables, etc.) under streets that are temporarily stopped up by the Order. This article is required because, without it, the statutory undertaker would not have access to the apparatus, since there would no longer be a right of way along the street. The article is a model provision but has been amended in that paragraphs (2) onwards have been deleted from the model provision to avoid duplication with the protective provisions contained in Schedule 16.
- 4.5.27 Article 33 (*Recovery of costs of new connections*) provides that persons who have to create a new connection following the exercise of powers under article 32 may recover the costs of new connections from the undertaker. It is a model provision, with the part of the model provision that referred to the permanent stopping up of streets deleted as this is not relevant in the context of the authorised development.

4.6 Part 6 (Miscellaneous and General)

- 4.6.1 Article 34 (*Benefit of the Order*) overrides section 156(1) of the 2008 Act (which is permitted by section 156(2)) and provides that the benefit of the Order is for the undertaker, rather than anyone with an interest in the land. Given the nature of the Scheme and the fact that powers of compulsory acquisition are sought, it would be

impracticable and inappropriate for the Order to be 'open' as to who may implement it, as might occur without this provision. Overriding section 156(1) is common in DCOs that have been made, including the **Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order 2019** and **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**.

4.6.2 Paragraph (2) provides for a specific, relevant party other than the undertaker to benefit from the Order in respect of limited Works. Paragraph (2) makes specific provision for Work No. 5, in respect of which the provisions of the Order are for the benefit of the undertaker and National Grid Electricity Transmission plc as these works relate to the existing 400kV substation owned and operated by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc at West Burton Power Station.

4.6.3 Article 35 (*Consent to transfer the benefit of the Order*) is a standard article included in numerous made DCOs that makes provision for the transfer of any or all of the benefit of the provision of the Order. This article is required in order that the undertaker has commercial flexibility to transfer the benefit of the Order to a third party, subject to the provisions of the article. Under paragraph (3), the consent of the Secretary of State is needed before the undertaker can transfer or lease the Order except where:

- the transferee or lessee is the holder of an electricity generating licence under section 6 of the Electricity Act 1989;
- in respect of Work No. 5B, the transferee or lessee is the undertaker as defined in the Cottam Solar Project Order, the Gate Burton Energy Park Order, or the Tillbridge Solar Project Order (in order to enable the coordination of works within the Shared Cable Corridor);
- the transferee or lessee is a holding company or subsidiary of the undertaker; or
- the compensation provisions for the acquisition of rights or interests in land or for effects on land have been discharged or are no longer relevant.

4.6.4 Article 35(2) has been amended from the model provisions so that it refers to 'transfer or grant', which is considered to be more accurate than 'agreement'.

4.6.5 The justification for these provisions is that in such cases, the transferee or lessee will either be of a similar regulatory standing to the undertaker so as to protect the provision for compensation for rights or interests in land that are compulsorily acquired pursuant to the Order, or there are no outstanding actual or potential compulsory purchase claims. The provision that the undertaker is able to transfer the Order to a holding company or subsidiary is to allow commercial flexibility for the undertaker in the event that it would be preferable that a connected corporate entity takes the benefit of all or part of the Order. Article 35(4) requires the Secretary of State to consult the MMO before giving consent to any transfer of the benefit of the Deemed Marine Licence (and is preceded in every made DCO containing a

deemed marine licence since 2020¹). Article 35(5) provides that where the consent of the Secretary of State is not needed, the undertaker must still notify the Secretary of State in writing prior to the transfer or grant of the benefit of the provisions of the Order. Article 35(6) to (8) provide further detail on the notification that is to be given. This is based on the notification procedure contained in article 7 of the **Wrexham Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2017**.

4.6.6 Article 35(8) provides that where the undertaker has transferred the benefit of the Order or granted the benefit of the Order then:

- the transferred benefit will include any rights that are conferred and any obligations that are imposed;
- the transferred benefit will reside exclusively with the transferee or the lessee and shall not be enforceable against the undertaker;
- the benefits or rights conferred under paragraph (1) of the article are subject to the same restrictions, liabilities and obligations as applies to the undertaker.

4.6.7 This approach has precedent in the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**.

4.6.8 Article 36 (*Application of landlord and tenant law*) is a model provision which is included in numerous made DCOs which would override landlord and tenant law so far as it would prejudice the operation of any agreement for leasing the whole of the authorised development or the right to operate the same or any agreement entered into by the undertaker for the construction, maintenance, use or operation of the authorised development. This provision is required to ensure that landlord and tenant law does not impede the construction, use or maintenance of the authorised development. Although there is no immediate anticipation that such an agreement would be made, it could become appropriate at a future time during the lifetime of the Scheme.

4.6.9 Article 37 (*Operational land for purposes of the 1990 Act*) is a model provision which is included in numerous made DCOs and has the effect of ensuring that the land on which the authorised development is constructed will be "operational land" under section 264(3)(a) of the 1990 Act. The effect is to ensure that planning rights attaching to the undertaker in relation to operational land have effect as they would do if planning permission had been granted for the authorised development.

4.6.10 Article 38 (*Felling or lopping of trees and removal of hedgerows*) is based on a model provision included in numerous made DCOs which provides that the undertaker may fell or lop or cut back the roots of any tree or shrub near any part of the authorised development to prevent it obstructing or interfering with the construction, maintenance or operation of the authorised development;

¹ The only exception is the Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing Development Consent Order 2020, where there is no requirement for the Secretary of State to consult any party before consenting to transfer the benefit of the Order, including the deemed marine licence.

constituting a danger for persons using the authorised development or obstructing or interfering with the passage of construction vehicles. The article also allows the undertaker to remove those hedgerows specified in Schedule 13 (*Hedgerows to be removed*) to the maximum extents shown on the Important Hedgerows Plan [REP4-020]. Article 38(4) has been amended to clarify that the power is to remove 'part of the hedgerows specified in Schedule 13, to the extent set out in the landscape and ecological management plan approved pursuant to Requirement 7 in Schedule 2.

- 4.6.11 The article provides that the undertaker may not fell or lop a tree or remove hedgerows under this article within the extent of the publicly maintainable highway without the prior consent of the highway authority. Compensation is provided for if loss or damage is caused. The provision is required for safety reasons and its applicability is appropriately limited.
- 4.6.12 Article 38 does not address the statutory protection afforded to trees by virtue of being subject to a Tree Preservation Order ("TPO").
- 4.6.13 Article 39 (*Trees subject to tree preservation orders*) provides that the undertaker may fell or lop or cut back the roots of any tree which is subject to a TPO that is described in the outline landscape and ecological management plan, the landscape and ecological management plan approved under Requirement 7, or where the tree preservation order is made after the date the landscape and ecological management plan was approved, where this is required to prevent it obstructing or interfering with the construction, maintenance or operation of the authorised development. Compensation is provided for if loss or damage is caused. The effect of the article is that the works it permits, where carried out to a tree protected by a TPO, are deemed to have consent, and its inclusion is therefore consistent with the purpose of DCOs being to wrap up all of the required consents for a project. The article is a model provision included in numerous made DCOs save that it applies generally to any tree subject to a TPO made before and after the date of the Order coming into effect and either within or overhanging the Order Limits. This approach has precedent in the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020** and the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Extensions Offshore Wind Farm Order 2024.
- 4.6.14 Article 40 (*Certification of plans and documents, etc.*) is a model provision which provides for the undertaker to submit various documents referred to in the Order (such as the Book of Reference, plans and Environmental Statement) to the Secretary of State so that they can be certified as being true copies. The article refers to Schedule 14, where all such documents and plans are listed, along with the appropriate document and revision numbers. The article and Schedule 14 provide certainty as to which documents will be certified by the Secretary of State in relation to the Order. The article has been amended to provide that before submitting the documents and plans for certification, the undertaker must substitute or supplement, as the case may be, the documents listed in column 1 of the table at Part 2 of Schedule 14 with the documents listed in column 2 of that table.

- 4.6.15 Article 41 (*No double recovery*) is not a model provision and is based on article 44 of the model clauses for railway contained in Schedule 1 to the Transport and Works (Model Clauses for Railways and Tramways) Order 2006. This article has precedent in numerous Transport and Works Act Orders. It provides that compensation is not payable both under the Draft DCO and any other enactment, contract or other rule of law. It follows that well established principle of equivalence that a claimant is compensated for no more and no less than their loss.
- 4.6.16 Article 42 (*Arbitration*) is an arbitration provision and it is a departure from the model provision. This drafting, and that in the associated Schedule 15 (*Arbitration rules*), has precedent in the **Millbrook Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2019** and the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**, amongst others. It is considered that this approach will provide greater certainty to all parties involved in the process and is preferential to the approach adopted in the model provisions. Paragraph (2) has been updated to include the Marine Management Organisation.
- 4.6.17 The article provides that differences under the Order should be settled by arbitration unless another means of resolving a dispute is provided for in the Order. The arbitrator will be appointed by the parties within 14 days of receipt of a notice of arbitration or failing agreement within this period then by the Secretary of State following application by one of the parties.
- 4.6.18 It applies Schedule 15 to the Order, which sets out further detail of the arbitration process. The detail of Schedule 15 is set out below.
- 4.6.19 In addition, article 42(2) provides that any matter for which the consent or approval of the Secretary of State or the Marine Management Organisation is required under the Order is not subject to arbitration.
- 4.6.20 Article 43 (*Protective Provisions*) provides for Schedule 16, which protects the interests of certain statutory undertakers, to have effect. This is set out in detail below. This is a model provision.
- 4.6.21 Article 44 (*Deemed marine licence*) constitutes deemed consent (as provided for under section 149A of the 2008 Act) under section 65 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2008, the successor provision to section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949. Schedule 9 sets out the terms on which the licence would be granted. The overall structure of this licence reflects that found in Schedule 13 of the **Eggborough Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2018** and Schedule 8 to the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**. The Deemed Marine Licence is required to ensure that the laying of the grid connection cable below the tidal River Trent can be carried out lawfully, and is required due to uncertainty and inconsistency around whether this activity is exempt from a Marine Licence, the risk that any exemption would not be available at the time the work is carried out, that failures in the drilling of the cable would mean any exemption would no longer apply, and to ensure that all NSIP solar schemes utilising the shared cable corridor in this area are subject to the same licencing requirements.

- 4.6.22 The conditions of the Deemed Marine Licence in Part 2 of Schedule 9 are precedent in the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**, being proportionate to the relevant works potentially benefitting from an exemption, and follows the approach requested by the Marine Management Organisation in the Examination of the **Cleve Hill** project to include a Deemed Marine Licence in preference to relying on an exemption. The Deemed Marine Licence has been updated during the Examination of the DCO Application to incorporate without-prejudice comments provided by the Marine Management Organisation.
- 4.6.23 Article 45 (*Service of notices*) governs how any notices that may be served under the provisions of the Order are deemed to have been served properly. In particular it allows service by email with the consent of the recipient, and deals with the situation of service on an unknown landowner. The provision is necessary because the service of notice provisions under sections 229 and 230 of the 2008 Act only apply to notices served under the 2008 Act itself and do not apply to notices served under the Order. These provisions are based on those appearing in the Transport and Works (Model Provisions for Railways and Tramways) Order 2006, and numerous made DCOs.
- 4.6.24 Article 46 (*Procedure in relation to certain approvals etc.*) provides procedures in relation to consents and approvals required pursuant to the Order (other than Requirements). Applications for consent submitted by the undertaker will be deemed to be granted if notice is not given of their refusal by the consenting authority within ten weeks of the submission of the application (unless a longer period has been agreed between the parties). This provision is consistent with paragraph 2(4) of Schedule 17. Where these provisions apply to an application, the undertaker is required to notify the consenting authority of the effect of the provisions when it submits the relevant application. The consenting authority must not unreasonably withhold or delay consent where an application has been submitted by the undertaker pursuant to this article.
- 4.6.25 For any consent, agreement, or refusal pursuant to the Requirements a detailed procedure is provided for in Schedule 17 (*Procedure for discharge of requirements*) (see below).
- 4.6.26 This article has precedent in the Immingham **Open Cycle Gas Turbine Order 2020** and is considered appropriate and justified in order to ensure that the authorised development can proceed in a reasonable timescale, and so that there is a consistent approach to consents that must be sought by the undertaker pursuant to the Order.
- 4.6.27 Article 47 (*Guarantees in respect of payment of compensation*) restricts the undertaker from exercising the powers conferred under articles 20, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 and 31 until it has either put in place a guarantee or other form of security approved by the Secretary of State in respect of the liabilities of the undertaker to pay compensation under the Order. This provision is included in order to protect the recipients of any compensation under the Order by providing certainty that the undertaker can make good any compensation owed. The guarantee or alternative form of security is not

required to be in place for more than 15 years from the date on which the relevant power is exercised. The wording appears in a number of made DCOs, for example the **Wrexham Gas Fired Generating Station Order 2017**, the **Drax Power (Generating Stations) Order 2019** and the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**.

- 4.6.28 Article 48 (*Compulsory acquisition of land - incorporation of the mineral code*) is a model provision which incorporates Parts 2 and 3 of Schedule 2 of the Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (minerals). The mineral code is incorporated as a precautionary measure given the identification of interests in mines and minerals within the Order Limits, and that the Order Limits are located within Mineral Consultation and Safeguarding Areas.
- 4.6.29 Article 49 (*Crown rights*) prevents the undertaker (or any transferee, lessee or licensee) from acquiring any interest in Crown land (as defined in the 2008 Act) belonging to the Crown (including any portion of the shore or bed of the sea or any river, channel, creek, bay or estuary), or from otherwise interfering with such land, without the written consent of the relevant Crown authority. The Crown's consent may be given unconditionally or subject to terms and conditions.
- 4.6.30 The proposed Order Land includes parcels of land which constitute Crown land. This article has been included to ensure that any acquisition of other land holdings, creation or extinguishment of rights cannot create any interference with the rights of the Crown. This article does not prevent the acquisition of any interests in land which are held otherwise by or on behalf of the Crown. The drafting of this article is being discussed with the Crown Estate Commissioners.

5 SCHEDULES

5.1 Schedule 1 (Authorised Development)

- 5.1.1 This Schedule describes the authorised development in detail and split into different work numbers. Each of these work numbers represents a different part of the authorised development. This split of the authorised development between different work numbers is designed to enable the Order to refer to different parts of the authorised development by citing the relevant work number. Paragraph 1 of the Schedule sets out a number of definitions that are used only within the Schedule and are not in other places in the Order.
- 5.1.2 The works set out in Schedule 1 to the Order are explained in detail above.
- 5.1.3 The mechanics of the drafting in Schedules 1 and 2 ensure that the undertaker does not exceed the basis of the assessment in the Environmental Statement. This is achieved through the following mechanisms in the Order:
- Article 3 and Schedule 1 provide the power to carry out the authorised development. Pursuant to article 3(2) each numbered work must be situated within the area delineated on the Works Plan **[REP5-035]** – thus the infrastructure can only be built within these areas. Given these overarching constraints, there is certainty as to where each element identified in Schedule

1 can be built, and that has been factored into the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308 revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**.

- Schedule 1 provides that development which does not form part of a specific Work Number can only be brought forward if it does not lead to materially new or materially different effects from those assessed in the Environmental Statement.
- In terms of the detailed design, Requirement 5 of Schedule 2 (see below) prevents the undertaker from commencing any part of the authorised development until it has obtained the approval of the Relevant Planning Authorities (or authority, as applicable) to the layout, scale, ground levels, external appearance, hard surfacing materials, access, refuse or other storage units, signs and lighting, water, and electric cables, communications cables and pipelines.
- Paragraph (2) of the detailed design requirement requires that the details submitted must accord with the Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**. The Concept Design Parameters and Principles is a certified document pursuant to article 39 (*certification of plans and documents*) and Schedule 13 (*documents and plans to be certified*). The Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]** contain the maximum parameters for the authorised development and design principles and are the same as those used for the assessment of effects in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308 revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**. These parameters and principles are based on the application of the Rochdale Envelope principle, such that maximum dimensions have been presented and assessed in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308 revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**, recognising that the final massings may differ from (but will never be larger than) these maxima.
- Wording has been added to Work Nos. 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, and 6C to reflect that the laydown areas may be required in order to decommission the authorised development, the environmental impacts having been assessed within the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308 revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**.

5.1.4 The combined effect of, and relationship between, these provisions means that the final built form of the authorised development will not give rise to environmental effects beyond those which have been assessed. This approach, and what we have called the "consent envelope" is explained further above.

5.2 Schedule 2 (Requirements)

5.2.1 This Schedule sets out the requirements that apply to the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the authorised development under the

Order. The requirements generally follow the model provisions where these are relevant, and where they have been amended this has been informed by the outcomes of the environmental impact assessment and any discussions with the Relevant Planning Authority or other relevant statutory consultee.

- 5.2.2 The requirements closely relate to the mitigation set out in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308 revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]** and a number of them specifically refer to the Environmental Statement and other application documents (in particular, 'outline' or 'framework' strategies or plans) in order to ensure that the mitigation or other measures outlined in those documents are secured.
- 5.2.3 Many of the requirements require submission of details for approval by the Relevant Planning Authority (or Relevant Planning Authorities where applicable). In some instances the Relevant Planning Authority is under a duty to consult with a third party or parties in relation to the document submitted to them. This is a departure from the model provisions. Where consultation is required under the Order it is, in each case, the Relevant Planning Authority's duty to carry it out before approving a document submitted to it (rather than, as in some of the model provisions, the undertaker's duty to carry it out before submitting the document for approval). Where it is considered that it would be particularly relevant for the Relevant Planning Authority to consult a third party, that third party has been named within the relevant requirement.
- 5.2.4 In the undertaker's opinion the requirements in Schedule 2 are all necessary and relevant to planning and the development to be permitted as they are outputs from the Environmental Statement; enforceable and precise in their language; and reasonable in all other respects.
- 5.2.5 In all cases where a scheme or strategy or plan is to be submitted for approval there is a requirement for the undertaker to implement the approved scheme or strategy or plan. This is subject to requirement 3, as explained below.
- 5.2.6 Requirement 1 – Interpretation: This provides a definition in relation to “relevant planning authorities” and “relevant planning authority”, applicable to this Schedule only, rather than the Order as a whole. The definition has been updated to mean Lincolnshire County Council for the purposes of Requirements 6, 11, 15, 18 and 19, and West Lindsey District Council and Bassetlaw District Council for the purposes of Requirements 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 20 and 21.
- 5.2.7 Requirement 2 – Commencement of the authorised development: This requirement provides that the authorised development must not commence later than 5 years from the date of the Order coming into force. Paragraph (2) requires a written scheme setting out the phase or phases of construction to be submitted to the relevant planning authorities prior to commencing any part of the authorised development. Paragraph (3) provides that the written scheme must include a

timetable for the construction of the phase or phases, and a plan showing the phasing area.

- 5.2.8 Requirement 3 – Approved details and amendments to them: This requirement provides that where any documents have been certified under article 40 and where any plans, details or schemes have been approved by the Relevant Planning Authority or Authorities pursuant to any requirement (the ‘Approved Documents’), the undertaker may submit for approval any amendments to the Approved Documents and, if approved by the Relevant Planning Authority or Authorities, the relevant Approved Document is to be taken to include the amendments approved by the Relevant Planning Authority or Authorities. Approval for any amendments to Approved Documents must not be given except where it has been demonstrated that that the subject matter of the approval sought is unlikely to give rise to any materially new or materially different environmental effects from those assessed in the Environmental Statement **[APP-038 to APP-308 revised and supplemented as set out in Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Order]**.
- 5.2.9 Requirement 4 – Community liaison group: This requirement provides that the undertaker must establish a community liaison group prior to commencement of the authorised development, in order to facilitate liaison between representatives of people living in the vicinity of the Order limits, and other relevant organisations in relation to the construction of the authorised development.
- 5.2.10 Requirement 5 – Detailed design approval: This requirement stipulates the details that must be submitted to and approved by the Relevant Planning Authority (or, where the part falls within the administrative areas of multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities), before Work Nos. 1, 2 or 3 of the authorised development may commence. The details submitted must be in accordance with the Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**. The authorised development must be carried out in accordance with the approved details. A requirement has been added that Work No. 5 must be carried out in accordance with the Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**. Sub-paragraph (4) has been added to incorporate the commitment, contained within the Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**, to Horizontal Directional Drill at least 5 metres under the river Trent, as agreed with the Canal & River Trust.
- 5.2.11 Requirement 6 – Battery safety management: This requirement stipulates that Work Nos. 2 and 3 must not commence until a battery storage safety management plan has been approved by the relevant planning authority. The relevant planning authority must consult with West Lindsey District Council, Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service and the Environment Agency before approving the battery storage safety management plan. The battery safety storage management plan must be implemented as approved.
- 5.2.12 Requirement 7 – Landscape and ecological management plan: This requirement stipulates that no part of the authorised development may commence until a written landscape and ecological management plan (substantially in accordance

with the outline landscape and ecological management plan **[EX4/WB7.3_E]**) has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority in consultation with the Environment Agency. The landscape and ecological management plan must be implemented as approved. Sub-paragraph (4) includes site clearance, being permitted preliminary works, within the scope of the definition of “commence” for the purpose of this requirement, to ensure that relevant mitigation measures are in place prior to this potentially harmful work being carried out.

- 5.2.13 Requirement 8 – Ecological protection and mitigation strategy: This requirement stipulates that no part of the authorised development may commence until a written ecological protection and mitigation strategy (substantially in accordance with the outline ecological protection and mitigation strategy) has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority. The ecological protection and mitigation strategy must be implemented as approved and must be substantially in accordance with the outline ecological protection and mitigation strategy **[APP-326]**.
- 5.2.14 Requirement 9 – Biodiversity net gain: This requirement stipulates that no part of the authorised development may commence until a biodiversity net gain strategy has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority, in consultation with the relevant statutory nature conservation body. The biodiversity net gain strategy must be implemented in accordance with the landscape and ecological management plan **[EX4/WB7.3_E]**. Sub-paragraph (2) stipulates that the strategy must include details of how the strategy will secure defined percentages of biodiversity net gain in habitat units, hedgerow units and river units.
- 5.2.15 Requirement 10 – Fencing and other means of enclosure: The undertaker is required to obtain the written approval from the relevant planning authority for any proposed temporary or permanent fences, walls or other means of enclosure, for each part in question. The written details of permanent fencing must be substantially in accordance with the relevant Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[REP5-094]**. Any approved permanent fencing must be completed before the date of final commissioning of that part, and temporary fencing must also be removed upon completion of that part. In paragraph (3), the definition of “commence” for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) includes any permitted preliminary works.
- 5.2.16 Requirement 11 – Surface and foul water drainage: This requirement stipulates that no part of the authorised development may commence until the details of the surface water drainage and (if any) foul water drainage system (substantially in accordance with the outline drainage strategy **[APP-089]**) for that part has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority for that part (or where the part falls within the administrative areas of multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities). Any surface water drainage scheme or foul water drainage scheme (as relevant) must be implemented as approved.

- 5.2.17 Requirement 12 – Archaeology: This requirement stipulates that the authorised development must be implemented in accordance with the written scheme of investigation **[REP5-016]**. There is no requirement for the WSI to be approved prior to commencement and this ensures that any permitted preliminary works carried out before the authorised development is commenced must comply with the WSI.
- 5.2.18 Requirement 13 – Construction environmental management plan: Under this requirement, no part of the authorised development may commence until a construction environmental management plan (which must substantially accord with the outline construction environmental management plan **[EX6/WB7.1_D]**) has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority. All construction works associated with the authorised development must be carried out in accordance with the approved construction environmental management plan.
- 5.2.19 Requirement 14 – Operational environmental management plan: Before the date of final commissioning of the authorised development, an operational environmental management plan (which must substantially accord with the outline operational environmental management plan **[REP5-020]**) must be submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority. The plan must be submitted and approved in consultation with the relevant highway authority, relevant waste planning authority and the Environment Agency. The operational environmental management plan must also include a waste management strategy that has been submitted to and approved by the relevant waste planning authority. The operational environmental management plan must be implemented as approved.
- 5.2.20 Requirement 15 – Construction traffic management plan: Under this requirement, no part of the authorised development may commence until a construction traffic management plan (which must substantially accord with the outline construction traffic management plan **[REP4-038]**) has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority, in consultation with the relevant highway authority and West Lindsey District Council. In addition, Network Rail must be consulted in respect of the construction traffic management plan insofar as it relates to Work No. 1C. All construction works associated with the authorised development must be carried out in accordance with the approved construction traffic management plan.
- 5.2.21 Requirement 16 – Operational noise: This requirement stipulate that Work Nos. 1, 2 or 3 may not commence until an operational noise assessment (containing details of how the design has incorporated the operational mitigation measures set out in Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 of the Environmental Statement **[APP-053]** has been complied with) has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority. The design described in the operational noise assessment must be implemented as approved.
- 5.2.22 Requirement 17 – Permissive path: This requirement ensures that Work No. 11 must be provided and open to the public before the date of final commissioning of Work No. 1B (the solar photovoltaic generating station within which Work No. 11 is situated). It further stipulates that the permissive path must be maintained and

accessible by the public for 364 days a year, except where closure is required for maintenance or in an emergency until the date of decommissioning.

- 5.2.23 Requirement 18 – Public rights of way: This requirement stipulates that no part of the authorised development may commence until a public rights of way management plan (substantially in accordance with the outline public rights of way management plan **[REP5-018]**) for any sections of public rights of way to be temporarily closed has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority for that part, in consultation with the relevant highway authority. The public rights of way management plan must be implemented as approved.
- 5.2.24 Requirement 19 – Soils management: This requirement stipulates that no part of the authorised development may commence until a soil management plan (substantially in accordance with the outline soil management plan **[REP3-016]**) for that part has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority. The soil management plan must be implemented as approved.
- 5.2.25 Requirement 20 – Skills, supply chain and employment: this requirement stipulates that no part of the authorised development may commence until a skills, supply chain and employment plan (which must be substantially in accordance with the outline skills, supply chain and employment plan **[EX6/WB7.10_B]**) in relation to that part has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority, in consultation with Lincolnshire County Council. The skills and employment plan must identify opportunities for individuals and businesses to access employment and supply chain opportunities associated with the construction, operation and maintenance of the authorised development, and the means for publicising such opportunities. The skills and employment plan must be implemented as approved.
- 5.2.26 Requirement 21 – Decommissioning and restoration: This requirement provides that unless otherwise agreed with the relevant planning authority, no later than 12 months prior to the date the undertaker intends to decommission any part of the authorised development, the undertaker must notify the relevant planning authority of the intended date of decommissioning for that part of the authorised development. Sub-paragraph (1) requires that decommissioning of the authorised development must take place within 60 years of the date of final commissioning. At least 10 weeks prior to the intended date of decommissioning, the undertaker must submit to the relevant planning authority for its approval a decommissioning plan for that part which substantially accords with the decommissioning statement **[EX6/WB7.2_B]**. This is consistent with the timescales provided in Schedule 17 for the discharge of requirements. No decommissioning works must be carried out until the relevant planning authority has approved the decommissioning plan submitted in relation to such works, in consultation with the Environment Agency. The decommissioning plan submitted must include a timetable for its implementation and must be implemented as approved. This requirement is without prejudice to any other consents or permissions which may be required to decommission any part of the authorised development.

5.2.27 Requirement 22 – Long term flood risk mitigation. This requirement provides that no part of the authorised development may commence until an updated flood risk assessment for the continued operation of Work Nos. 1 to 3 for 60 years from the date of final commissioning must be submitted to and approved by the Environment Agency, The updated flood risk assessment must, unless otherwise agreed by the Environment Agency, include the details of any necessary mitigation or compensation measures, the timetable for implementation, and the maintenance and monitoring requirements for that mitigation or compensation. The approved details must be submitted to the relevant planning authority within five days of approval, and the mitigation, compensation and maintenance and monitoring requirements must be implemented until the date of decommissioning of Work Nos. 1 to 3. The drafting of this requirement has been agreed with the Environment Agency.

5.3 Schedule 3 (Legislation to be disapplied)

5.3.1 This Schedule lists out the legislation that the Order disapplies that relates to railways, river navigation, fisheries and water in the vicinity of the Order Limits in so far as such legislation is in force and is incompatible with the powers contained within the Order. This ensures that the provisions of historic local Acts of Parliament do not conflict with the provisions of the Order. Protective Provisions are provided in Schedule 14 for statutory undertakers who may otherwise be affected by the disapplication of these Acts.

5.4 Schedule 4 (Streets subject to street works)

5.4.1 This Schedule sets out the streets that are to be subject to street works by reference to the Streets Plan **[REP5-028]**. The Schedule relates to article 8 (*Street works*).

5.5 Schedule 5 (Alteration of streets)

5.5.1 This Schedule sets out the streets that are to be permanently altered and maintained by the highway authority or street authority (Part 1) and temporarily altered (Part 2) by reference to the Streets Plan **[REP5-028]**. This Schedule relates to articles 9 (*Power to alter layout, etc., of streets*) and 10 (*Construction and maintenance of altered streets*).

5.6 Schedule 6 (Streets and public rights of way)

5.6.1 This Schedule sets out the locations of the streets which may be subject to temporary prohibition or restriction of use (Part 1), public rights of way which may be subject to temporary prohibition or restriction of use with diversion (Part 2) and the public rights of way which may be subject to temporary prohibition or restriction of use (Part 3). It references the Streets Plan **[REP5-028]** and Public Rights of Way Plan **[REP4-011]**. This Schedule relates to article 11 (*Temporary prohibition or restriction of use of streets and public rights of way*).

5.7 Schedule 7 (Access to works)

5.7.1 This Schedule sets out the permanent means of accesses to works (Part 1) and temporary means of accesses (Part 2) to the authorised development. It references the Access Plan **[REP5-090]**. The Schedule relates to article 13 (*Access to works*).

5.8 Schedule 8 (Traffic regulation measures)

5.8.1 This Schedule contains details of the streets that are subject to temporary traffic regulation measures pursuant to article 15. It references the Streets Plan **[REP5-028]**.

5.9 Schedule 9 (Deemed Marine Licence)

This Schedule contains the terms of the deemed marine licence pursuant to article 44 and contains details of the licenced marine activities that may be carried out by the undertaker. The conditions of the Deemed Marine Licence in Part 2 of Schedule 9 are precededented in the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**, being proportionate to the relevant works potentially benefitting from an exemption, and follows the approach requested by the Marine Management Organisation in the Examination of the **Cleve Hill** project to include a Deemed Marine Licence in preference to relying on an exemption. The Deemed Marine Licence has been updated during the Examination of the DCO Application to incorporate without-prejudice comments provided by the Marine Management Organisation.

5.10 Schedule 10 (Land in which only new rights etc. may be acquired)

5.10.1 This Schedule sets out the areas of land over which only new rights may be acquired by the undertaker and the nature of the rights that may be acquired. The plot numbers in column 1 of that table correlate with the relevant plot numbers shaded blue on the Land Plan **[EX6/WB2.2_D]** and described in the Book of Reference **[EX6/WB4.3_F]** and the nature of the rights in column 2 explains the purposes for which rights over land may be acquired and restrictive covenants imposed. The Schedule relates to article 22 (*Compulsory acquisition of rights*).

5.11 Schedule 11 (Modification of compensation and compulsory purchase enactments for the creation of new rights and imposition of new restrictive covenants)

5.11.1 This Schedule modifies existing compensation legislation including the Land Compensation Act 1973 and the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965. It is commonly included in made DCOs, including the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**. This has been updated to reflect any necessary changes arising as a result of the Housing and Planning Act 2016. The Schedule relates to article 22 (*Compulsory acquisition of rights*).

5.12 Schedule 12 (Land of which temporary possession may be taken)

5.12.1 This Schedule sets out the land of which only temporary possession may be taken, pursuant to article 28 (*Temporary use of land for constructing the authorised*

development). This land is shown yellow on the Land Plan [EX6/WB2.2_D], and the purpose for the temporary possession is described by reference to the relevant work numbers and corresponding Works Plan [REP5-035].

5.13 Schedule 13 (Hedgerows to be removed)

5.13.1 This Schedule sets out the hedgerows to be removed pursuant to article 38 (*Felling or lopping of trees and removal of hedgerows*), listing in Column 2 the number of hedgerow and extent of removal, and in Column 3 the purpose of removal. It references the Important Hedgerows Plan [REP4-020]. The Schedule has been amended so that the extent of removal is specified to be only ‘part of’ the hedgerows to which the power in article 38 relates, which is consistent with the wording of article 38(4).

5.14 Schedule 14 (Documents and plans to be certified)

5.14.1 This Schedule lists the documents that the undertaker must have certified as true copies by the Secretary of State pursuant to article 40 (*Certification of plans and documents, etc.*). The Schedule has been amended to list the documents and plans to be certified in Part 1, whilst Part 2 lists substitute and supplementary documents that have been submitted throughout the course of the Examination.

5.15 Schedule 15 (Arbitration rules)

5.15.1 This Schedule relates to article 42 (*Arbitration*). The intention is to achieve a fair, impartial and binding award on substantive differences between the parties. Further, the objective is to achieve determination within 4 months from the date the arbitrator is first appointed to ensure that any disputes are resolved quickly. In the context of the pressing need for new power generation, particularly by renewable means, identified in the National Policy Statements, it is considered desirable that any disputes are resolved promptly to enable delivery of the authorised development in as timely a way as possible.

5.15.2 Schedule 15 refers to the person who commenced the arbitration as the Claimant and the other party as the Respondent.

5.15.3 The timetable for the process is as follows:

- Within 14 days of the Arbitrator being appointed the Claimant shall serve on the Respondent and the Arbitrator a statement of claim and all supporting evidence to support the claim.
- Within 14 days of receipt of the Claimant's statement of claim and supporting evidence the Respondent will serve a statement of defence and all supporting evidence to support its defence, together with any objections to the Claimant's documentation.
- Within 7 days of receipt of the Respondent's documentation the Claimant may make a statement of reply.

5.15.4 The parties would be liable for their own costs of the arbitration, unless otherwise directed by an award made by the arbitrator. Costs will include the arbitrator's costs together with the reasonable legal fees and other costs incurred by the other party. This Schedule has precedent in the **Cleve Hill Solar Park Order 2020**.

5.16 Schedule 16 (Protective provisions)

5.16.1 This Schedule sets out protective provisions for the benefit of statutory undertakers whose equipment may be affected by the authorised development. This Schedule relates to article 41 (*Protective provisions*) and currently contains protective provisions for the benefit of defined classes of service undertakers (electricity, gas, water and sewerage undertakers at Part 1, and electronic communications code operators at Part 2).

5.16.2 In addition, each of Parts 3 to 19 contain provisions for the benefit of a particular body and these remaining Parts are at varying stages of negotiation with the relevant parties. The versions of the protective provisions contained within Parts 3 to 19 of the Order represent (in most cases) the latest point that negotiations have reached with each party, and therefore are not agreed and are subject to change. In addition, there may be a need for additional Parts of this Schedule in the event that any other parties request bespoke protective provisions and the undertaker is willing to negotiate them. The relevant bodies are as follows:

- Part 3 – for the protection of National Grid Electricity Transmission plc as electricity undertaker;
- Part 4 – for the protection of National Grid Electricity Distribution (East Midlands) plc as electricity undertaker;
- Part 5 – for the protection of Northern Powergrid;
- Part 6 – for the protection of Cadent Gas Limited;
- Part 7 – for the protection of Anglian Water Services Limited;
- Part 8 – for the protection of Internal Drainage Boards;
- Part 9 – for the protection of the Environment Agency;
- Part 10 – for the protection of Railway Interests;
- Part 11 – for the protection of Cottam Solar Project Limited;
- Part 12 – for the protection of Gate Burton Energy Park Limited;
- Part 13 - for the protection of the Canal & River Trust;
- Part 14 - for the protection of Uniper UK Limited;
- Part 15 - for the protection of Exolum Pipeline System Limited;
- Part 16 - for the protection of Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue;
- Part 17 - for the protection of Tillbridge Solar Limited; and

- Part 18 – for the protection of EDF Energy (Thermal Generation) Limited;
- Part 19 – for the protection of the UK Atomic Energy Authority.

5.17 Schedule 17 (Procedure for discharge of requirements)

- 5.17.1 This Schedule provides a bespoke procedure for dealing with an application made to the Relevant Planning Authority for any consent, agreement or approval required by the Requirements in Schedule 2 of the Order. It sets out time periods within which decisions must be made and provides for deemed approval of the applications in certain circumstances. The Schedule makes provision for appeals to be made in the event of a refusal of an application or if the Relevant Planning Authority requires further information to be provided in relation to that application. Schedules similar to Schedule 17 have been used in various orders and can be seen in a similar form in the **Hinkley Point C (Nuclear Generating Station) Order 2013**, as amended, the **National Grid (King's Lynn B Power Station Connection) Order 2013**. The bespoke process is required in order to ensure that applications under Requirements are dealt with efficiently so that the authorised development is not held up. Deemed consent of applications is required for the same reason and ensures that the nationally-needed authorised development will not be held up by the discharge of requirements. This Schedule has been shared with the Relevant Planning Authorities. The Schedule relates to article 46 (*Procedure in relation to certain approvals etc.*).
- 5.17.2 This Schedule has been amended during the Examination for the Scheme to reflect the latest drafting in the Gate Burton Energy Park draft DCO. This has been adopted to ensure that this DCO is consistent with the Gate Burton Energy Park DCO as well as the Cottam Solar Project DCO. Paragraph 2 sets out that where an application has been made to the relevant planning authority for any consent, agreement or approval required by a Requirement, the relevant planning authority must give notice to the undertaker of its decision on the application within a period of ten weeks. Applications for consent submitted by the undertaker will be deemed to be granted if notice is not given of their refusal by the consenting authority within ten weeks of the submission of the application (unless a longer period has been agreed between the parties). The time limits in paragraphs 3(2) and 3(3) have been increased to 10 or 20 working days, and the time limits in paragraphs 4(2)(c) and (d) have been changed to 20 working days. Paragraph 5 provides that specified levels of fees are payable for the discharge by the relevant planning authorities of the various requirements in Schedule 2.