

Cottam Solar Project

Statement of Common Ground (DRAFT) Nottinghamshire County Council & Bassetlaw District Council

Prepared by: Lanpro Services
October 2023

PINS Ref: EN010133
Document reference: EX1/C8.3.1
Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010



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Issue Sheet

**Report Prepared for: Cottam Solar Project Ltd.
Examination Deadline 1**

Statement of Common Ground

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared as part of the proposed Cottam Solar Project Development Consent Order (the Application) made by Cottam Solar Project Ltd (the Applicant) to the Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero (the Secretary of State) pursuant to the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).
- 1.1.2 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the Application documents. All documents are available on the Planning Inspectorate’s website.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority (ExA) where agreement has been reached between the parties, and where agreement has not yet been reached. SoCGs are an established means in the DCO consenting process, of allowing all parties to identify and focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.

1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) Cottam Solar Project Ltd. as the Applicant and (2) Nottinghamshire County Council & Bassetlaw District Council (who are entering into a joint SoCG). Nottinghamshire County Council & Bassetlaw District Council are host authorities for the point of connection at the former Cottam Power Station and part of the cable route which is located within Bassetlaw District.
- 1.2.2 Collectively, Cottam Solar Project Ltd. and Nottinghamshire County Council & Bassetlaw District Council are referred to as ‘the parties’.

1.3 Terminology and Referencing

- 1.3.1 In the tables in **Sections 3 - 5** of this SoCG:
- “Agreed” indicates where the issue has been resolved.
 - “Not Agreed” indicates a final position, and
 - “Under discussion” indicates where these points will be the subject of ongoing discussion wherever possible to resolve, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the parties.

1.4 Topic Referencing for all matters

- 1.4.1 All matters agreed, under discussion and not agreed have been given unique references which relate to the topic matter. The referencing system is defined as follows:

Topic	Unique Identifying Code
Principle of Development/ General	PD-XX

Alternatives and Design Evolution	ALT-XX
Climate Change	CC-XX
Landscape and Visual	LAN-XX
Ecology and Biodiversity	ECO-XX
Hydrology	HY-XX
Minerals	MIN-XX
Cultural Heritage	CUL-XX
Transport and Access	TRA-XX
Noise and Vibration	NOI-XX
Glint and Glare	GG-XX
Air Quality	AIR-XX
Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	STR-XX
Soils and Agriculture	SAA-XX
Waste	WAS-XX
Other Environmental Matters	OEM-XX

2 Record of Engagement

2.1 Summary of consultation

2.1.1 The parties have been engaged in consultation since September 2021 just prior to the Non Statutory Consultation which ran from November-December 2021. A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between Cottam Solar Project and Nottinghamshire County Council(NCC) & Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) in relation to the Application is outlined in **Table 2-1**.

Table 2-1 - Record of Engagement

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key topics discussed and key outcomes
Principle of Development/General		
09.09.21	Initial Project kick off meeting Bassetlaw	The range of topics addressed in the SoCG.
23.09.21	Initial Project kick off meeting Notts CC	The range of topics addressed in the SoCG.
22.09.21	Joint presentation to West Lindsey and Bassetlaw members	The range of topics addressed in the SoCG.
Since February 2022	Monthly meetings with Planning Officers.	The range of topics addressed in the SoCG.
March 2023	NCC Relevant Representation (RR-003)	Highways, flood risk, minerals and waste, cumulative impacts
Landscape and Visual Impact (Nottinghamshire County Council)		
March 2022	LVIA Kick Off Meeting	Process for Meetings and Workshops
April 2022	LVIA Workshop 1 and 2 Minutes and Questionnaires	Appendices and Figures
April 2022	LVIA Workshop 1 and 2 Minutes and Questionnaires	Legislation and Planning Policy
April 2022	LVIA Workshop 1 and 2 Minutes and Questionnaires	Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria
April 2022	LVIA Workshop 1 and 2 Minutes and Questionnaires	Study Area/Scope of Assessment

April 2022	LVIA Workshop 1 and 2 Minutes and Questionnaires	Landscape Character Assessments
August 2022	LVIA Design Update Meeting	Visual Receptors: Additional Viewpoints
September 2022	LVIA Workshop 3 Minutes and Questionnaires	Visual Receptors: Viewpoints
September 2022	LVIA Workshop 3 Minutes and Questionnaires	Approach to Embedded and Additional Mitigation
Hydrology (Bassetlaw District Council)		
27/07/23	Section 42 Consultation response	<p>Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [APP-090] and Hydrology Chapter [APP-APP-045].</p> <p>Bassetlaw District Council stated that Flood Risk Assessments (FRA) and Hydrology Environmental Statement (ES) Chapter should consider areas of the Sites within Flood Zones 2 and 3. Groundwater flooding should also be considered given the Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment in June 2021 concluded that the Cottam Priority Regeneration Area was found to be highly susceptible to groundwater flooding. The cable route should be suitably robust to flooding.</p>
Hydrology (Nottinghamshire County Council)		
29/04/2022	Meeting – Scott Stone - Principal Officer - Flood Risk Management Highways and Transport	<p>Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [APP-90] and ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [APP-045].</p> <p>Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) representative considered the proposed design satisfactory.</p> <p>Comments: No expectation for additional attenuation to be created for solar panels.</p>
27/07/2022	Section 42 Consultation response	Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [APP-090] and ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [APP-045] .

		No comments.
Minerals (Nottinghamshire County Council)		
14/04/2022	Meeting with Nottinghamshire County Council Minerals Planning	<p>Discussion over Study Area/scope of Minerals Assessment.</p> <p>Acknowledgement that safeguarded mineral deposits would be affected.</p> <p>Although the cabling options for connection to the national grid, west of River Trent are within a Sand and Gravel Mineral Safeguarding Area, no specific concerns were expressed given the relatively small land take.</p> <p>Where possible consideration should be given to cable routes following existing infrastructure corridors or alternatively follow the edge of significant landscape features to avoid creating a further obstruction to future mineral resource exploitation.</p>
Cultural Heritage (Bassetlaw District Council)		
May 2022 – December 2022	Online meetings, emails and site visits with Lincolnshire Historic Places Team (LHPT), who provide archaeological advice for the Bassetlaw district, The Gate Burton Scheme, The West Burton Scheme and the Applicant.	Discussions relating to the archaeological assessment works.
23/01/2023	Online meeting with LHPT, The Gate Burton Scheme, The West Burton Scheme and the Applicant.	<p>Meeting to discuss the archaeological assessment works undertaken for the shared cable route corridor—which runs between Stow Park Road and the Cottam Power Station, and is proposed for the Cottam, Gate Burton and West Burton Schemes —and agree mitigation strategy between all attendees.</p> <p>LHPT agreed that the scope and extent of archaeological assessment</p>

		works were sufficient, and that the proposed mitigation strategy was appropriate to safeguard buried archaeological remains.
22/02/2023	Online meeting with LHPT and the Applicant.	LHPT confirmed that they agreed with the proposed mitigation for the shared cable route corridor in Nottinghamshire.
22/03/2023	Online meeting with Historic England (HE), LHPT and the Applicant.	All parties in agreement that the archaeological evaluation undertaken and the proposed mitigation for the 'shared cable corridor' in Nottinghamshire is sufficient.
Transport and Access (Nottinghamshire County Council - Highways)		
22/02/22	Scoping Opinion	Scoping of Environmental Statement Chapter 14 Transport and Access [EN010133/APP/C6.3.14] , Transport Assessment [EN010133/APP/C6.3.14.1] and Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.3.14.2] .
08/03/22	Email Exchange in relation to Scoping Opinion	Scoping of Transport Assessment [EN010133/APP/C6.3.14.1] and Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.3.14.2] .
Noise & Vibration (Bassetlaw District Council)		
19/07/2022	Email exchange between Tetra Tech (noise and vibration consultants) to Bassetlaw District Council	Tetra Tech contacted Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) to discuss the assessment methodology for the assessment. Tetra Tech discussed use of absolute noise levels when existing background noise levels are very low. BDC agreed with methodology proposed.

2.1.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between (1) Cottam Solar Project Ltd. and (2) Nottinghamshire County Council and Bassetlaw District Council in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

3 Matters Agreed

Tables 3-1 to 3-15 below detail by topic the matters agreed with Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.

3.1 Matters Agreed (Principle).

Table 3-1

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
PD-01 Principle of Development	Site description	The Site description set out at ES Chapter 3: The Development Site [APP-038] is accurate.
PD-02 Principle of Development	Planning History	The relevant planning history for the Scheme insofar as it relates to land within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County is set out at Planning Statement [APP-341] , Appendix 1: Planning Application History Search Cottam Sites and Appendix 2: Planning Application History Search Cable Route Corridor respectively.
PD-03 Principle of Development	Legislation and policy	<p>The Scheme should be considered under Section 105 of the Planning Act 2008.</p> <p>National Policy Statements (NPS) NPS EN-1, NPS EN-3, NPS EN-5, and in the light of the Government's pronouncements in respect of transitional effects of the draft NPSs, draft NPS EN-1, Draft NPS EN-3 and Draft NPS EN-5 are all considered to be important and relevant considerations for the purposes of S105(2) of the Planning Act 2008.</p> <p>Draft NPS EN-3 contains technology specific policy relating to large scale solar development.</p> <p>The Scheme has been assessed against the relevant and up to date Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council planning policies as set out within Section 6 of the Planning Statement [APP-341].</p>

PD- 04 Principle of Development	Need for large scale solar	The principle of the need for large scale solar projects is established in national planning policy, as detailed in Section 4 of the Planning Statement [APP-341] and the Statement of Need [APP-350] ; and the principle of delivering solar is broadly supported by stakeholders.
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3.2 Matters Agreed (Alternatives and Design Evolution).

Table 3-2

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
ALT-01 Alternatives and Design Evolution	Site Selection Assessment	The methodology used in the site selection assessment [APP-067] is appropriate given that there is no standard methodology for the site selection of solar farms and NPS EN-1 4.4.3 states “the consideration of alternatives in order to comply with policy requirements should be carried out in a proportionate manner”.
ALT-02 Alternatives and Design Evolution	ES Chapter 5: Alternatives and Design Evolution	The scope of ES chapter 5 [APP-040] including the assessment of alternatives and description of design evolution has been carried out in a proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.

3.3 Matters Agreed (Landscape and Visual).

Table 3-3

Main Topic Ref	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
LAN-01 Landscape and Visual	Methodology	The methodology adopted within Section 8.4 of Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual Impacts of the Environmental Statement [APP-043] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable in so far as it relates to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County.
LAN-02 Landscape and Visual	Baseline Assessment	The baseline conditions which are detailed in Section 8.5 of Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual Impacts of the Environmental Statement [APP-043] are representative of the baseline site conditions in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County.
LAN-03 Landscape and Visual	Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Sections 8.6 and 8.8 of Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual Impacts of the Environmental Statement [APP-043] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County.

3.4 Matters Agreed (Ecology and Biodiversity)

Table 3-4

Main Topic Ref	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
ECO-01 Ecology and Biodiversity	Methodology	The methodology adopted within Section 9.4 of Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity of the Environmental Statement [APP-044] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable in so far as it relates to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County.
ECO-02 Ecology and Biodiversity	Baseline Assessment	The baseline conditions which are detailed in Section 9.5 of Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity Impacts of the Environmental Statement [APP-044] are representative of the baseline site conditions in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County.
ECO-03 Ecology and Biodiversity	Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 9.8 of Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity of the Environmental Statement [APP-044] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County.

3.5 Matters Agreed (Hydrology).

Table 3-5

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
HY-01 Hydrology	Methodology	The methodology adopted within Section 10.4 of Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045] has been derived from the

		information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.
HY-02 Hydrology	Baseline Assessment	The baseline conditions which are detailed in Section 10.5 of Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045] are representative of the baseline site conditions in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County Council.
HY-03 Hydrology	Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 10.8 of Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County Council.
HY-04 Hydrology	Runoff rates	As stated in paragraph 10.8.19 of ES Chapter 10 (Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage) [APP-045] maintaining the existing surface water run-off regime by utilising permeable surfacing for the Site access, linear infiltration trenches around any proposed infrastructure (substations and batteries) and wildflower planting at the leeward edge of solar panels will ensure that the Scheme is unlikely to generate surface water runoff rates beyond the baseline scenario.
HY-05 Hydrology	Notts CC Relevant Rep [RR-003] In relation to Flood Risk, due to the nature of the proposals these do not appear to seek to significantly increase the impermeable area of the site,	As stated in paragraph 10.8.19 of ES Chapter 10 (Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage) [APP-045] maintaining the existing surface water run-off regime by utilising permeable surfacing for the Site access, linear infiltration trenches around any proposed infrastructure (substations and batteries) and wildflower planting at the leeward edge of solar panels will ensure that the Scheme is unlikely to generate surface water runoff rates beyond the baseline scenario

	and as such the LLFA would only like to comment that surface water runoff from the site should not be exacerbated. Any runoff from any hardstanding/small buildings on the site should be captured on site, to prevent increasing runoff from the site	
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3.6 Matters Agreed (Noise and Vibration).

Table 3-6

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
NOI-01 Noise and Vibration	Baseline Monitoring	The baseline noise monitoring detailed within Section 15.4 of Chapter 15: Noise and Vibration [APP-050] and Appendix 15.1 [APP-137] is representative of the sound levels in the vicinity of the site and experienced by nearby sensitive receptors.
NOI-02 Noise and Vibration	Methodology and Assessment	The methodology detailed in Section 15.4 and the assessments in Sections 15.7, 15.8 and 15.9 of Chapter 15: Noise and Vibration of the Environmental Statement [APP-050] and Appendix 15.3 [APP-139] for noise and vibration associated with both the construction and operational phases of the Scheme are acceptable.
NOI-03 Noise and Vibration	Assessment Outcomes	The effects of noise and vibration detailed in Chapter 15: Noise and Vibration of the Environmental Statement [APP-050] and Appendix 15.3 [APP-139] from the construction and operational phases of the Scheme do not result in a significant impact and are acceptable.

3.7 Matters Agreed (Minerals) (Nottinghamshire County Council)

Table 3-7

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
MIN-01 Policy Context	Legislation and Planning Policy	The summary of relevant legislation and planning policy set out within the Minerals Chapter, Section 12.3 [APP-047] , is relevant to the Minerals Assessment as part of the decision making process and is up to date and complete.
MIN-02 Methodology	Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria	The assessment methodology and significance criteria set out within the Minerals Chapter, Section 12.4 [APP-047] provides an appropriate approach to assessing the potential likely significant effects on mineral resources.
MIN-03 Baseline	Study Area/identification of known resources	The extent of the Study Area/ identification of known resources set out within the Minerals Chapter, Section 12.5 [APP-047] are sufficient to inform the Minerals assessment.
MIN-04 Identification and Evaluation of Likely Significant Effects	Assessment of Impact on Mineral Resources (sand and gravel)	The conclusion set out within the Minerals Chapter, Section 12.7 [APP-047] that the Scheme only impacts on a small part of the safeguarded mineral resources, which include isolated and constrained deposits. Given the nature and characteristics of the project there would be minimal impact in terms of any sterilisation of mineral resources.
MIN-05 Mitigation Measures	Cable routes	The mitigation set out within the Minerals Chapter, Section 12.8 [APP-047] the impact on the Safeguarded Mineral Resource in the Trent Valley the Cable Route Corridor should wherever possible cable routes follow existing infrastructure corridors or alternatively follow the edge of significant landscape features rather than directly crossing open fields to avoid creating further obstructions to future mineral exploitation.

3.8 Matters Agreed (Cultural Heritage).

Table 3-8

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
CUL-01 Heritage	Scope and Results of Archaeological Work - Shared Cable Route Corridor	<p>The scope and results of works carried out to assess the potential impact on archaeological remains within the ‘shared cable route corridor’—proposed to be shared by the Cottam Solar Project, the West Burton Solar Project and the Gate Burton Solar Project—in Nottinghamshire between the River Trent and the Cottam Power Station were discussed during meetings between the Applicant and LHPT, who provide cultural heritage advice to the Bassetlaw district, on 12.01.2023, 22.02.2023 and 22.03.2023.</p> <p>All parties are in agreement that the extent and quality of collected baseline data was sufficient to inform the DCO application and an appropriate mitigation strategy (WSI; ES Chapter Appendix 13.7) [APP-131].</p>

3.9 Matters Agreed (Transport and Access)

Table 3-9

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
TRA-01 Transport and Access	Methodology	<p>The methodology adopted within Section 14.4 of Chapter 14: Transport and Access of the Environmental Statement [APP-049] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.</p>

<p>TRA-02 Transport and Access</p>	<p>Baseline Assessment</p>	<p>The baseline conditions which are detailed in Section 14.5 of Chapter 14: Transport and Access of the Environmental Statement [APP-049] are representative of the baseline site conditions in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County .</p>
<p>TRA-03 Transport and Access</p>	<p>Mitigation</p>	<p>The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 10.6 of Chapter 14: Transport and Access of the Environmental Statement [APP-049] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County .</p>
<p>TRA-04 Transport and Access</p>	<p>Construction Vehicle (HGV Route Transport Assessment [EN010133/APP/C6.3.14.1] and Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.3.14.2]</p>	<p>All HGVs associated with the construction phase of the Scheme will follow the designated routes as illustrated in the following figures set out in ES Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [APP-134].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Figure 6.1: Construction Vehicle Route – Cottam 1 South • Figure 6.2: Construction Vehicle Route – Cottam 1 North • Figure 6.3: Construction Vehicle Route – Cottam 1 West • Figure 6.4: Construction Vehicle Route – Cottam 2 • Figure 6.5: Construction Vehicle Route – Cottam 3a • Figure 6.6: Construction Vehicle Route – Cottam 3b • Figure 6.7: Construction Vehicle Route – Cable Route Corridor • Figure 7.1: Construction Vehicle Route – Abnormal Loads
<p>TRA-05 Transport and Access</p>	<p>Construction Vehicles Trip Generation</p>	<p>The forecast number of construction vehicles set out at Table 5.1 (HGV deliveries), Table 5.2 (construction worker vehicle movements) and paragraph 5.19 (cable route corridor vehicle movements) of the Transport Assessment [APP-134] is accepted and</p>

		will not have a material impact upon the capacity, operation, and safety of the Local Highway Network.
TRA-06 Transport and Access	Abnormal indivisible Loads	The routes identified for the delivery of abnormal loads, as set out in Figure 7.1 and described at paragraph 7.10 of the Transport Assessment [APP-134] , are acceptable.
TRA-07	Construction Traffic Management Plan	<p>The Council's Relevant Representation [RR-003] has requested "the respective CTMPs or conditions to deal with the size, location, and access arrangements for any temporary compounds required to facilitate the construction of the grid connection(s), the routing of vehicles involved in the laying of the cable(s) and the condition and suitability of those routes. However, the New Roads and Streets Works Act will deal with the coordination of the actual roadworks and in theory that would prevent any conflicts."</p> <p>The location of construction compounds are indicated on Works Plans [APP-007] and maximum dimensions are included within the Concept Design Parameters and Principles document [APP-352].</p> <p>The Scheme, through the C3.1_A Draft Development Consent Order Revision A [AS-012], has secured by Requirement 15 of Schedule 2 that "No part of the authorised development may commence until a construction traffic management plan for that part must be submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority."</p> <p>Detail of the access arrangements to construction compounds can be included within the Construction Traffic Management Plan, which will be in line with the Outline CTMP [APP-135] submitted as part of the DCO application.</p>

3.10 Matters Agreed (Glint and Glare)

Table 3-10

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
GG-01 Glint and Glare	Methodology and Assessment	The assessment methodology adopted within Section 16.4 of Chapter 16: Glint and Glare of the Environmental Statement and within Appendix A of Appendix 16.1 Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [APP-140] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing any relevant guidance and studies. The assessment methodology is considered acceptable.
GG-02 Glint and Glare	Baseline Conditions	The baseline conditions which are detailed in Section 16.5 of Chapter 16: Glint and Glare of the Environmental Statement [APP-51] and within Section 5 of Appendix 16.1 [APP-140] are representative of the baseline site conditions within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County
GG-03 Glint and Glare	Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 16.9 of Chapter 16: Glint and Glare of the Environmental Statement [APP-051] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County.

3.11 Matters Agreed (Air Quality)

Table 3-11

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
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AIR-01 Air Quality	Baseline Conditions	The baseline conditions which are detailed in Section 17.5 of Chapter 17: Air Quality of the Environmental Statement [APP-052] are representative of the site conditions within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County.
AIR-02 Air Quality	Methodology and Assessment	The methodology adopted in the Air Quality assessment [APP-141-143] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing any relevant guidance and studies. The assessment methodology is detailed within Section 17.4 of Chapter 17: Air Quality Environmental Statement [APP-052] and is considered acceptable.
AIR-03 Air Quality	Methodology and Assessment (construction vehicles)	As detailed within the Air Quality assessment [APP-141-143] the proposed construction vehicle numbers will not exceed the relevant IAQM/EPUK thresholds e.g. 100 HGV Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT), therefore there is no requirement for detailed construction air quality modelling and assessment has been scoped out of Chapter 17: Air Quality Environmental Statement [APP-052] . This approach is considered acceptable.
AIR-04 Air Quality	Methodology and Assessment (operational vehicles)	As detailed within the Air Quality assessment [APP-141-143] the proposed operational vehicle numbers will be limited and will not exceed the relevant IAQM/EPUK thresholds (e.g. 100 HGV Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT), therefore there is no requirement for detailed air quality modelling and assessment has been scoped out of Chapter 17: Air Quality Environmental Statement [APP-052] . This approach is considered acceptable.
AIR-05 Air Quality	Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 17.8 of Chapter 17: Air Quality of the Environmental Statement [APP-052] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Bassetlaw District and Nottinghamshire County.

3.12 Matters Agreed (Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation).

Table 3-12

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
STR-01 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	Methodology	The methodology used in the assessment of socio-economic, tourism and recreation impacts as set out in Section 18.4 of ES Chapter 18 [APP-053] is appropriate, given that there is no standard methodology for the assessment of socio-economic and associated impacts for EIA.
STR-02 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	Assessment scope	The scope of the assessment undertaken in Sections 18.7, 18.9, and 18.10 of ES chapter 18 [APP-053] including the identification of likely significant effects and likely significant cumulative effects has been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and is acceptable.
STR-03 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Measures	The proposed embedded and additional mitigation and enhancement measures as set out in Section 18.6 and 18.9 of ES Chapter 18 [APP-053] are considered proportionate and acceptable.
STR-04 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	Public Rights of Way	Works that may cause disruption to public rights of way, including diversions and temporary closures where necessary, are controlled through the measures set out in the ES Appendix 14.3: Public Right of Way Management Plan [APP-136].

3.13 Matters Agreed (Soils and Agriculture).

Table 3-13

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
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SAA-01 Soils and Agriculture	Baseline Conditions	The baseline conditions detailed at Section 19.8 of Chapter 19: Soils and Agriculture of the Environmental Statement [APP-054] and within Appendix 19.1 [APP-145] are representative of the baseline site conditions within Bassetlaw District
SAA-02 Soils and Agriculture	Methodology and Assessment	The assessment methodology detailed within Section 19.6 of Chapter 19: Soils and Agriculture of the Environmental Statement [APP-054] is considered acceptable.
SAA-03 Soils and Agriculture	Proposed Mitigation	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 19.10 of Chapter 19: Soils and Agriculture of the Environmental Statement [APP-054] are acceptable.

3.14 Matters Agreed (Waste)

Table 3-14

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
WAS-01 Waste	Waste Policy	Applicable waste policy is set out in Section 20.3 of ES Chapter 20 [EN010133/APP/C6.2.20] and is therefore considered acceptable.
WAS-02 Waste	Waste Site Safeguarding	The Order limits as set out in the Location Plan [EN010133/APP/C2.1] confirm no existing or safeguarded proposed waste sites are impacted by the location of the Scheme.

3.15 Matters Agreed (Other Environmental Matters).

Table 3-15

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed
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OEM-01 Other Environmental Matters	Electromagnetic Fields	The technical reporting in paragraphs 21.2.3-21.2.9 in ES Chapter 21 [APP-056] is sufficient to demonstrate there are no adverse impacts to human health from electromagnetic fields generated by the Scheme.
OEM-02 Other Environmental Matters	Telecommunications, Utilities and Television Receptors	The information provided in Section 21.3 of ES Chapter 21 [APP-056] is sufficient, and the protective mitigation measures set out in the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [APP-337] are appropriate and therefore acceptable.
OEM-03 Other Environmental Matters	Major Accidents and Disasters	The scope and methodology of the assessment undertaken throughout the ES and signposted in Section 21.6 of ES chapter 21 [APP-056] including the identification of likely significant effects and likely significant cumulative effects has been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.

4 Matters Under Discussion

Tables 4-1 to 4-9 below detail by topic the matters under discussion with Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.

4.1 Matters under discussion (Principle).

Table 4-1

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
PD-05 Principle of Development	Project components	Whether the siting of the individual project components, as set out in the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) [AS-012] and Design and Access Statement [APP-344], is acceptable.
PD-06 Principle of Development	Acceptability of Development Consent Order and Requirements	Whether the drafting of the DCO [AS-012] is acceptable, including the scope and wording of the requirements in Schedule 2 to the draft DCO.

4.2 Matters under discussion (Climate Change)

Table 4-2

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
CC-01 Climate Change	ES Chapter 7: Baseline	Whether or not the baseline conditions detailed in Section 7.6 of Chapter 7: Climate Change of the Environmental Statement [APP-042] are representative of the baseline site conditions.

CC-02 Climate Change	ES Chapter 7: Methodology	Whether or not the assessment methodology detailed in Section 7.4 of Chapter 7: Climate Change of the Environmental Statement [APP-042] is considered acceptable.
CC-03	ES Chapter 7: Mitigation	Section 7.9 of Chapter 7: Climate Change of the Environmental Statement [APP-042] has not identified the need for any additional mitigation or enhancement measures

4.3 Matters under discussion (Noise and Vibration).

Table 4-3

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
NOI-04 Noise and Vibration	Cumulative Impacts	Whether or not the cumulative impacts detailed in Chapter 15: Noise and Vibration of the Environmental Statement [APP-050] are considered acceptable

4.4 Matters under discussion (Glint and Glare)

Table 4-4

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
GG-04 Glint and Glare impacts	Significance of Impacts	No significant impacts upon identified receptors are predicted because the Scheme components within the County and the District consist of underground cable connections and works at Cottam Power Station.

4.5 Matters under discussion (Soils and Agriculture)

Table 4-5

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
SAA-03 Soils and Agriculture	Assessment Outcomes – impacts to ALC graded land and soil quality	<p>Natural England document Agricultural Land Classification: protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land (TIN049) https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/35012 explains the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system and its use in informing land use planning decisions for agricultural land. The applicant has submitted an ALC assessment for agricultural land within the Sites showing it is predominantly ALC Grade 3b, not best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>The Scheme is unlikely to result in loss of best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Scheme will be decommissioned at the end of its operational life; • Land will retain its existing Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) grade baseline after decommissioning of the Scheme as set out at Section 19.10 of Chapter 19: Soils and Agriculture of the Environmental Statement [APP-054]; • The Scheme will have minimal impact on soil quality as set out at Section 19.10 of Chapter 19: Soils and Agriculture of the Environmental Statement [APP-054]; and • A Soil Management Plan (SMP) will be included within the agreed Construction, Operational and Decommissioning Environmental Management Plans (CEMP, OEMP, DEMP) with the aim of conserving the soil resource and its functional capacity for support of agricultural production as set out at paragraph 19.10.1 of Chapter 19: Soils and Agriculture of the Environmental Statement [APP-054].
SAA-04 Soils and Agriculture	Cumulative Impacts	Whether or not the cumulative impacts detailed in Section 19.11 of Chapter 19: Soils and Agriculture of the Environmental Statement [APP-054] are considered acceptable.

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4.6 Matters under Discussion (Traffic and Transport)

Table 4-6

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
TRA-04 Traffic and Transport	Cumulative Effects	Whether or not the cumulative impacts detailed in Section 14.9 of Chapter 14: Transport and Access of the Environmental Statement [APP-049] are acceptable.

4.6.1

4.7 Matters under discussion (Waste)

Table 4-7

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
WAS-03 Waste	Assessment scope	The scope of the assessment undertaken in Sections 20.7, 20.9, and 20.10 of ES chapter 20 [APP-055] including the identification of likely significant effects and likely significant cumulative effects has been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.
WAS-04 Waste	Proposed Mitigation	The proposed embedded and additional mitigation measures as set out in Section 20.6 and 20.9 of ES Chapter 20 [APP-055] are considered proportionate and acceptable.

4.8 Matters under discussion (Other Environmental Matters).

Table 4-8

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
OEM-04 Other Environmental Matters	Human Health	The scope and methodology of the assessment undertaken throughout the ES, and signposted in Section 21.5 of ES chapter 21 [APP-056] including the identification of likely significant effects and likely significant cumulative effects has been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.

4.9 Matters under discussion (Draft DCO).

Table 4-9

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
Draft DCO	Schedule 2 - Requirements	The drafting of the requirements in Schedule 2 to the draft DCO (AS-012) are under discussion.

5 Matters Not Agreed

5.1.1 At this stage there are no 'Matters Not Agreed' included in the SoCG.

6 Signatories

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 The above SoCG is agreed between Cottam Solar Project Ltd. (the Applicant) and **Nottinghamshire County Council and Bassetlaw District Council**, as specified below.

Duly authorised for and on behalf of **Cottam Solar Project Ltd.**

Name:	
Job Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	

Duly authorised for and on behalf of **Nottinghamshire County Council.**

Name:	
Job Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	

Duly authorised for and on behalf of **Bassetlaw District Council.**

Name:	
Job Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	