

Cottam Solar Project

Draft Statement of Common Ground with Anglian Water

Prepared by: Lanpro Services

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Issue Sheet

**Report Prepared for: Cottam Solar Project Ltd.
DCO Submission**

Statement of Common Ground with Anglian Water

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Date: August 2023

Revision: 01

Revision	Date	Prepared by:	Approved by:

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 and 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 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) Anglian Water.
- 1.2.2 Collectively, Cottam Solar Project Ltd and Anglian Water are referred to as ‘the parties’.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.3.1 In the table in the Issues chapter 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.

2 Record of Engagement

2.1 Summary of consultation

2.1.1 The parties have been engaged in consultation since February 2022, pre- and post-PEIR stage and prior to the submission of the Application in January 2023. A summary of the meetings and correspondence that have taken place between Cottam Solar Project and Anglian Water 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
17/01/2022	Utilities searches	Utilities searches were undertaken by the Applicant to establish the extent of Anglian Water's assets within the Scheme's application boundary. These have been mapped and the Scheme has been designed to avoid impacts upon those assets. A number of Anglian Water pipelines exist in road verges, crossed by the cable route, and used by construction traffic, but there are no assets crossing any of the Scheme sites containing solar panels, so interactions with assets are limited.
28/02/2022	Email	Discussion between a representative of the Applicant and an Anglian Water land consultant via email of the prospect of a new Anglian Water pipeline which would cross the Cottam 2 site. The pipeline proposal was later dropped by Anglian Water so it is currently assumed that there will be no interaction of Anglian Water's assets and the Cottam 2 site.
27/09/2022	Online meeting	Discussion between a representative of the Applicant and a Planning and EIA consultant from Jacobs who represent Anglian Water. Topics covered included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project overview - Anticipated submission dates - Protective provisions

		An initial draft of the protective provisions was circulated via email by Jacobs after the meeting and these have formed the basis of negotiations to date.
02/02/2023	Email	Email conversations ongoing between Associate Director, Town Planning and Consents at Jacobs (for Anglian Water) and the Applicant providing updates on the progress of the protective provisions negotiations.
13/04/2023	Relevant Representation submitted by Anglian Water [RR-030].	<p>Anglian Water are in contact with the Applicant regarding the protective provisions in Schedule 16 (For the Protection of Anglian Water Services Limited) Part 7 of the Draft Development Consent Order (DCO) as some provisions differ from Anglian Water's protective provisions template that was previously shared with the Applicant.</p> <p>In addition, with respect to Schedule 2 (requirements) of the Draft DCO, Anglian Water should be a consultee for any Local Planning Authority discharge of requirements in relation to drainage plans and surface water discharge. Any impacted Anglian Water assets need to be identified and either diverted or protected.</p> <p>Anglian Water notes that the Environmental Statement submitted with the application advises that no mains connected foul water drainage systems are likely to be necessary.</p>

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) Anglian Water in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

3 Issues

3.1 Matters Agreed

3.1.1 **Table 3.1** below details the matters agreed with Anglian Water.

Table 3.1: Matters Agreed

Topic	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Agreed

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3.2 Matters Under Discussion

3.2.1 **Table 3.2** below details the matters under discussion with Anglian Water.

Table 3.2: Matters under discussion

Topic Ref	Sub-topic	Details of Matters Under Discussion
PP-01	Protective Provisions	<p>The parties agree that the protective provisions, which are included in Part 7 of Schedule 16 to the draft Cottam DCO [AS-012], are in agreed form.</p> <p>Under these provisions, the Applicant will only be able to exercise any powers in the DCO subject to those protective provisions, which ensures protection and safeguards for Anglian Water’s assets and interests are in place. The parties therefore agree that appropriate protection is in place for Anglian Water and that as a result Anglian Water will not suffer serious detriment to the carrying on of its undertaking as a result of the Scheme.</p> <p>With the protective provisions in place, the parties agree that the tests set out in section 127 and 138 of the Planning Act 2008, to the extent they apply, are satisfied.</p>
PP-02	Draft DCO	<p>The parties agree that Requirement 11 in Schedule 2 of to the draft DCO [AS-012] has been satisfactorily updated, in agreed form, to provision that the relevant planning authority must consult with Anglian Water Services Limited before approving the written details under sub-paragraph (1) of Requirement 11 in Schedule 2 (see requirement 11(3) in the draft DCO).</p>

3.3 Matters Not Agreed

3.3.1 None

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4 Signatories

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 The above SoCG is agreed between Cottam Solar Project Ltd (the Applicant) and **Anglian Water**, 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 **Anglian Water.**

Name:	Phil Jones
Job Title:	Growth Strategy Manager
Date:	
Signature:	