

Cottam Solar Project

The Applicant's Responses to Written Representations and other submissions at Deadline 1 Part 3

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Issue Sheet

Report Prepared for: Cottam Solar Project Ltd.
Examination Deadline 2

The Applicant's Responses to Written Representations and Other Submissions at Deadline 1: Part 3

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1 Introduction and summary

1.1 Purpose of this document

1.1.1 This document provides Cottam Solar Project Limited (the 'Applicant's') response to the Written Representations (the 'WRs') and any other documents submitted for Deadline 1 which were submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) by 17 October 2023, relating to Examination Deadline 1 for the Development Consent Order Application (the 'Application') for Cottam Solar Project (the 'Scheme').

1.1.2 Local Impact Reports from the host local authorities have been responded to separately in C8.1.16 The Applicant's Response to Local Impact Reports [EN010133/EX2/C8.1.16].

1.1.3 A total of 124 WRs and other documents were submitted to the Examining Authority by Interested Parties in response to the Scheme. All WRs were published on 25 October 2023 to the Planning Inspectorate's website (PINs Reference: EN010133). A further 2 WRs were received late and accepted at the discretion of the Examining Authority.

1.2 Structure of the report

1.2.1 This document provides responses from the Applicant to the matters raised in the Written Representations and is structured as follows:

- Table 1.1 lists the 'Theme Options' through which those WRs from members of the public and all remaining organisations and businesses are categorised into and responded to in this document at Section 2.
- WRs received by host local authorities, all other statutory consultees, international agencies, undertakers, elected representatives, community organisations, and those whose interests would be affected by the Order (as listed within C4.3_C Book of Reference Revision C [EN010133/EX2/C4.3_C]) have been responded to separately in the document C8.1.17 The Applicant's Response to Written Representations Part 1 [EN010133/EX2/C8.1.17].
- WRs received by the group 7000 Acres have been responded to separately in the document C8.1.18 The Applicant's Response to Written Representations Part 2 [EN010133/EX2/C8.1.18].

1.2.2 References to the Application and Examination documentation, as submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, are provided in accordance with the referencing system as set out in the Planning Inspectorate's 'Cottam Solar Farm Examination Library'.

Table 1.1: List of Theme Options in which Written Representations and Other Submissions from members of the public and all remaining organisations and businesses are categorised into and responded to.

Theme Options	Acronym	Written Representations responded to through the Theme Option
Air Quality	AIR-XX	REP-103; REP-127; REP-128; REP-147; REP-152; REP-157; REP-159; REP-162
Alternatives and Design Evolution	ALT-XX	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-132; REP-133; REP-140; REP-144; REP-148; REP-152; REP-154; REP-155; REP-158; REP-159; REP-160; REP-161; REP-162; REP-163; REP-164; REP-165; REP-166; REP-169; REP-171; REP-183
Climate Change	CC-XX	REP-127; REP-128; REP-130; REP-132; REP-138; REP-152; REP-154; REP-159; REP-164; REP-166; REP-176
Cultural Heritage	CUL-XX	REP-127; REP-130; REP-139; REP-144; REP-152; REP-159; REP-164; REP-165; REP-177; REP-181; REP-185; REP-190
Ecology and Biodiversity	ECO-XX	REP-103; REP-127; REP-128; REP-130; REP-132; REP-138; REP-139; REP-141; REP-144; REP-152; REP-155; REP-157; REP-159; REP-160; REP-162; REP-165; REP-168; REP-173; REP-174; REP-176; REP-177; REP-179; REP-180; REP-183; REP-184; REP-185; REP-187; REP-189; REP-191; REP-192; REP-195; REP-199; REP-201; REP-202; REP-205
Energy Need	ENG-XX	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-138; REP-144; REP-148; REP-152; REP-154; REP-158; REP-160; REP-161; REP-162; REP-163; REP-164; REP-171; REP-178; REP-186; REP-199; REP-205
General Comments	GEN-XX	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-129; REP-130; REP-132; REP-137; REP-138; REP-139; REP-140; REP-144; REP-147; REP-148; REP-150; REP-152; REP-154; REP-155; REP-157; REP-158; REP-159; REP-162; REP-165; REP-168; REP-169; REP-171; REP-177; REP-189
Glint and Glare	GG-XX	REP-127; REP-128; REP-152; REP-154; REP-160; REP-171
Ground Conditions	GRO-XX	REP-103; REP-128; REP-138; REP-152; REP-159

Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	HY-XX	REP-103; REP-127; REP-128; REP-152; REP-157; REP-159; REP-162; REP-177; REP-179; REP-208
Landscape and Visual Impact	LAN-XX	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-129; REP-130; REP-138; REP-139; REP-142; REP-143; REP-144; REP-146; REP-147; REP-148; REP-152; REP-155; REP-158; REP-160; REP-162; REP-164; REP-165; REP-166; REP-168; REP-175; REP-177; REP-178; REP-183; REP-184; REP-185; REP-191; REP-192; REP-195; REP-199; REP-200; REP-205
Noise and Vibration	NOI-XX	REP-147; REP-160; REP-165; REP-166; REP-201
Other Environmental Matters	OEM-XX	REP-103; REP-127; REP-128; REP-129; REP-130; REP-133; REP-138; REP-139; REP-142; REP-143; REP-144; REP-147; REP-152; REP-154; REP-155; REP-157; REP-158; REP-159; REP-160; REP-161; REP-162; REP-164; REP-165; REP-168; REP-171; REP-174; REP-175; REP-176; REP-179; REP-187; REP-188; REP-189; REP-192; REP-200; REP-201; REP-202; REP-205
Planning Policy and Process	PLA-XX	REP-130; REP-152; REP-154; REP-164; REP-165; REP-189; REP-195
Principle of Development	PD-XX	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-130; REP-133; REP-138; REP-139; REP-142; REP-143; REP-144; REP-147; REP-148; REP-150; REP-152; REP-154; REP-155; REP-157; REP-159; REP-160; REP-162; REP-164; REP-165; REP-166; REP-167; REP-168; REP-169; REP-171; REP-172; REP-174; REP-175; REP-176; REP-177; REP-179; REP-182; REP-184; REP-185; REP-190; REP-193; REP-194; REP-195
Scheme Description	SCH-XX	REP-161; REP-144; REP-152; REP-129; REP-154; REP-103; REP-130; REP-155; REP-175; REP-147; REP-160; REP-148; REP-159; REP-168; REP-158; REP-165; REP-166
Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	STR-XX	REP-127; REP-128; REP-130; REP-133; REP-138; REP-140; REP-143; REP-144; REP-152; REP-154; REP-159; REP-160; REP-161; REP-162; REP-164; REP-165; REP-166; REP-168; REP-171; REP-173; REP-185; REP-191; REP-199; REP-205
Soils and Agriculture	SAA-XX	REP-103; REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-129; REP-130; REP-132; REP-133; REP-138; REP-140; REP-141; REP-142; REP-143; REP-144; REP-147; REP-148; REP-149; REP-150; REP-152; REP-154; REP-155; REP-157; REP-158; REP-159; REP-160; REP-161;

		REP-162; REP-163; REP-164; REP-165; REP-166; REP-167; REP-169; REP-171; REP-172; REP-173; REP-174; REP-175; REP-176; REP-178; REP-182; REP-183; REP-186; REP-195; REP-199; REP-200; REP-201; REP-202; REP-205; REP-206
Transport and Access	TRA-XX	REP-103; REP-127; REP-128; REP-129; REP-130; REP-139; REP-142; REP-147; REP-152; REP-155; REP-157; REP-159; REP-160; REP-162; REP-165; REP-166; REP-167; REP-171; REP-190; REP-192; REP-201; REP-202
Waste	WAS-XX	REP-160; REP-175; REP-202

3 The Applicant's Thematic Responses to Members of the Public and All Remaining Organisations and Businesses

3.1 Air Quality

Table 2.1: Applicant's Response to Air Quality Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
AIR-01	REP-103; REP-127; REP-128; REP-152; REP-157; REP-159; REP-162	BESS fire risk	Concern regarding the risk of fire from the BESS	The assessment determines there are no significant effects to human safety directly from fire or uncontained explosions due to the separation of the BESS from properties or publicly accessible areas. Impacts on human health from reduced air quality as a result of fires and emissions have been assessed in C6.2.17 ES Chapter 17_Air Quality [APP-052], which finds no significant effects to human health. Mitigation and safety measures to ensure human health is not harmed is set out in C8.4.17.2 Air Quality Impact Assessment of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Fire [EX2/C6.3.17.4_A] and C7.9 Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [APP-348].
			Concern regarding toxic emissions from a BESS fire	The assessment determines there is no significant effects to human safety directly from fire or uncontained explosions due to the separation of the BESS from properties or publicly accessible areas. Impacts on human health from reduced air quality as a result of fires and emissions have been assessed in C6.2.17 ES Chapter 17_Air Quality [APP-052], which

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				finds no significant effects to human health. Mitigation and safety measures to ensure human health is not harmed is set out in C8.4.17.2 Air Quality Impact Assessment of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Fire [EX2/C6.3.17.4_A]] and C7.9 Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [APP-348].
AIR-02	REP-147	Construction dust	Comments state construction dust will need to be mitigated	Assessment of the potential effects and the identified appropriate mitigation measures are presented within the Dust Management Plans [APP-141, APP-1422, and APP-143] for each of the specific sites.

3.2 Alternatives and Design Evolution

Table 2.2: Applicant's Response to Alternatives and Design Evolution Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
ALT-01	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-132; REP-133; REP-144; REP-152; REP-154; REP-158; REP-159; REP-160; REP-161; REP-162; REP-163; REP-164; REP-165; REP-166; REP-169; REP-171	Alternative sites	Solar panels and BESS should be sited on the decommissioned coal-fire power station sites	Section 11.5 in C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] explains how electricity storage (BESS) will play an important role in the development of a low-carbon GB energy system. Electricity storage may be connected as a standalone asset or collocated with a renewable generation scheme. Because the Scheme's grid connection agreement provides both import and export capacity, it enables the Scheme to contribute to meeting the national need for electricity storage by including, as associated development, an electricity storage asset which supports the operation of the principal solar development and provides the ability to balance the electricity produced by the solar scheme, with demand on the National Electricity Transmission System.
			Solar panels should be sited on brownfield land	Paragraph 7.6.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] analyses the potential contribution of "brownfield" solar sites to the national need for solar generation. Brownfield sites, including rooftop and other community energy systems, are likely to grow in the UK

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>and will contribute to decarbonisation of the UK energy system.</p> <p>However, C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] concludes in Section 7.6, that on their own, brownfield developments are unlikely to be able to meet the national need for solar. Paragraph 8.5.10 and Section 8.5 more generally of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] describe and express agreement with the Government's view that decentralised and community energy systems are unlikely to lead to the significant replacement of large-scale infrastructure.</p> <p>The Applicant therefore supports the Government's view that large scale solar must be deployed to meet the urgent national need for low-carbon electricity generation. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067]. Specifically, paragraphs 2.1.23 to 2.1.32 detail the consideration of brownfield land and roof tops and set out why these were discounted as unsuitable. Paragraphs 3.2.14 to 3.2.17 of C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067] summarise the assessment of the former RAF</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Scampton site. The assessment results for the Scheme are compared against RAF Scampton and other potential development areas at Annex E of [APP-067]. The RAF Scampton site did not score as highly in the RAG assessment as the land chosen for the Scheme. At the time of site selection, the RAF Scampton site was an operational RAF base. Expressions of interest for acquiring the land were invited in April 2022.</p> <p>However, this was too late for the site to be considered as part of the Scheme due to the 2029 connection date. In addition, detailed technical assessment work had been ongoing for two years, statutory consultation had already been undertaken in relation to the Scheme and there remained significant uncertainty about the timing and availability of the site. It was therefore discounted. The land required for the Scheme has been demonstrated within C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067].</p>
			Solar panels should be sited on business, industrial and commercial roofspace	The basis on which the Applicant has selected the Sites accords with the approach to the consideration of alternatives set out by paragraph 4.4.3 of NPS EN-1. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067]. Specifically, paragraphs 2.1.23 to 2.1.32 detail the consideration of brownfield land and roof tops and sets out why these were discounted as unsuitable.
			Solar panels should be sited on car parks, including roofs on car parks	The basis on which the Applicant has selected the Sites accords with the approach to the consideration of alternatives set out by paragraph 4.4.3 of NPS EN-1. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067].
			Solar panels should be sited on central reservations on motorways	The basis on which the Applicant has selected the Sites accords with the approach to the consideration of alternatives set out by paragraph 4.4.3 of NPS EN-1. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067].
			Solar panels should be sited on disused airfields	The basis on which the Applicant has selected the Sites accords with the approach to the consideration of

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				alternatives set out by paragraph 4.4.3 of NPS EN-1. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067].
			Solar panels should be sited on domestic roofspace	The basis on which the Applicant has selected the Sites accords with the approach to the consideration of alternatives set out by paragraph 4.4.3 of NPS EN-1. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067]. Specifically, paragraphs 2.1.23 to 2.1.32 detail the consideration of brownfield land and roof tops and sets out why these were discounted as unsuitable.
			Solar panels should be sited on ex-Ministry Of Defence sites	The basis on which the Applicant has selected the Sites accords with the approach to the consideration of alternatives set out by paragraph 4.4.3 of NPS EN-1. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067].
			Solar panels should be sited on land incapable of producing food	Please refer to response ALT-18 in C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049].
ALT-02	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-140; REP-144; REP-148; REP-152; REP-154; REP-159; REP-161; REP-161; REP-162; REP-164; REP-166; REP-183	Efficiency of solar	Comments raise concerns that energy prices will not be reduced	Please refer to response 7A-36 in C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049].
			Comments refer to the annual load factor of 9-11%	Table 7.1 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows the electricity generated per hectare by different low-carbon technologies. At the UK's average solar load factor (11%), solar generation produces much more energy per hectare than biogas, and generates a similar amount of energy as onshore wind.
			Solar is inefficient in terms of energy output.	Paragraph 12.1.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] concludes that "Large-scale solar generation is essential to support the urgent decarbonisation of the GB electricity sector" and paragraph 4.4.11 describes that the location of the scheme presents a "highly suitable solution for the efficient delivery of solar at scale over timeframe which will provide significant decarbonisation benefits". It concludes that this

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Scheme and others located near it will all be essential for the decarbonisation of the UK electricity sector.</p> <p>Figure 10.2 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows that the efficiency of solar cell technology has increased year-on-year for decades. Many solar cells are now at or approaching 30% efficiency, which is comparable to the efficiency of the UK's recently closed coal stations.</p>
			Some comments make specific regard to low load factor during winter as highlighting the ineffectiveness of solar	<p>Paragraph 7.2.17 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] explains that, in 2021, GB sourced approximately 42% of its total electricity supply from renewables. Figure 8.2 shows that solar generation occurs year-round, although more is generated in the summer when days are longer, and the sun's rays are stronger.</p>
			Some comments question if, or do not think, battery storage is helpful for the Scheme to contribute to energy security	<p>Cottam Solar Project brings forward significant benefits in terms of Energy Security (Section 8.8) and affordability of electricity supplies (Section 10.3) of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350].</p> <p>Section 10.2 and Section 10.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] describe the economic benefits of solar energy within the UK electricity system.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Some comments refer directly to comparing the land take for solar versus wind power or nuclear power stations	<p>Section 5.4 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] analyses the contribution that nuclear power can make to the urgent need to decarbonise and concludes that the development timeframes associated with that technology mean that it is highly unlikely that new nuclear will make any contribution to decarbonisation in the critical pre-2030 timeframe beyond the commissioning of Hinkley Point C, currently scheduled for 2028.</p> <p>Table 7.1 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows the electricity generated per hectare by different low-carbon technologies. At the UK's average solar load factor (11%), solar generation produces much more energy per hectare than biogas, and generates a similar amount of energy as onshore wind.</p>
			Some comments state that the generation from the Scheme has been misrepresented	The Applicant notes this comment but disagrees with any suggestions that it has misrepresented the generation of the Scheme. Further details on the role of utility scale solar projects are set out in the C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350].

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
ALT-03	REP-144; REP-152; REP-155; REP-164	Site selection	Comments state that the land for development has been chosen on the basis of availability	The methodology used for the site selection process is considered reasonable and proportionate and complies with the requirements of NPS EN-1 4.4.3. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067].
			Comments state that the land for development has been chosen only on the basis of grid availability	The methodology used for the site selection process is considered reasonable and proportionate and complies with the requirements of NPS EN-1 4.4.3. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067].
			Comments state that the land for development has been chosen only the basis of grid availability	The methodology used for the site selection process is considered reasonable and proportionate and complies with the requirements of NPS EN-1 4.4.3. The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067].

3.3 Climate Change

Table 2.3: Applicant's Response to Climate Change Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
CC-01	REP-154	Ambient heating	Some comments refer to ambient heat increases impacts from the Scheme	The Applicant acknowledges that there can be some localised heat increases from solar schemes during the day with heat decreases during the night. This process is not considered significant and the design, construction and implementation of the Scheme will utilise technological improvements where practicable, for example using coatings to reflect wavelengths which generate heat.
CC-02	REP-176	Continued need for fossil fuel use	Comment that Solar relies heavily upon fossil fuel generation to supply base load, account for dull days and at night time, they even rely upon it to charge the BESS (from the National Grid)	The energy usage during operation has been accounted for within the CO ₂ e emissions calculations, which are set out in Section 7.8 of Chapter 7 – Climate Change [REP-014] within the ES. (C6.2.6)
CC-03	REP-127; REP-128; REP-130; REP-159; REP-166	Embodied carbon	Some comments raise concerns about the carbon dioxide emissions related to material sourcing, processing, manufacture, and transport of the panels to site	This has been accounted for within Section 7.8 of Chapter 7 (C6.2.6) -Climate Change [REP-014] within the ES which shows that the savings in CO ₂ e emissions far outweigh those generated by material sourcing, transport and construction.
			Comment states the lifecycle carbon footprint has not been demonstrated	The operational CO ₂ e from the development has been accounted for including for embodied carbon in replacement panels and site operations. CO ₂ e from

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				decommissioning is also considered within the ES. A detailed assessment is contained in Section 7.8 of Chapter 7 – Climate Change [REP-014]. (C6.2.6)
CC-04	REP-154	Impact on national carbon emissions	Comments raise that decarbonising electricity production is only a part of achieving net zero	The Statement of Need [APP-350] outlines how the Scheme plays an important part in meeting Net Zero targets.
CC-05	REP-138; REP-152; REP-154; REP-166	Methodology	Comment raises that the importance of carbon capture of growing crops has not been included in assessment	The Applicant considers that the carbon capture from the crops on existing land would not be significant compared to the reduction as a result of the use of solar to generate electricity.
			Comment raises that the replacement of infrastructure during the operational lifetime of the Scheme has not been included in assessment	Replacement panels and parts have been considered within the assessment including replacement batteries. Based on supplier input, 0.4% of panels will require replacement each year. The scheme has been identified as having a significant reduction in CO ₂ e emissions after factoring in replacement of on-site materials. A detailed assessment of GHG emissions as a result of the operation of the Scheme, including emissions resulting for replacement of parts, is contained in the ES at Section 7.8.47 of Chapter 7 – Climate Change [REP-014]. (C6.2.6)

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Comments state that the Scheme is not carbon neutral as a result of need for replacement	Maintenance activities including the replacement of broken or faulty equipment have been considered within the assessment including the replacement of batteries. The Scheme has been identified as having a significant reduction in CO ₂ e emissions taking into account construction, maintenance and decommissioning activities.
CC-06	REP-132	Personal carbon footprint reduction	Commentor claims they moved to enjoy a rural life and reduce their personal environmental footprint	This comment is noted. The Statement of Need [APP-350] outlines how the Scheme plays an important part in meeting Net Zero targets and
CC-07	REP-164	Worldwide climate change impacts	Some comments refer to wildfires and drought affecting food production worldwide which needs to be supplemented by exports from the UK	This development will not significantly result in loss of arable land across the UK. There is no permanent loss of agricultural land and mitigation measures to preserve soil resources are detailed in the Soil Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.19.2_A] and Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C7.3_B], both of which are secured by Requirement in Schedule 2 of the Draft Development Consent Order Revision C [EX2/C3.1_C].

3.4 Cultural Heritage

Table 2.4: Applicant's Response to Cultural Heritage Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
CUL-01	REP-139	Impact on archaeology	Identified archaeology should be preserved in situ by removing areas from panels	<p>The Applicant notes this comment, and considers that, in accordance with the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (Paragraph 10.0.16, and Policy S57) and the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) (revised March 2023; Paragraph 5.9.26), there should be a preference for preserving archaeological remains in situ.</p> <p>Where appropriate the Applicant has proposed "preservation in-situ" either in the form of 'no development' areas, non-intrusive concrete anchors or directional drilling (cable route), to minimise harm to buried archaeological remains and where possible allow the archaeological resource within the site to be conserved in-situ.</p>
CUL-02	REP-127; REP-130; REP-139; REP-152; REP-159; REP-177; REP-181; REP-185; REP-190	Impact on heritage features	Comment refers to the scale of the Scheme affecting local and national cultural heritage	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>C6.2.13 ES Chapter 13 Cultural Heritage [APP-048] identified that the Scheme would have an adverse impact on only one site of a national significance: <i>Thorpe medieval settlement</i> (NHLE 1016978). The extensive archaeological assessment work undertaken by the Applicant has identified numerous 'new'</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>archaeological sites of up to regional value, which have greatly improved our understanding of former patterns of settlement and land use [APP-048].</p> <p>As identified in the National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) (March 2023; Paragraph 3.10.101) as a potential benefit of solar PV developments, the Applicant would like to highlight the positive effect the Scheme will have on the archaeological features identified within the Scheme's Order Limits, which are currently at risk from the impacts of ploughing (Paragraphs 13.7.15, 13.7.33 and 13.7.34 of C6.2.13 ES Chapter 13 Cultural Heritage [APP-048]).</p> <p>The Applicant highlights the reversible nature of the Scheme, given the commitment (secured through Requirement 21 of the DCO [EX2/C3.1_C]) to decommission the Scheme no later than 60 years following the date of final commissioning, whereby existing landscape features will remain in situ, resulting in any adverse effects to either the historic landscape characterisation or setting of designated heritage assets being reversed following decommissioning.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			<p>Comments have been raised regarding loss or degradation of archaeology, heritage structures, and cultural landscapes</p>	<p>The extensive archaeological assessment work undertaken by the Applicant has identified numerous 'new' archaeological sites, which have greatly improved our understanding of former patterns of settlement and land use [APP-048].</p> <p>As identified in the National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) (March 2023; Paragraph 3.10.101) as a potential benefit of solar PV developments, the Applicant highlights the positive effect the Scheme will have on the archaeological features identified within the Scheme's Order Limits, which are currently at risk from the impacts of ploughing (Paragraphs 13.7.15, 13.7.33 and 13.7.34 of C6.2.13 ES Chapter 13 Cultural Heritage [APP-048]).</p> <p>With the proposed mitigation in place, there would be moderate adverse (i.e., 'significant') effects at one Scheduled Monument, <i>Thorpe medieval settlement</i> (NHLE 1016978) (C6.2.13 ES Chapter 13 Cultural Heritage [APP-048]).</p> <p>The Applicant highlights the reversible nature of the Scheme, given the commitment (secured through Requirement 21 of the DCO [EX2/C3.1_C]) to decommission the Scheme no later than 60 years following the date of final commissioning whereby</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				existing landscape features will remain in situ, resulting in any adverse effects to either the historic landscape characterisation or setting of designated heritage assets being reversed following decommissioning.
			Comments have been raised regarding potential damage caused by ALL deliveries to heritage assets	<p>The Swept Path Assessment for the oversailing and mounting of the kerb adjacent to <i>Site of a college and Benedictine Abbey, St Marys Church, Stow</i> is provided with the submission in ES Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment, in Appendix F, Appendix 2 - Dwg no. 22-1062.SPAO2 [EX2/C6.3.14.1_A]. The mounting of the pavement and oversailing proposed is c.25m distant from the St. Mary's Church building at its nearest point and therefore the structural integrity of this building would not be affected. However, the Swept Path Assessment states that '<i>caution is given due to minimal clearance expected between oversail and a churchyard retaining wall to the nearside</i>'.</p> <p>As detailed in paragraph 13.8.5 of C6.2.13 ES Chapter 13 Cultural Heritage [APP-048] a suitably qualified banksman will closely monitor manoeuvres to ensure that there are no adverse impacts to the wall of the churchyard at the Site of a college and Benedictine Abbey, St Mary's Church (NHLE 1012976). This commitment is secured in the outline Construction</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Environmental Management Plan [EX2/C7.1_B], which is itself secured in Requirement 13 in the draft DCO [EX2/C3.1_C].
			Comments raise concerns over loss of historic views towards key landmarks	The Heritage Statement within C6.3.13.5 ES Appendix 13.5 [APP-125 to APP-128] provides a detailed assessment of all Grade II Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas within 2km of the Scheme, and all Grade I and II* Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments with a 5km study area surrounding the Scheme. Chapter 13: Cultural Heritage [APP-048] (see paras. 13.5.11 to 13.5.25, 13.7.18 to 13.7.25, 13.7.35 to 13.7.39 and 13.8.5 to 13.8.10) provides further detailed assessment of the predicted impacts upon the historic built environment. The assessment identifies that there would be Slight Adverse effects (i.e., 'not significant' in EIA terms) at six Grade II Listed Buildings and nine non-designated historic buildings during the construction phase. During the operational phase there would be residual Slight Adverse effects (i.e., 'not significant' in EIA terms) at 3 Grade II Listed Buildings and 11 non-designated historic buildings, and Moderate Adverse (i.e., 'significant' in EIA terms) at a single non-designated historic building.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>The LVIA has identified the need for extensive landscape mitigation that is set out in the C7.3 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EX2/C7.3_B] which is secured by Requirement 7 in Schedule 2 of C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [EX2/C3.1_C].</p> <p>Chapter 13: Cultural Heritage [APP-048] (see para. 13.8.9) identifies that the landscape mitigation proposals (e.g., planting of shelter belts and scattered trees, planting of new hedgerows, existing hedgerow reinforcement) which should reach maturity by Year 15 would reduce 'Slight Adverse' effects to 'Neutral' at three Listed Buildings (NHLE 1308921, NHLE 1317186 and NHLE 1359417), and nine non-designated historic buildings (HB2, HB4, HB5, HB14, HB15, HB16, HB17, HB19 and HB23), and reduce the Moderate Adverse effects (i.e., 'significant' in EIA terms) to Slight Adverse (i.e., 'not significant' in EIA terms) at two non-designated historic buildings (C6.3.13.8 ES Appendix 13.8 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment Tables [APP-132] - HB18 and HB22).</p>
			Comments refer to impacts at St Mary's Minster, Stow	C6.2.13 ES Chapter 13 Cultural Heritage [APP-048] provides an assessment of potential impacts caused by the Scheme to Cultural Heritage. A Heritage Asset Setting Assessment has been undertaken in line with

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Historic England's Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning. Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets. As part of C6.2.13 ES Appendix 13.5: Heritage Statement [APP-125 – APP-128]. The assessment concluded that due to the location of the Church of St Mary (NHLE 1146624) at the centre of the village of Stow, the surrounding built environment prevents any views out into the surrounding landscape. Views towards the church from the west are screened by the built environment and vegetation associated with the village. Consequently, this heritage asset was scoped out of further consideration as its significance would remain unaffected by the Scheme (heritage statement in paragraph 3.1.60 [APP-125 – APP-128]).
			Comments refer to the home of St Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln being located adjacent to the A1500 near Sturton by Stow	The Applicant notes this comment. The medieval bishop's palace and deer park, Stow Park (NHLE 1019229), which is located to the south of A1500 (Till Bridge Lane), was used as a residence of the Bishops of Lincoln throughout the medieval period including St Hugh. The proposed Scheme will not impact on this heritage asset. As detailed in paragraph 3.1.42 of C6.3.13.5 ES Appendix 13.5 Heritage Statement_Part 1 of 4 [APP—125] the medieval bishop's palace and deer park, Stow Park (NHLE 1019229) is located c.2.8km to the east-south-east of Cottam 1D and does not have

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				any intervisibility with the Scheme. Consequently it was scoped out of further assessment and is not considered to be impacted upon by the Scheme.
			Concern for local heritage and archaeology	<p>C6.2.13 ES Chapter 13 Cultural Heritage [APP-048] identified that the Scheme would have an adverse impact on only one site of a national significance: <i>Thorpe medieval settlement</i> (NHLE 1016978). The extensive archaeological assessment work undertaken by the Applicant has identified numerous 'new' archaeological sites of up to regional value, which have greatly improved our understanding of former patterns of settlement and land use [APP-048].</p> <p>As identified in the National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) (March 2023; Paragraph 3.10.101) as a potential benefit of solar PV developments, the Applicant would like to highlight the positive effect the Scheme will have on the archaeological features identified within the Scheme's Order Limits, which are currently at risk from the impacts of ploughing (Paragraphs 13.7.15, 13.7.33 and 13.7.34 of C6.2.13 ES Chapter 13 Cultural Heritage [APP-048]).</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				The Applicant highlights the reversible nature of the Scheme, given the commitment (secured through Requirement 21 of the DCO [EX2/C3.1_C]) to decommission the Scheme no later than 60 years following the date of final commissioning, whereby existing landscape features will remain in situ, resulting in any adverse effects to either the historic landscape characterisation or setting of designated heritage assets being reversed following decommissioning.
			Specific concerns were raised regarding the deserted mediaeval village at Normanby by Stow	The Applicant has proposed "preservation in-situ" through the removal of solar panels in fields to the east of Normanby by Stow in order to protect buried archaeological deposits associated with the deserted medieval village. The extent and location of associated archaeological deposits were identified in C6.3.13.1 ES Appendix 13.1 Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments [APP-109], C6.3.13.2 ES Appendix 13.2 Archaeological Geophysical Survey Reports [APP-110 to APP-122] and C6.3.13.4 ES Appendix 13.4 Air Photo (AP) and LiDAR Reports [APP-124],
CUL-03	REP-144; REP-152; REP-159; REP-165	Impact on rural culture	Objection to the change of use due to the destruction of Lincolnshire's agricultural heritage.	The Applicant highlights the reversible nature of the Scheme, given the commitment (secured through Requirement 21 of the DCO [EX2/C3.1_C]) to decommission the Scheme no later than 60 years

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				following the date of final commissioning, whereby existing landscape features will remain in situ, resulting in any adverse effects to the historic landscape character being reversed following decommissioning.
CUL-04	REP-164	Intrusive archaeological surveys	Comment questions why trial trenching is taking place in areas proposed for wildflower sowing and questions if this demonstrates a future planned change of use	<p>An informed programme of C6.3.13.6 ES Appendix 13.6 Archaeological Evaluation Trenching [APP-129 & APP-130] was undertaken to verify the results of the non-intrusive assessments. In particular the evaluation trial trenching targeted areas where archaeological deposits had been identified in order to provide further information regarding their extent, character, preservation, and archaeological significance.</p> <p>Wildflower planting will be undertaken post-consent and maintained for the duration of the Scheme's lifespan as detailed in LEMP Outline Landscape [EN010133/EX2/C7.3_A] and Ecological Management Plan and secured by Requirement 7 of C3.1_C Draft Development Consent Order [EN010133-EX2/C3.1_C]. The Applicant is not aware of any future planned change of use following the decommissioning of the Scheme.</p>



3.5 Ecology and Biodiversity

Table 2.5: Applicant's Response to Ecology and Biodiversity Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
ECO-01	REP-127; REP-128	Adequacy of surveys	Comments refer to direct impacts on aquatic invertebrates and resultant food chain impacts	Please refer to document C8.1.2 REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue reference ECO-03/RR-057 on this matter.
			Some comments consider there to be a lack of suitable or sufficient assessment of impacts on wildlife and habitats	Please refer to document C8.1.2 REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue reference ECO-04 on this matter.
ECO-02	REP-127	Bird injury	Concern that birds mistaking the panels for water could be injured attempting to land on them	Please refer to document C8 1.2 REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue reference LWT-09 and GG-01 on this matter.
ECO-03	REP-130; REP-144; REP-152	BNG assessment	Assessment of BNG does not consider current levels of biodiversity on and around the Sites.	Please refer to document C8 1.2 REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue reference ECO-04 on this matter.
			Biodiversity gains are only measured at the point of maturity	Under the Defra Biodiversity Metric, gains are indeed measured at the point of maturity, although this can be dramatically different for different habitats. This fact does not, however, mean that newly created or enhanced habitats cannot contribute meaningfully towards biodiversity benefit in the interim. Furthermore, the majority of habitat creation in the form of diverse grassland types will have a far more

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				rapid time-to-maturity than other habitats such as woodland. This is considered reasonable within the proposed Scheme lifespan of 60 years.
			Biodiversity gains on solar farms in the UK are unproven	Please refer to document C8 1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations REP-049, issue reference ECO-18 on this matter.
ECO-04	REP-144	Construction oversight	The development of the Scheme should be overseen by a dedicated conservation officer to provide guarantees of ecological compliance	The Outline Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy C7.19 [APP-356] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan C7.19 [APP-339], particularly Section 11, sets out how construction works would be carried out under an ecological watching brief by a suitably qualified Ecological Clerk of Works. The oLEMP will be secured through Requirement 7 of the DCO.
ECO-05	REP-138; REP-152; REP-159; REP-165	Deer roaming	Some comments that the Scheme will detrimentally impact ability for deer to move across the land and trapping them in neighbouring farmland or in ancient woodland	Please refer to document REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue reference ECO-14/RR-197 and ECO-17 on this matter.
ECO-06	REP-103; REP-127; REP-130; REP-132; REP-138; REP-141;	Ecological impacts	Disruption to air flow around panels will negatively impact insect and plant life	Please refer to document REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue reference ECO-01 on this matter.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
	REP-144; REP-152; REP-155; REP-157; REP-159; REP-160; REP-162; REP-165; REP-168; REP-173; REP-174; REP-176; REP-177; REP-179; REP-183; REP-184; REP-185; REP-191; REP-192; REP-195; REP-199; REP-201; REP-202; REP-205		Some comments that the Scheme will detrimentally impact local biodiversity, wildlife, habitats and ecosystems	Please refer to document REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue reference ECO-04 on this matter.
			Specific concern over falling bee population due to predation by hornets	It is not clear from the representation how the Scheme may result in an increase in bee predation by hornets. These have not been scoped into the EIA.
ECO-07	REP-187; REP-189	EMF impacts	Concerns and comments on electromagnetic fields on marine life, flora and fauna, and biodiversity	Please refer to document REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue reference ECO-16, and issue 1.13.32 of document C8.1.15: The Applicant's Response to ExA First Written Questions on this matter.
ECO-08	REP-152	Light pollution	Some comments refer to security lights impacting on wildlife	Please refer to document REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue references CRT-12 and GEN-31 on this matter.
ECO-09	REP-103; REP-130; REP-139; REP-144; REP-152; REP-160;	Loss of vegetation	Comment stating "the destruction/removal of hedgerows and	The quantity of hedgerow removal is provided in various places within the application, including The Hedgerow Removal Plans in Appendix C of C7.19

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
	REP-162; REP-168; REP-179; REP-180		trees should be made more prominent in application"	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan Revision A [EN010133/EX1PEX/C7.3_A] and Section 9.6.9 of Chapter 9 [APP-044].
			Comments objecting to the loss of hedgerows, trees, and shrubs	<p>12 new hedgerow gaps for construction and maintenance access into the development solar and BESS sites considering the range of gap widths required (between 3 and 6.5m each as set out in Section 9.6.9 of Chapter 9 C6.2.9 ES Chapter 9_Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-044]). Within the Cable Route Corridor, it was assessed that approximately 60 instances of temporary hedgerow removal would be required, giving a range of between 180 and 420m considering the range of gap widths required (between 3 and 7m as set out in Section 9.6.9 of Chapter 9[APP-044]).</p> <p>The above hedgerow losses, both permanent and temporary will be more than compensated for by the planting of several thousand of metres of new hedgerows within the Scheme – see Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plan [APP-305 to APP-315].</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Objection raised in concern of the DCO wording which appears to allow unlimited vegetation removal	While DCO wording enables the removal of hedgerows, this power is restricted by DCO Requirements including the Outline Ecological Protection and Mitigation Strategy C7.19 [APP-356] and Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan Revision A [EN010133/EX1PEX/C7.3_A]. The result is a highly limited quantity of hedgerow loss.
ECO-10	REP-130; REP-144; REP-168	Mitigation	Comments anticipate that ecological mitigation will fail due to wildlife grazing and lack of aftercare	The C7.3 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [APP-339] includes for the reversion of the majority of the land beneath solar panels to permanent grassland from arable and for its management for the benefit of biodiversity. This objective can be achieved through either mechanical cutting, grazing or a combination of the two, subject to appropriately informed and ecologically-led management prescriptions and timings as set out in the oLEMP. At the time of writing, it is not clear to what proportions grazing or cutting will be applied across the Scheme and the document allows for revision and flexibility to this approach for logistical reasons including the availability of graziers and suitable machinery. All such revisions would be made with the input of an ecologist in order to ensure the objective of the document can still be met. The eventual finalised

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				LEMP will be secured through Requirement 7 of Schedule 2 C3.1C of the DCO [AS-012AS012] .
			Comments suggesting land to the east of Sturton by Stow could have been used for mitigation but has been removed from the Scheme	It is not clear which fields or land parcels are being referred to. Significant ecological mitigation land is provided within the proposals on Cottam 1 in the area of Sturton by Stow which seeks to adequately address key ecological impacts of the Scheme.
			Some comments claim there is no evidence to prove landscape and ecological mitigation will improve habitat	Although relatively in their infancy, independent ecological monitoring of solar schemes regularly demonstrates increased diversity and abundance of flora and fauna, including diverse grasslands, flourishing hedgerows and abundant small mammals and terrestrial invertebrates. For example, the document entitled Solar Habitat: Ecological Trends on Solar Farms in the UK published by Solar Energy UK provides more information. Furthermore, the commitment to a long term ecological management and monitoring scheme (Outline Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plan [APP-339] as secured by Requirement 7 of Schedule 2 C3.1C DCO [AS-012AS012]) will ensure the achievement of the stated objectives and provide for the ecological betterment of the site.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Some comments that the Scheme must mitigate impacts on local biodiversity and wildlife	Please refer to document REP-049: The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations, issue reference ECO-04 on this matter.

3.6 Energy Need

Table 2.6: Applicant's Response to Energy Need Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
ENG-01	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-148; REP-154; REP-158; REP-160; REP-161; REP-162; REP-163; REP-164; REP-199; REP-205	Alternative sources of energy	Comment states that battery storage will predominantly be used for storage from the National Grid	<p>Draft EN-1 (March 2023), para 3.3.25, sets out Government's emerging policy position in favour of BESS: "Storage has a key role to play in achieving net zero and providing flexibility to the energy system, so that high volumes of low carbon power, heat and transport can be integrated."</p> <p>Battery Storage is foreseen to undertake the following types of operation during its operational life:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importing from a co-located renewable energy facility when local generation is high but national generation is higher than national demand; • Exporting to the grid when co-located renewable generation is low but national demand is higher than national generation; • Importing or exporting from the grid under an Ancillary (Balancing) Service contract instruction from National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO). <p>These modes of operation demonstrate that there is a direct relationship between the battery storage</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>element of the Scheme and the principal solar development; the BESS supports the operation of the solar farm and it is not an aim in itself; it is proportionate and is not solely included only as an additional source of revenue.</p> <p>Further, the BESS will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Import from the grid when national demand is low but national generation is high • Export to the grid when national generation is low but national demand is high
			Some comments claim a 40% load factor for wind power and a 95% load factor for nuclear power	Table 7.1 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows the electricity generated per hectare by different low-carbon technologies. At the UK's average solar load factor (11%), solar generation produces much more energy per hectare than biogas, and generates a similar amount of energy as onshore wind.
			Some comments refer to agricultural land being used for biofuel/anaerobic digestion power	Table 7.1 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows the electricity generated per hectare by different low-carbon technologies. At the UK's average solar load factor (11%), solar generation produces much more

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				energy per hectare than biogas, and generates a similar amount of energy as onshore wind.
			Some comments refer to gas as a suitable alternative	<p>Chapter 4 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] sets out the UK's legal requirement to decarbonise and explains how that requirement has created an increased need and urgency to meet the UK's obligations under the Paris Agreement (2015) as detailed within para. 4.2.7. The Chapter summarises the latest expert views on the urgency for, and depth of, low-carbon infrastructure needed to deliver the UK's Net Zero legal obligations, and demonstrates that there is an urgent need for the development of large-scale solar schemes.</p> <p>Paragraph 8.9.3 describes how in 2021, the Government "unveiled plans to decarbonise UK power system by 2035. The plans focus on building a secure, home-grown energy sector that reduces reliance on fossil fuels and exposure to volatile global wholesale energy prices".</p> <p>Building new gas plants is not consistent with these plans.</p>
			Some comments refer to nuclear fusion power as a suitable alternative	Section 5.4 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] analyses the contribution that nuclear power can make

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>to the urgent need to decarbonise and concludes that the development timeframes associated with that technology mean that it is highly unlikely that new nuclear will make any contribution to decarbonisation in the critical pre-2030 timeframe beyond the commissioning of Hinkley Point C, currently scheduled for 2028.</p> <p>The Energy Act 2023 legislates for the regulation of nuclear fusion, an important enabler of the UK's prototype fusion ambitions for 2040. While further development of exciting nuclear fusion technology is important, these timelines highlight that nuclear fusion will not deliver on the urgent need for low-carbon electricity and a zero-carbon grid by 2035.</p>
			Some comments refer to nuclear power as a suitable alternative, or the only form of reliable low carbon electricity generation	Section 5.4 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] analyses the contribution that nuclear power can make to the urgent need to decarbonise and concludes that the development timeframes associated with that technology mean that it is highly unlikely that new nuclear will make any contribution to decarbonisation in the critical pre-2030 timeframe beyond the commissioning of Hinkley Point C, currently scheduled for 2028

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Some comments refer to other renewable energy sources being more efficient	Table 7.1 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows the electricity generated per hectare by different low-carbon technologies. At the UK's average solar load factor (11%), solar generation produces much more energy per hectare than biogas, and generates a similar amount of energy as onshore wind.
			Some comments refer to small modular nuclear reactors as a suitable alternative, using the existing infrastructure at Cottam and West Burton power stations	Section 5.4 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] analyses the contribution that nuclear power can make to the urgent need to decarbonise and concludes that the development timeframes associated with that technology mean that it is highly unlikely that new nuclear will make any contribution to decarbonisation in the critical pre-2030 timeframe beyond the commissioning of Hinkley Point C, currently scheduled for 2028
			Some comments refer to solar panels being installed on cars, buses, lorries, and trains to directly charge them	The Applicant is in favour of all innovative forms of low-carbon electricity generation but does not agree that these will provide a suitable alternative to the Scheme.
			Some comments refer to tidal barrage power as a suitable alternative	Paragraph 5.4.8 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] discusses progress made with large-scale tidal projects in the UK. Paragraph 12.1.3 concludes that "Other conventional low-carbon generation (e.g. tidal, nuclear or conventional carbon with CCUS) remain

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				important contributors to achieving the 2050 Net Zero obligation, but their contributions in the important 2020s will be very low." and therefore that they will not deliver on the urgent need for low-carbon electricity and a zero-carbon grid by 2035.
			Some comments refer to vertical axis wind turbines on roadsides	Section 3.3 of document C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350], specifically paragraphs 3.3.2, 3.3.5 and 3.3.11, describes the Government's view that large capacities of low-carbon generation will be required to meet increased demand and replace output from retiring (fossil fuel) plants, and that "a secure, reliable, affordable, Net Zero consistent system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar" (paragraph 3.3.7). This support for large scale solar as part of the 'answer' to net zero and energy security, in combination with wind power, has been repeated in its recent policy documents published in March 2023 and a target of 70GW of solar by 2035 is set out in <i>Powering Up Britain – The Net Zero Growth Plan</i> and draft NPS EN-3.
			Some comments refer to wind power as a suitable alternative	Section 3.3 of document C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350], specifically paragraphs 3.3.2, 3.3.5 and 3.3.11, describes the Government's view that large capacities of low-carbon generation will be required to

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				meet increased demand and replace output from retiring (fossil fuel) plants, and that "a secure, reliable, affordable, Net Zero consistent system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar" (paragraph 3.3.7). This support for large scale solar as part of the 'answer' to net zero and energy security, in combination with wind power, has been repeated in its recent policy documents published in March 2023, and a target of 70GW of solar by 2035 is set out in <i>Powering Up Britain – The Net Zero Growth Plan</i> and draft NPS EN-3.
ENG-02	REP-186	Energy Production	Comment that energy produced will be minimal when demand is highest	Figure 8.2 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows how solar is expected to work alongside other renewable and low-carbon assets to meet demand throughout the year, providing more energy in times where wind energy is reduced. The inclusion of batteries as part of the Scheme will allow the Scheme to store energy when it is in abundance and release it to the grid when it is needed.
ENG-03	REP-152; REP-161	Existing energy infrastructure	Some comments refer to the area already having coal-fire power stations, CCGTs	The Applicant notes this comment.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
		and commitments	and the proposed nuclear fusion STEP site	
ENG-04	REP-154	Grid capacity	Some comments refer to solar schemes as wasteful and taking up grid capacity from more valuable forms of energy production	<p>Section 3.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] summarises the 2021 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3, which sets out Government's view that a Net-Zero consistent [energy] system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar. This point is reiterated in the newly published March 2023 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3. Figure 7.1 shows National Grid Electricity System Operator's projections of the capacity of solar generation required to deliver a net-zero consistent system, which, as stated in para. 7.2.10, are 25 – 42GW by 2030, and 57 – 92GW by 2050, compared to just 14GW today (Section 7.2)</p> <p>Table 7.1 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows the electricity generated per hectare by different low-carbon technologies. At the UK's average solar load factor (11%), solar generation produces much more energy per hectare than biogas, and generates a similar amount of energy as onshore wind.</p> <p>Furthermore, paragraph 7.6.8 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] states that: "Draft NPS EN-3 includes an anticipated range of 2 to 4 acres for each MW of</p>

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				output generally required for a solar farm along with its associated infrastructure." The Scheme as proposed delivers a large-scale solar generation asset which is consistent with this range, as is described through paragraphs 4.2.1 to 4.2.3 of C6.2.4 ES Chapter 4_Scheme Description [APP-039]. This demonstrates that the proposed location is a suitable site which will provide for an asset which is consistent with government's view of best practice ratios of land take and installed capacity.
ENG-05	REP-144; REP-152; REP-154; REP-161; REP-162; REP-164	Meeting national energy need	Comments refer to national NGENO TEC license register showing 130GW of solar proposals with an approximate land take of 600,000 acres, covering 4% of the arable area of the UK	Section 3.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] summarises the 2021 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3, which sets out Government's view that a Net-Zero consistent [energy] system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar. This point is reiterated in the newly published March 2023 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3. Figure 7.1 shows National Grid Electricity System Operator's projections of the capacity of solar generation required to deliver a net-zero consistent system, which, as stated in para. 7.2.10, are 25 – 42GW by 2030, and 57 – 92GW by 2050, compared to just 14GW today (Section 7.2) Paragraph 7.4.11 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] states that "The inclusion of a project on a 'future

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>project pipeline' – for example, a list of projects which have applied for a DCO, or the scoping / consents / construction pipeline ... does not indicate that the project will go ahead, or if it does, at a particular generation capacity."</p> <p>Furthermore, paragraph 7.6.8 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] states that: "Draft NPS EN-3 includes an anticipated range of 2 to 4 acres for each MW of output generally required for a solar farm along with its associated infrastructure." The Scheme as proposed delivers a large-scale solar generation asset which is consistent with this range, as is described through paragraphs 4.2.1 to 4.2.3 of C6.2.4 ES Chapter 4_Scheme Description [APP-039]. This demonstrates that the proposed location is a suitable site which will provide for an asset which is consistent with government's view of best practice ratios of land take and installed capacity.</p>
			Some comments claim there is no proven need for solar NSIPs	C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] sets out the case for need for large-scale solar in the UK. Section 3.3, specifically paragraphs 3.3.2, 3.3.5 and 3.3.11, describes the Government's view that large capacities of low-carbon generation will be required to meet increased demand and replace output from retiring (fossil fuel)

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				<p>plants, and that "a secure, reliable, affordable, Net Zero consistent system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar" (paragraph 3.3.7). This support for large scale solar as part of the 'answer' to net zero and energy security, in combination with wind power, has been repeated in its recent policy documents published in March 2023 and a target of 70GW of solar by 2035 is set out in <i>Powering Up Britain - The Net Zero Growth Plan</i> and draft NPS EN-3.</p>
			<p>Some comments make reference to the Scheme only meeting 0.17% of national need</p>	<p>Section 3.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] summarises the 2021 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3, which sets out Government's view that a Net-Zero consistent [energy] system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar. This point is reiterated in the newly published March 2023 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3. Figure 7.1 shows National Grid Electricity System Operator's projections of the capacity of solar generation required to deliver a net-zero consistent system, which, as stated in para. 7.2.10, are 25 – 42GW by 2030, and 57 – 92GW by 2050, compared to just 14GW today (Section 7.2).</p> <p>As set out in paragraph 4.7.12 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350], the Scheme, if consented, would deliver a connection capacity of 600MW in 2029,</p>

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				towards meeting the national solar generation requirements.
			Some comments suggest that national policy need for solar is based on alarmism rather than an understanding of solar energy performance	<p>The Applicant notes and respectfully disagrees with this comment.</p> <p>Chapter 4 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] sets out the UK's legal requirement to decarbonise and explains how that requirement has created an increased need and urgency to meet the UK's obligations under the Paris Agreement (2015) as detailed within para. 4.2.7. The Chapter summarises the latest expert views on the urgency for and depth of low-carbon infrastructure needed to deliver the UK's Net Zero legal obligations, and demonstrates that there is an urgent need for the development of large-scale solar schemes. Section 3.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] summarises the 2021 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3, which sets out Government's view that a Net-Zero consistent [energy] system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar. This point is reiterated in the newly published March 2023 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3. Figure 7.1 shows National Grid</p>

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				Electricity System Operator's projections of the capacity of solar generation required to deliver a net-zero consistent system, which, as stated in para. 7.2.10, are 25 – 42GW by 2030, and 57 – 92GW by 2050, compared to just 14GW today (Section 7.2).
			Some comments refer to objectors not believing the amount of BESS is great enough to be a serious consideration for improving national energy security	The BESS proposals at the Scheme, including the amount of BESS, have been developed by reference to the capability and capacity of the location and grid connection that will accommodate them.
			Some comments refer to objectors not believing the amount of energy produced is great enough to be a serious consideration for improving national energy security	Section 3.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] summarises the 2021 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3, which sets out Government's view that a Net-Zero consistent [energy] system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar. This point is reiterated in the newly published March 2023 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3. Figure 7.1 shows National Grid Electricity System Operator's projections of the capacity of solar generation required to deliver a net-zero consistent system, which, as stated in para. 7.2.10, are 25 – 42GW by 2030, and 57 – 92GW by 2050, compared to just 14GW today (Section 7.2) Paragraph 7.4.11 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] states that "The inclusion of a project on a 'future

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>project pipeline' – for example, a list of projects which have applied for a DCO, or the scoping / consents / construction pipeline ... does not indicate that the project will go ahead, or if it does, at a particular generation capacity."</p> <p>Furthermore, paragraph 7.6.8 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] states that: "Draft NPS EN-3 includes an anticipated range of 2 to 4 acres for each MW of output generally required for a solar farm along with its associated infrastructure." The Scheme as proposed delivers a large-scale solar generation asset which is consistent with this range, as is described through paragraphs 4.2.1 to 4.2.3 of C6.2.4 ES Chapter 4_Scheme Description [APP-039]. This demonstrates that the proposed location is a suitable site which will provide for an asset which is consistent with government's view of best practice ratios of e and installed capacity.</p> <p>As set out in paragraph 4.7.12 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350], the Scheme, if consented, would deliver a connection capacity of 600MW in 2029 towards meeting the national solar generation requirements.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Some comments refer to solar not producing any electricity during peak demand times in winter	Figure 8.2 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows how solar is expected to work alongside other renewable and low-carbon assets to meet demand throughout the year, providing more energy in times where wind energy is reduced. The inclusion of batteries as part of the Scheme will allow the Scheme to store energy when it is in abundance and release it to the grid when it is needed.
			Some comments state that the public has been misled regarding the amount of electricity the Scheme will produce in comparison to the coal-fired power station at Cottam	Chapter 4 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] sets out the UK's legal requirement to decarbonise and explains how that requirement has created an increased need and urgency to meet the UK's obligations under the Paris Agreement (2015) as detailed within para. 4.2.7. The Chapter summarises the latest expert views on the urgency for, and depth of, low-carbon infrastructure needed to deliver the UK's Net Zero legal obligations, and demonstrates that there is an urgent need for the development of large-scale solar schemes. Paragraph 8.9.3 describes how in 2021, the Government "unveiled plans to decarbonise UK power system by 2035. The plans focus on building a secure,

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				<p>home-grown energy sector that reduces reliance on fossil fuels and exposure to volatile global wholesale energy prices".</p> <p>Continuing to use existing coal plants is not consistent with these plans.</p> <p>As set out in paragraph 4.7.12 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350], the Scheme, if consented, would deliver a connection capacity of 600MW in 2029, towards meeting the national solar generation requirements.</p>
ENG-06	REP-178	Source of Energy	Comment that Solar is unreliable source of energy	Figure 8.2 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows how solar is expected to work alongside other renewable and low-carbon assets to meet demand throughout the year, providing more energy in times where wind energy is reduced. The inclusion of batteries as part of the Scheme will allow the Scheme to store energy when it is in abundance and release it to the grid when it is needed.
ENG-07	REP-138; REP-171	Technological advancement	Comment raises concern that technological advancement could make the solar panels obsolete in 10 years or	Paragraph 5.5.9 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] explains that "Draft Revised NPS EN-1 articulates the government's prudent view that infrastructure development should be planned on a conservative

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			before they can be installed and generating to the National Grid	<p>basis [1, Para 3.3.11], without over-relying on technologies which are yet to be proven, have long development lead-times, or which have historically experienced funding difficulties"</p> <p>Consistent with this policy, the Scheme should be assessed on the evidence for current technologies, not on a view of what technological advancements may or may not happen in the future.</p>

3.7 General Comments

Table 2.7: Applicant's Response to General Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
GEN-01	REP-140	Attachment to locale	Commentor states that nobody replied to question regarding if any of the promoters lived in the affected area	<p>The Applicant acknowledges this comment, and notes that a range of professionally qualified consultants have been appointed to undertake and compile the assessment work required in the preparation and submission of a DCO. C6.3.1.1 ES Appendix 1.1 Statement of Competence [APP-059] sets out the qualifications and experiences of the EIA technical leads and coordinators. This is provided in order to comply with Paragraph 14(4)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.</p> <p>The Applicant also points the Party to Cottam Solar Project's acceptance for examination. An application for an order granting development consent, such as is the case, can only be accepted for examination if the Secretary of State concludes "<i>that the application (including accompaniments) is of a standard that the Secretary of State considers satisfactory</i>" as per Section 55 (3)(f) of the Planning Act 2008.</p>
GEN-02	REP-137	Comments on RRs	Considers that those benefitting financially from the Scheme and	The Applicant notes this response. The Applicant notes that all Relevant and Written Representations made to the Cottam Solar Project Examination will be

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			submitting Relevant Representations is a conflict of interest	documented and responded to as part of the examination process. In relation to Relevant Representations, please see C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049]).
GEN-03	REP-130; REP-138; REP-168; REP-177	Compensation	Concerns no information on financial compensation for damage to buildings or heritage features	Chapter 13 (Cultural Heritage) of the Environmental Statement [EN010133/APP/C6.2.13] presents an assessment of the effects of the Scheme on cultural heritage and archaeological receptors. This includes an assessment of the Scheme's effect on heritage, historic landscape and archaeology arising from likely impacts alongside proposed appropriate mitigation. The Applicant notes that construction traffic will be managed through a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP). The aim of the CTMP is to minimise the effects of construction traffic on the local highway network. A road condition survey will be undertaken with a commitment to rectify any damage caused by construction vehicles. The preparation and approval of a final CTMP is secured through Requirement 15 of the DCO [EX2/C3.1_C].
			Questions raised if compensation will be given to individuals negatively affected by the Scheme's construction	In order to deliver the benefits of the Scheme, the Applicant requires the use of compulsory acquisition powers where voluntary agreements cannot be reached with landowners. This will result in a private

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				<p>loss by those persons whose land or interests in land is compulsorily acquired. Appropriate compensation will be available to those entitled to claim it under the relevant provisions of the national Compensation Code. This is explained in detail in the C4.1 Statement of Reasons [AS-013].</p> <p>The Applicant notes this comment and has assessed the economic impact of the Scheme in Section 18.7 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053] and the direct impacts on local agriculture in C6.2.19 ES Chapter 19 Soils and Agriculture [APP-054].</p> <p>The Scheme is anticipated to lead to a maximum loss of approximately 17 full-time equivalent agriculture jobs (para. 18.7.15 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]), whilst the Scheme is estimated to employ 10 full-time equivalent employees from the local area during operation (Table 18.16 [APP-053]). The net change in employment in the local area (defined as West Lindsey and Bassetlaw districts) during its operational life is a loss of approximately 2 full-time jobs, once consideration of direct, indirect and induced employment, and impacts on the tourism and</p>

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				<p>recreation industry are considered (see Table 18.17 and para. 18.7.79 [APP-053]). Overall, the economic benefit to the local area is estimated to be £2.2million per year (para. 18.7.97 [APP-053]).</p> <p>The overall employment and economic benefit to the local area from the two-year construction period is anticipated to be 661 full-time equivalent jobs (see Table 18.11 and para. 18.7.23 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]), generating £30.9 million Gross Value Added per year (para. 18.7.52 [APP-053]).</p>
GEN-04	REP-132; REP-138; REP-140; REP-144; REP-148; REP-152; REP-154; REP-155; REP-158; REP-162; REP-165	Consultation	Comments refer to information provided at the statutory consultation being inadequate and misleading	<p>The Applicant acknowledges this comment but is confident that the level of consultation undertaken throughout the pre-application stage meets the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance. This has been evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>For example, as described in Chapter 2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the Applicant.</p> <p>Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation. Included in this table is a commitment and evidence of the Applicant providing free, open communication methods for members of the community to ask questions, request information (including in alternative formats) and provide feedback. This was evidenced by the Applicant through the use of a freepost, a freephone and an email address during the pre-application stage.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that the physical and online feedback form during the second phase of consultation provided members of the community the opportunity</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>to write open-ended feedback regarding their opinion of the Scheme, as well as an opportunity to provide any final thoughts on the Scheme. The Applicant notes that an acknowledgement email was sent to the sender during the statutory phase of consultation to confirm feedback was registered.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme, including the accessibility of drawings and illustrations of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This chapter also details that the Applicant received 694 pieces of feedback. This included 195 hard copy feedback forms, 320 responses to the digital engagement platform, and 179 written responses received by email or Freepost This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p>
			Comments state the information presented is propaganda	<p>The Applicant acknowledges this comment but remains confident that the level of consultation undertaken throughout the pre-application stage meets the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance. This has been evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>For example, as described in Chapter 2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the Applicant.</p> <p>Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation. Included in this table is a commitment and evidence of the Applicant providing free, open communication methods for members of the community to ask questions, request information (including in alternative formats) and provide feedback. This was evidenced by the Applicant through the use of a freepost, a freephone and an email address during the pre-application stage.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>The Applicant notes that the physical and online feedback form during the second phase of consultation provided members of the community the opportunity to write open-ended feedback regarding their opinion of the Scheme, as well as an opportunity to provide any final thoughts on the Scheme. The Applicant notes that an acknowledgement email was sent to the sender during the statutory phase of consultation to confirm feedback was registered.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme, including the accessibility of drawings and illustrations of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community) , including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This chapter also details that the Applicant received 694 pieces of feedback. This included 195 hard copy feedback forms, 320 responses to the digital engagement platform, and 179 written responses received by email or Freepost This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p>
			Concern that consultation areas for Schemes did not cover enough people who are affected by cumulative impacts	Throughout the consultation process the Applicant has welcomed feedback from a range of stakeholders, including communities and statutory stakeholders including Parish, County and District councils, as well as businesses and local residents. The outcome of this consultation and engagement is evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>Table 1.2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant publicised the first phase of community consultation by distributing a community consultation leaflet and feedback form to over 9,000 local homes and business.</p> <p>Chapter 5 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] details how the Applicant notified identified stakeholders of the launch of the phase one consultation by email on 3 November 2021. This email included an electronic copy of the Phase One Community Consultation Leaflet. Table 5.1 of the chapter details how district, county and parish councils relevant to the Scheme were notified.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with Local Planning Authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. The chapter details how the Applicant has engaged with developers cooperatively to explore opportunities to reduce potential cumulative impacts. Consultation activities between the Scheme, West Burton Solar Project, and Gate Burton Energy Park were coordinated to reduce risks of consultation</p>

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				<p>confusion and fatigue. This included avoiding any overlap when arranging public information events and presenting a graphic which showed the locations of the Scheme, West Burton Solar Project, and Gate Burton Energy Park.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with Local Planning Authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out how the Applicant has worked with, and received comments in response to the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) from West Lindsey District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Lincolnshire County Council, and Nottinghamshire County Council. The table further details how the Applicant responded and incorporated the comments made. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the SoCC when undertaking statutory consultation. An included commitment was to issue community members within the core consultation zone with communications such as consultation leaflets, to inform them of the Scheme and the methods available to provide feedback.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, to provide communities, local authorities, businesses and landowners a sufficient period of time to provide feedback. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties (including businesses) within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p>
			Concerns raised that as the Scheme sits under national planning policy and DCO process, it means decisions have	As the Scheme comprises a generating station with a capacity of over 50 MW, it is defined as a “nationally significant infrastructure project” under the Planning

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			<p>already been made and there is no scope for local influence or control over the outcomes</p>	<p>Act 2008, meaning it must be consented by way of a development consent order (DCO). Applications for DCOs are decided by the Secretary of State rather than the local planning authority, however, host local authorities retain an important statutory role in the DCO application process.</p> <p>The Applicant is confident that the level of consultation undertaken and information presented throughout the pre-application stage is in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance. This has been evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>For example, Table 1.1 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the cable route corridor for the Scheme has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners and the community.</p> <p>Table 1.2 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the Applicant provided consultation documents to Landowners to inform them regarding upcoming statutory consultation and methods to provide feedback.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>As described in Chapter 2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the Applicant. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p>
			<p>Consultation has felt more like imposition</p>	<p>The Applicant acknowledges this comment and is confident that the consultation undertaken and information presented throughout the pre-application stage is in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance. This has been evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>For example, Table 1.1 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the cable route corridor for the Scheme has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners and the community.</p> <p>Table 1.2 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the Applicant provided consultation documents to Landowners to inform them regarding upcoming statutory consultation and methods to provide feedback.</p> <p>As described in Chapter 2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the</p>

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				<p>Applicant. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p>
			<p>Consultation has taken place during holidays or in venues that are difficult to access for local communities</p>	<p>Throughout the consultation process the Applicant has welcomed feedback from a range of stakeholders, including communities, landowners and occupiers, on the Scheme proposals. The outcome of this consultation and engagement is evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>Chapter 4 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] details how the Applicant undertook early engagement with consultees. Table 4.1 details the early engagement meetings which took place between the Applicant and the relevant stakeholder. This table includes the date the stakeholder met representatives of the Applicant and a summary of what was discussed at the meeting. Table 4.2 details the meetings which took place between the Applicant and near neighbours to the Scheme. Included in this table are the date the</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>stakeholder met representatives of the Applicant and a summary of what was discussed at the meeting.</p> <p>Table 5.2 within Chapter 5 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] details the public information events which took place for the first phase of community consultation. The Applicant notes that public information events were hosted at different locations to engage a broader amount of the local community and encourage attendance to these events. The table includes the date, venue and number of attendees to each information event.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the Applicant. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, to</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>provide communities, stakeholders and landowners a sufficient period of time to provide feedback. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>This chapter further details the public information events which took place for the second phase of community consultation. The Applicant notes that public information events were hosted at different locations to engage a broader amount of the local community and encourage attendance to these events. Table 8.2 includes the date, venue and number of attendees to each information event during this phase of consultation.</p> <p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.10</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p> <p>Chapter 12 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to the Section 42 consultation (statutory stakeholders), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.11 Appendix 5.11: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 42 Applicant Response [APP-034].</p>
			<p>Consultation process undertaken after private negotiations with absentee landowners with no scope for changes as a result of public comments</p>	<p>The Applicant has prepared a Consultation Report, [APP-021], Statement of Reasons [AS-013] and Book of Reference [EX2/C4.3_C] as part of the application, setting out how landowners and occupiers have been referenced and consulted with.</p> <p>The Site areas for panels have been determined through agreement with landowners, as well as following a staged site selection process</p> <p>The Applicant initially presented a cable route search corridor, which has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners. The Applicant is confident that the level of consultation undertaken and information presented throughout the pre-application</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>stage is in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance. This has been evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>For example, Table 1.1 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the cable route corridor for the Scheme has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners and the community.</p> <p>Table 1.2 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the Applicant provided consultation documents to Landowners to inform them regarding upcoming statutory consultation and methods to provide feedback.</p> <p>As described in Chapter 2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the Applicant. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].so</p>
			Ignoring community concerns amounts to a violation of human rights	<p>The Applicant acknowledges this comment and is confident that the level of consultation undertaken and information presented throughout the pre-application stage is in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance. This has been evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>For example, Table 1.1 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the cable route corridor for the Scheme has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners and the community.</p> <p>Table 1.2 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the Applicant provided</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>consultation documents to Landowners to inform them regarding upcoming statutory consultation and methods to provide feedback.</p> <p>As described in Chapter 2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the Applicant. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p>
			<p>Level of consultation reduced by tenants fearing retribution from landlords/estate</p>	<p>The Applicant acknowledges this comment and is confident that the level of consultation undertaken and information presented throughout the pre-application</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>stage is in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance. This has been evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>For example, Table 1.1 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the cable route corridor for the Scheme has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners and the community.</p> <p>Table 1.2 of Chapter 1 to C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], details how the Applicant provided consultation documents to Landowners to inform them regarding upcoming statutory consultation and methods to provide feedback.</p> <p>As described in Chapter 2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the Applicant. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p> <p>Chapter 12 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to the Section 42 consultation (statutory stakeholders), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.11 Appendix 5.11: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 42 Applicant Response [APP-034].</p>
GEN-05	REP-129; REP-147; REP-148	Decommissioning responsibility	Comment raises concern about who pays for the cost of decommissioning, particularly in the event of the failure of the business operating the Scheme	C7.2 Outline Decommissioning Statement [APP-338] sets out the principles of decommissioning and environmental considerations (see paras. 2.1.1 to 2.1.8) and provides a summary of potential mitigation and

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>management measures during decommissioning through Table 3.1. It also sets out how roles, responsibilities and actions required in respect of implementation of the mitigation measures will be managed, along with principles for monitoring and reporting. By example and as contained within Table 3.1, provision is made that <i>"Infrastructure such as PV panels and battery storage units will be removed and recycled as far as practical and in accordance with legislation and guidance applicable at the time"</i>.</p> <p>Funding for the decommissioning of the Scheme will be the responsibility of the operator/ undertaker of the Scheme at the end of the operational phase.</p> <p>Further details will be provided in the final DEMP and DTMP submitted for approval prior to decommissioning. The commitment for the final DEMP and DTMP to be substantially in accordance with the Outline Decommissioning Statement is secured by Requirement 21 of Schedule 2 of C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [EX2/C3.1_C]. Failure to comply with a requirement, or a plan approved under a requirement, is an offence under the Planning Act 2008.</p>

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GEN-06	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-129; REP-138; REP-139; REP-150; REP-152; REP-157; REP-159; REP-165; REP-168; REP-169	Examination	Comment infers that cumulative solar developments in West Lindsey should be treated as one development	<p>The Applicant notes that the developments being brought forward are separate DCO applications by a range of developers, each with their own individual grid connection agreement.</p> <p>The Applicant seeks to assure the Parties that a cumulative effects assessment has been prepared for the Application within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058].</p> <p>Cumulative effects assessments for each topic are set out in each of the ES Chapters and include the assessment of the impacts of the Scheme cumulatively with the NSIPs identified by West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) (Gate Burton Energy Park, West Burton Solar Project and Tillbridge Solar Project) - see paragraph 2.5.9 of C6.2.2 ES Chapter 2 EIA Process and Methodology [APP-037].</p> <p>This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Schedule 4 of the 2017 EIA Regulations and PINS Advice Note 17. The mitigation measures set out across the ES and secured in the various management plans therefore account for anticipated cumulative effects.</p> <p>Whilst it has not been possible for the Scheme to avoid all significant adverse residual impacts, these have</p>

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				been identified within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] and have been minimised, where possible, through careful and sensitive design and detailed mitigation strategies. The Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] has considered cumulative effects throughout.
			Comment states that the application [examination] should take place in the area the Scheme is located	The Applicant notes that the examination process is primarily a written process. The Applicant notes that it has been working with the Planning Inspectorate to arrange accessible hearings that comply with requirements in place. The Applicant notes that hearings arranged for the Cottam Solar Project have been blended events (both in person and virtual) which have taken place in the vicinity of the Scheme area.
			Comment states that the landowners should attend the meetings to be questioned on whether or not they live in the area	The Applicant recognises the importance of the Examination process and notes their responsibility to provide information to the Planning Inspectorate as required. The Applicant does not wish to comment on whether other private individuals should choose to attend meetings or hearings.
			Multiple rounds of consultation and representations is confusing,	The Applicant acknowledges this comment and is confident that the level of consultation undertaken and

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			<p>overwhelming and reduces effectiveness of responding</p>	<p>information presented throughout the pre-application stage is in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance. This has been evidenced in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>As described in Chapter 2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that it has engaged with the developer of Gate Burton Energy Park (Low Carbon) to manage consultation activities to reduce the risks of consultation fatigue and confusion for communities. This included avoiding any overlap when arranging public information events and presenting a graphic</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>which showed the locations of the Scheme, West Burton Solar Project, and Gate Burton Energy Park.</p> <p>Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the Applicant. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p> <p>Chapter 12 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to the Section 42 consultation (statutory stakeholders), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.11 Appendix 5.11: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 42 Applicant Response [APP-034].</p>
			<p>Personal impact on work and finances to facilitate participation in examination events</p>	<p>The Applicant notes that it is working with the Planning Inspectorate to facilitate examination events as per</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				requirements and relevant guidance set out in the Planning Act 2008.
GEN-07	REP-189	Financial	Concerns for capital cost of decommissioning has little to no return on investment	<p>The Applicant notes that funding for the decommissioning of the Scheme will be the responsibility of the operator/ undertaker of the Scheme at the end of the operational phase.</p> <p>Further details will be provided in the final DEMP and DTMP submitted for approval prior to decommissioning. The commitment for the final DEMP and DTMP to be substantially in accordance with the Outline Decommissioning Statement is secured by Requirement 21 of Schedule 2 of C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [EX2/C3.1_C]. Failure to comply with a requirement, or a plan approved under a requirement, is an offence under the Planning Act 2008.</p>
GEN-08	REP-165	Impact on human rights	Comments raise that there is a lack of consideration of basic human rights	<p>Paragraph 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 of C7.10 Skills Supply Chain and Employment Plan [APP-349] discusses the safeguarding measures taken to prevent human rights abuses within the supply chain for the Scheme.</p> <p>The Applicant confirms that a Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan is secured by Requirement 20 of</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Schedule 2 to C3.1C Draft Development Consent Order (submitted at Deadline 2). This requirement states that "No part of the authorised development may commence until a skills, supply chain and employment plan in relation to 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 planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities."</p> <p>Paragraph 5.4.7 of C7.10 Skills Supply Chain and Employment Plan [APP-349] states that "<i>Any procurement of supplies internationally will comply with both national and international law, and all policy and safety measures will be adhered to in the transportation of supplies.</i>"</p> <p>The C4.1 Statement of Reasons [AS-013] also explains the interaction of the Human Rights Act 1998 and the compulsory acquisition powers the Applicant is seeking in the DCO.</p>
			Using the term 'human receptors' is insulting and disrespectful	Noted. The Applicant notes that the Environmental Impact Assessment has been reported for the Scheme in line with relevant industry guidance and terminology.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
GEN-09	REP-130	Presentation of information	Information included in the submission that was not covered even at a high level during the public consultations	<p>The Applicant notes that it has taken an iterative approach to public consultation and the provision of materials.</p> <p>Table 1.2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant publicised the first phase of community consultation by distributing a community consultation leaflet and feedback form to over 9,000 local homes and business. Copies of the materials provided for the first phase of community consultation can be found in C5.4: Consultation Report Appendix 5.4 Phase One Community Consultation Materials.</p> <p>As described in Chapter 2 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation. Table 7.1 sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Applicant. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation.</p> <p>Chapter 8 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as C5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Chapter 11 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p> <p>Chapter 12 of C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to the Section 42 consultation (statutory stakeholders), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by C5.11 Appendix 5.11: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 42 Applicant Response [APP-034].</p>
GEN-10	REP-177	Privacy	Concern for privacy relating to the CCTV surrounding the site	In paragraph 4.5.59 of C6.2.4_A Scheme Description [REP-012] it is stated that CCTV around the perimeter of the Scheme will be internally facing.
GEN-11	REP-130; REP-139; REP-155; REP-171	Quantum of information	Volume and complexity of submission documents makes it difficult to understand for the layperson	The Applicant notes that the application for the Cottam Solar Project has been submitted in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 and associated legislation, policy and guidance.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>The Applicant notes that it will continue to provide free, open communication methods following the submission of the Cottam Solar Project, for members of the community to ask questions, request information (including in alternative formats) and provide feedback.</p>

3.8 Glint and Glare

Table 2.8: Applicant's Response to Glint and Glare Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
GG-01	REP-127; REP-128; REP-152; REP-154; REP-160; REP-171	Glint and glare impacts	Some comments refer to drivers being affected by the glare from the panels	The impacts of glint and glare upon road safety have been considered and assessed within C6.3.16.1 ES Appendix 16.1 Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [APP-140]. The Study identifies that solar reflections are geometrically possible for road users travelling along all identified roads but there are no significant impacts predicted on road users.
			Some comments refer to impacts from glint and glare from the panels	The impacts of glint and glare have been considered for road, residential, railway and aviation receptors. See C6.3.16.1 ES Appendix 16.1 Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [APP-140].
			Some comments refer to the risk to aviation due to glare from the panels	The impacts of glint and glare upon aviation have been considered and discussed with the relevant stakeholders. Sturgate Airfield and RAF Scampton have not submitted an objection to the proposed Scheme. See Section 3 of C6.3.16.1 ES Appendix 16.1 Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Study [APP-140].

3.9 Ground Conditions

Table 2.9: Applicant's Response to Ground Conditions Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
GRO-01	REP-103; REP-128; REP-159	Contamination from BESS	Concern regarding the risk of chemical leak from the BESS	<p>The impacts of the development and ground contamination have been considered and discussed within Chapter 11 Ground Conditions and Contamination [APP-046] supported by the assessments found within ES Appendices 11.1-11.4 Geo-Environmental Risk Assessment [APP-098 to APP-108].</p> <p>No potential significant effects have been identified after the implementation of embedded well-established good industry practices, which are incorporated into and secured by the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/X7.1_B] , the outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan EN010133/EX2/C7.16_A] and the outline Decommissioning Statement [APP-338].</p>
GRO-02	REP-138; REP-152	Contamination from panels	Concern regarding the risk of contamination from the panels	<p>The impacts of the development and ground contamination have been considered and discussed within Chapter 11 Ground Conditions and Contamination [APP-046] supported by the assessments found within ES Appendices 11.1-11.4 Geo-Environmental Risk Assessment.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>No potential significant effects have been identified after the implement of embedded well-established good industry practices, which are incorporated into and secured by the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C7.1_B] and the outline Decommissioning Statement [APP-338].</p>

3.10 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage

Table 2.10: Applicant's Response to Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
HY-01	REP-103; REP-127; REP-128; REP-152; REP-157; REP-159; REP-162; REP-177; REP-179; REP-208	Flood risk	Comment anticipates mitigation measures cannot improve on water attenuation already provided by the soil itself and the existing drainage systems	<p>As described within Section 5.0 of C6.3.10.1 ES Appendix 10.1 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [APP-090] It is considered that the panelled areas will not alter the existing surface water run-off regime and will therefore not be formally drained. Areas of increased hardstanding such as smaller areas of hardstanding formed as footings for electrical infrastructure will utilise SuDS principles and attempt to mimic the existing surface water run-off regime as existing. It is not considered appropriate at this stage to detail specific SuDS features for the footings for electrical infrastructure. however, it is likely to take the form of surrounding 'French drain' features which will arrest lateral surface water flows and retain water within subgrade allowing local infiltration.</p> <p>The BESS area within the Scheme is considered within an area specific drainage strategy included within Section 3.0 of C6.3.10.4 ES Appendix 10.1 Annex D 10.1.3 Cottam 1 West [APP-093].</p> <p>The drainage strategy and detailed drainage design will be developed during the detailed design process. As secured by Requirement 11 in Schedule 2 of the Draft</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Development Consent Order Revision C [EX2/C3.1_C] "No part of the authorised development may commence until written details of the surface water drainage scheme and (if any) foul water drainage system for that part have been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority..."
			Comment that the Scheme and its associated components could cause a flood/drainage risk	Please see response above. As described within Section 5.0 of C6.3.10.1 ES Appendix 10.1 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [APP-090]. It is considered that the panelled areas will not alter the existing surface water run-off regime and will therefore not be formally drained. Areas of increased hardstanding such as smaller areas of hardstanding formed as footings for electrical infrastructure will utilise SuDS principles and attempt to mimic the existing surface water run-off regime as existing. It is not considered appropriate at this stage to detail specific SuDS features for the footings for electrical infrastructure. however, it is likely to take the form of surrounding 'French drain' features which will arrest lateral surface water flows and retain water within subgrade allowing local infiltration. The BESS area within the Scheme is considered within an area specific drainage strategy included within

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Section 3.0 of C6.3.10.4 ES Appendix 10.1 Annex D 10.1.3 Cottam 1 West [APP-093].</p> <p>The drainage strategy and detailed drainage design will be developed during the detailed design process. As secured by Requirement 11 in Schedule 2 of the Draft Development Consent Order Revision C [EX2/C3.1_C]. "No part of the authorised development may commence until written details of the surface water drainage scheme and (if any) foul water drainage system for that part have been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority..."</p>
			<p>Comments concern the Area's historic pre-disposition to flooding</p>	<p>The Applicant acknowledges that some areas within the scheme and the surrounding are at risk of flooding and this has been considered throughout C6.3.10.1 ES Appendix 10.1 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [APP-090] and supporting Annexes C6.3.10.2 ES Appendix 10.1 Annex B 10.1.1 Cable Route [APP-091], C6.3.10.3 ES Appendix 10.1 Annex C 10.1.2 Cottam 1 North [APP-092], C6.3.10.4 ES Appendix 10.1 Annex D 10.1.3 Cottam 1 West [APP 093], C6.3.10.5 ES Appendix 10.1 Annex E 10.1.4 Cottam 1 South [APP 094], C6.3.10.6 ES Appendix 10.1 Annex F 10.1.5 Cottam 2 [APP-095], C6.3.10.7 ES Appendix 10.1 Annex G 10.1.6 Cottam 3A [APP-096], C6.3.10.8 ES Appendix 10.1 Annex H 10.1.7 Cottam 3B [APP-097],</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Following the inclusion of the embedded mitigation measures detailed in Section 10.8 of C6.2.10 ES Chapter 10_Hydrology Flood Risk and Drainage [APP-045] all risks are considered to be negligible.
			Comments refer to existing flood water management on the River Till and Fossdyke Navigation Canal being negatively impacted	Both the River Till Flood Storage area and Fossdyke Navigation Canal are not within the development area of the Scheme and the proposed Scheme will not have a detrimental impact off-site post construction. Therefore, there will be no impact to the assets.
			Comments site DEFRA requirement for 1m ³ of surface water storage per 50m ² of impermeable surface area	The most up to date policies and guidance have been considered throughout C6.3.10.1 ES Appendix 10.1 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [APP-090].

3.11 Landscape and Visual Impact

Table 2.11: Applicant's Response to Landscape and Visual Impact Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
LAN-01	REP-144	AGLV	Comments state that the area is designated as an Area of Great Landscape Value	The LVIA takes account of the Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) and individual landscape receptor sheets for Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes can

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				be found in C6.3.8.2 ES Appendix 8.2 Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects [REP-020].
LAN-02	REP-127; REP-129; REP-144; REP-146; REP-147; REP-152; REP-160; REP-164; REP-165; REP-184; REP-199	Impact on long views	Comments that there would be a negative impact on views from elevated places such as the "Cliff" and B1398	The LVIA takes account of the intervisibility between the Scheme from elevated places such as the 'Cliff' and Lincoln Castle and Lincoln Cathedral. Additional views suggested by Lincolnshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council are taken into account within the LVIA at Section 8.2 of chapter 8 [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.8.2_A], and this includes viewpoints that capture the Lincoln 'Cliff' as well as distant intervisibility with Lincoln Castle and Lincoln Cathedral.
LAN-03	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-130; REP-138; REP-139; REP-142; REP-143; REP-144; REP-148; REP-152; REP-155; REP-158; REP-160; REP-162; REP-164; REP-165; REP-168; REP-175; REP-177; REP-178; REP-183;	Landscape quality	Comments state that the settlements will feel like islands surrounded by the solar developments	The Scheme comprises a series of separate areas of land or Sites which are set within an extensive agricultural landscape. With large areas of land between each of the Sites, each is set apart by their associated features such as robust hedgerows, woodland and tree cover, intervening settlements and road and rail infrastructure.
			Comments that there would be a negative impact on the rural landscape character	The LVIA considers the effects on landscape character as a result of Scheme, and this includes noting the rural aspects and that they are a key part of the landscape heritage of agriculture. The findings also

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
	REP-184; REP-185; REP-191; REP-192; REP-195; REP-200; REP-205			note this is a predominantly rural and sparsely settled area with small villages and dispersed farms and the potential effects on rural landscape character been taken into consideration in the assessment. Please refer to the conclusions of the LVIA [EN010133/EX2/C6.2.8_A] on landscape character at section at sections 8.7 and 8.11.
			Comments that views from residential properties will be negatively affected	The LVIA considers the impacts and effects on residential receptors as part of the assessment process. Mitigation, including offsets and planting, has been proposed to address and minimise adverse effects on the residential receptors. This is in line with the agreed methodology and the hierarchy of approach advocated by the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3 rd Edition and matters agreed with LCC at the series of workshops. This mitigation is secured through the C7.3 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) [EX2/C7.3_B], which in turn is secured through Requirement 7 of the DCO [EX2/C3.1_C].
			Comments that views from roads and public rights of way will be negatively affected	The LVIA looks to enhance the footpath network associated with the Sites, where appropriate. The LVIA also draws out ecological enhancement measures to provide a wider public understanding of the project and

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>encourage public access to nature. The LVIA looks to provide landscape mitigation that enhances the public right of way (PRoW) network as a community benefit, which is aimed to benefit the community as a whole. Environmental mitigation and enhancement is secured through the C7.3 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) [EX2/C7.3_B], which in turn is secured through Requirement 7 of the DCO [EX2/C3.1_C].</p> <p>The Scheme features measures to protect existing Public Rights of Way through C6.3.14.3_B ES Appendix 14.3 Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.3_B], as secured through Requirement 18 of Schedule 2 of C3.1_B Draft Development Consent Order Revision C [EN010133/EX2/C3.1_C]. The Scheme also seeks to enhance the existing network through the provision of a new permissive path defined as Work No. 11 in Schedule 1 of C3.1_C Draft Development Consent Order Revision C [EN010133/EX2/C3.1_C].</p>
LAN-04	REP-144; REP-152	Mitigation	Comments refer to the need for mitigation exposing the visual impact of the Scheme	Adverse landscape and visual impacts have been reduced as far as possible through the implementation of mitigation measures. The proposed planting is unlikely to completely obscure all aspects of the

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Scheme, as the LVIA acknowledges, there are some residual adverse effects, but the effectiveness of the planting, whether as a screening or softening measure is set out in the individual receptor sheets at C6.3.8.3 ES Appendix 8.3 Assessment of Potential Visual Effects [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.8.3_A].
			Comments state that the landscape mitigation proposals are limited	The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this comment and considers that the landscape mitigation proposals are sufficiently developed relative to the current level of detailed design of the Scheme. An Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EX2/C7.3_B] (the 'OLEMP') forms part of the application and is secured by the Requirement 7 of Schedule 2 of C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007].
			Comments state that the local topography has not been considered sufficiently	The Applicant respectfully disagrees. The LVIA includes an assessment of landscape effects at a range of scales, including a finer grain landscape assessment. This finer grained assessment considers individual contributors under the topics such as land use and also topography. The assessment and evaluation of the potential impacts and effects of these individual contributors is set out within Appendix 8.2 [REP-020] and Appendix 8.3 [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.8.3_A] of the LVIA.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Concerns raised over the regulation, control and enforcement of landscape mitigation and maintenance proposals	Landscape mitigation and enhancement measures are secured through the C7.3 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) [EX2/C7.3_B], which in turn is secured through Requirement 7 of the DCO [EX2/C3.1_C]. The relevant planning authority will be responsible for approving the final LEMP, which must be substantially in accordance with the outline LEMP which forms part of the application.
			Landscaping mitigation would take decades to mature	The Applicant agrees that the mitigation planting will take some years to mature; the LVIA takes this into account in reaching its conclusions on the likely significant effects of the Scheme. The LVIA explains how Year 15 of operation has been selected as the year at which the effect of additional mitigation in the form of landscape planting should be taken into account. Year 15 is considered to be an acceptable year of assessment for setting the standard for mitigation measures and for predicting the findings of the assessment within the LVIA process. This is set out in recognised guidance' Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Third Edition (GLVIA3) by the

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment.
LAN-05	REP-144; REP-148	Photomontages	Commentors state the applicant's photomontages are not representative, and are inaccurate and misleading	The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this statement. The photomontage work has followed recognised best practice ' Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Third Edition (GLVIA3) by the Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment. The assessment methodologies and significance criteria are set out within Section 8.4 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment [EN010133/EX2/C6.2.8_A] and ES Appendix 8.1 LVIA Methodology [APP-068].
LAN-06	REP-130; REP-155; REP-162; REP-166	Residential amenity	Commentors are glad to see comments from public consultations regarding proximity to residential properties has been addressed	The Applicant notes this comment.
			Some comments that the Scheme will detrimentally impact local amenity	The LVIA Chapter [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.8.2_A] includes a full and detailed assessment that deals with both effects on the landscape itself and effects on the visual amenity of people, as well as interrelationships of these with other related topics in the ES.
LAN-07	REP-152	Visual impact	Some comments state that the disaggregated nature of the development	The Applicant respectfully disagrees that the Scheme will lead to an overwhelming change. The Scheme has

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			will lead to an overwhelming change, with solar becoming the dominant feature of the landscape	been sensitively designed so as to reduce impacts on the receiving environment, wherever possible. The Scheme comprises a series of separate areas of land or Sites which are set within an extensive agricultural landscape. With large areas of land between each of the Sites, each is set apart by their associated features such as robust hedgerows, woodland and tree cover, intervening settlements and road and rail infrastructure.

3.12 Noise and Vibration

Table 2.12: Applicant's Response to Noise and Vibration Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
NOI-01	REP-160; REP-165; REP-166; REP-201	Noise impacts	Some comments refer to noise impacts generated by the Scheme	Impacts of the temporary construction noise and vibration for the construction of the solar panels and associated infrastructure and construction traffic noise has been included and the likely impacts of noise and vibration have been assessed in Section 15.7 of C6.2.15 ES Chapter 15 Noise and Vibration [APP-050]. Best Practical Measures (BPM) and a CEMP will be implemented. Construction traffic will be minimised at existing receptors using a CTMP. The noise and vibration effects are not anticipated to be significant.
NOI-02	REP-147	Mitigation	Construction activities should be mitigated for noise and no night working should occur	Best Practical Measures (BPM) and a CEMP will be implemented. Construction traffic will be minimised at existing receptors using a CTMP. The noise and vibration effects are not anticipated to be significant. Measures to ensure that construction noise levels are appropriately managed are set out in Table 3.6 of the Construction Environmental Management Plan [EX2/C7.1_B] (CEMP) (see also paragraph 2.5). Provision of a detailed CEMP post-consent is secured by Requirement 13 of Schedule 2 of C3.1_C Draft Development Consent Order Revision C

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				[EX2/C3.1_C]. This includes measures relating to nighttime working.
			Some comments state that noise mitigation for livestock and wildlife is required	Embedded mitigation measures have been included within Section 15.6 of C6.2.15 ES Chapter 15 Noise and Vibration [APP-050]. The noise level is anticipated to vary throughout the day when different loads from demand are placed. These changes in demand happen gradually and any increase or decrease in noise will be gradual. It is therefore not anticipated that the development will result in behavioural changes to livestock or wildlife.
			Some comments state that noise mitigation for residents is required	Embedded mitigation measures have been included within Section 15.6 of C6.2.15 ES Chapter 15 Noise and Vibration [APP-050]. Further mitigation is also set out in Table 3.6 of the Construction Environmental Management Plan [EX2/C7.1_B], as secured through the DCO.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
NOI-03	REP-147	Vibration	Construction piling must not cause damage to property	Construction vibration has been assessed in Section 15.7 of C6.2.15 ES Chapter 15 Noise and Vibration [APP-050] and the effects are not anticipated to be significant.

3.13 Other Environmental Matters

Table 2.13: Applicant's Response to Other Environmental Matters Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
OEM-01	REP-189	Decommissioning	Concern for battery and solar decommissioning on the environment	<p>The projected waste arisings from the Scheme at construction, during operation, and at decommissioning have been assessed in Section 20.7 of C6.2.20 ES Chapter 20 Waste [APP-055]. This ES chapter also sets out waste handling requirements, the likely materials used on the Scheme, and specific mitigation measures relating to the handling of waste batteries to ensure that these are decommissioned in accordance with relevant legislation and best practice at the time.</p> <p>While it is recognised that there are no facilities that specifically handle waste solar infrastructure in the host authority areas (although this may well improve in future given the emerging industry for recycling and reusing the internal fittings and electrical equipment within solar panels (para. 20.7.29) and batteries), the assessment of waste electronics and electrical equipment (WEEE) handling capabilities show that the host authority areas have sufficient capacity in their identified facilities to handle the quantum of WEEE anticipated to be generated by the Scheme.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				The decommissioning mitigation and site restoration measures set out in C7.2 Outline Decommissioning Statement [APP-338] are secured by Requirement 21 in Schedule 2 of C3.1_C Draft Development Consent Order Revision C [EX2/C3.1_C].
OEM-02	REP-154; REP-179; REP-187; REP-189	Electromagnetic fields	Comment that EIA only covers EMFs in regard to human life not fauna and flora	A full assessment of effects from EMF was scoped out of the EIA at Section 3.13.1 of C6.3.2.2 ES Appendix 2.2 EIA Scoping Opinion [APP-064]. This is subject to demonstration that relevant design standards have been met for all cabling. As standards for cable positioning and design for EMF are limited to those governing EMF impacts on human health, further impacts have not been included. Furthermore, prior to the submission of the DCO, no statutory consultee requested further information on EMF impacts on animal and plant wildlife.
			Concerns of EMF effects on residents	Section 21.2 of C6.2.21 ES Chapter 21 Other Environmental Matters [APP-056] provides a technical overview of the consideration of the cable design, and location of electrical infrastructure (BESS and substations). This concluded that there is no risk to human health as a result of EMF.
			Some comments refer to impacts from EMI or EMF from the Scheme	Section 21.2 of C6.2.21 ES Chapter 21 Other Environmental Matters [APP-056] provides a technical overview of the consideration of the cable

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				design, and location of electrical infrastructure (BESS and substations). This concluded that there is no risk to human health as a result of EMF.
OEM-03	REP-127; REP-128; REP-129; REP-130; REP-133; REP-138; REP-139; REP-142; REP-143; REP-144; REP-147; REP-152; REP-154; REP-155; REP-157; REP-158; REP-159; REP-160; REP-162; REP-164; REP-165; REP-168; REP-171; REP-174; REP-176; REP-192; REP-200; REP-201; REP-202; REP-205	Health and wellbeing	Concern that health impacts have not been adequately assessed	The Applicant has assessed effects on human health where relevant in the ES as agreed in Section 3.20.1 of C6.3.2.2 ES Appendix 2.2 EIA Scoping Opinion [APP-064]. Representations made by statutory bodies in relation to health at scoping and at statutory consultation have been incorporated into the assessment of human health and wellbeing. The significant effects assessed have therefore been collated and presented in Section 21.5 of C6.2.21 ES Chapter 21: Other Environmental Matters [APP-056].
			Concern that there are health and safety impacts from the Scheme	Impacts on human health have been assessed. The Applicant has assessed effects on human health where relevant in the ES as agreed in Section 3.20.1 of C6.3.2.2 ES Appendix 2.2 EIA Scoping Opinion [APP-064]. Where adverse effects have been identified, these have been proposed to be mitigated against to minimise impacts on health and wellbeing. The mitigation measures are set out in the control documents secured by the requirements at Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [EX2/C3.1_C]. Section 21.5 of C6.2.21 ES Chapter 21:

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Other Environmental Matters [APP-056] summarises the findings of the ES which demonstrates that the Scheme is not anticipated to generate any adverse significant human health impacts.
			Concern that there will be a loss of collective or personal wellbeing/mental health due to the Scheme.	The Applicant is cognisant of the importance of mental health and wellbeing, and so this has been assessed as part of the assessment of human health impacts, primarily in C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. The greatest level of effect on wellbeing is a moderate-minor adverse effect to access, desirability and use of recreational facilities in the countryside, anticipated during construction (see paragraphs 18.7.60 to 18.7.67) and decommissioning (see paragraphs 18.7.143 to 18.7.153). These effects are not anticipated to be significant.
			Impact on personal wellbeing/mental health due to the consultation, application, and examination of the Scheme.	Personal wellbeing and mental health impacts as a result of the DCO application and examination process were not scoped into the ES assessment. The Applicant considers that the consultation process undertaken (as described in C5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021]) has been sufficient to ensure members of the public have had suitable opportunity to engage with the pre-application process, and have had access to accurate information about the Scheme

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				to ensure confidence in the assessment outcomes presented in the ES. This is corroborated by the positive Adequacy of Consultation responses received by all host and neighbouring local authorities [AOC-001 to AOC-024].
OEM-04	REP-138; REP-152; REP-165; REP-165	Light pollution	Comments refer to the importance of rural night skies without light pollution Comments state night skies would be negatively impacted by security lighting	As stated within paragraph 2.6.1 of C7.1 Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C7.1_B], lighting (during construction) will be required for safety reasons but will be temporary in nature and predominately limited to the core working hours. Provision of a detailed CEMP has been secured by Requirement 13 of Schedule 2 of C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007]. Paragraph 2.5.1 of C7.16 Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [APP-353] (secured in Requirement 14 of the DCO) notes that no part of the Scheme will be continuously lit and that the use of motion detection security lighting will avoid permanent lighting. Lighting is not required within the solar arrays. Lighting will be provided within substations and within the Energy Storage site to be used only in the event of it being required for maintenance and security purposes. Down lighting would be used on lighting columns of a maximum height of 3m.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				As such, no adverse environmental effects are anticipated as a result of light pollution from the Scheme.
OEM-05	REP-103; REP-127; REP-128; REP-133; REP-152; REP-154; REP-159; REP-160; REP-161; REP-162; REP-174; REP-175; REP-188; REP-201	Major accident or disaster	Comments state that Cottam Power Station is better suited to the siting of the BESS due to existing water supply	<p>The selection of the Scheme's location has followed a systematic step-by-step process as set out in detail within C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067]. Paragraphs 2.1.23 to 2.1.32 of C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067] detail the consideration of brownfield land, including that at Cottam Power Station, and sets out why this was discounted as unsuitable.</p> <p>The Applicant can confirm that the siting of the BESS has suitable water supply for firefighting. Paragraph 4.1.18 of C7.9A Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan(submitted at Deadline 2) explains that the design of the BESS has integrated fire detection and suppression systems that will automatically operate to contain battery fires. Paragraph 5.3 therein states that if fire spreads to multiple units, external firefighting water facilities are available by means of 228,000 litre water storage tanks within the battery compounds.</p> <p>The design of firefighting and fire suppression systems has been informed by consultation with both Lincolnshire's and Nottinghamshire's fire and rescue</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			<p>Comments states that local Fire Services have raised concerns over the fire risk associated with the BESS</p>	<p>authorities throughout the pre-submission process. Furthermore, Lincolnshire County Council state they are <i>"satisfied that hazards from the Battery storage facilities that are proposed at scale. the details meet the requirements the Council set out in Fire Safety Position statement"</i> [RR-001].</p> <p>The design of firefighting and fire suppression systems has been informed by consultation with both Lincolnshire's and Nottinghamshire's fire and rescue authorities throughout the pre-submission process. Furthermore, Lincolnshire County Council state they are <i>"satisfied that hazards from the Battery storage facilities that are proposed at scale. the details meet the requirements the Council set out in Fire Safety Position statement"</i> [RR-001].</p> <p>Furthermore, as set out in the responses to LIR reference 14.11-13 in C8.1.16 Applicant's Response to Local Impact Reports [EN01033/EX2/C8.1.16], the Applicant is committed to continuing engaging with the Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service throughout the DCO hearing process and fully consulting with them at the detailed design stage if DCO consent is granted.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			<p>Concern regarding the risk of fire/explosion/disaster from the BESS</p>	<p>Paragraph 4.1.18 of the C7.9 Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan [APP-348] explains that the design of the BESS has integrated fire detection and suppression systems that will automatically operate to contain battery fires. Paragraph 5.3 [APP-348] states that if fire spreads to multiple units, external firefighting water facilities are available by means of 228,000 litre water storage tanks within the battery compounds. A detailed Battery Storage Safety Management Plan will be submitted and approved prior to commencement of development as secured through Requirement 6 of Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006].</p> <p>Human health and other environmental impacts resulting from plumes from battery fires have been assessed in C6.2.17 ES Chapter 17 Air Quality [APP-052]. The assessments undertaken therein conclude that the impacts during operation will be negligible and not significant.</p> <p>Risks to human health as a result of fires or unconfined explosions within the BESS compound are set out in paragraphs 21.6.40 to 21.6.47 of C6.2.21 ES Chapter 21 Other Environmental Matters [APP-056] which concludes that there is no significant risk of</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				harm to human health due to the physical separation of the BESS compound from publicly accessible areas.
			Concerns that the rural location of the Scheme will make fire-fighting access difficult	Paragraph 4.1.18 of C7.9A Outline Battery Storage Safety Management Plan (submitted at Deadline 2) explains that the design of the BESS has integrated fire detection and suppression systems that will automatically operate to contain battery fires. Paragraph 5.3 therein states that if fire spreads to multiple units, external firefighting water facilities are available to the Fire Services by means of 228,000 litre water storage tanks within the battery compounds. A Battery Storage Safety Management Plan will be submitted and approved prior to commencement of development as secured through Requirement 6 of Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006].
OEM-06	REP-147	Telecomms impacts	Some comments raise the need for mitigation to ensure apparatus and cabling does not interfere with radio, TV, and internet signal	Electromagnetic fields attributed to power have a frequency of ~50Hz. Any resultant interference is therefore limited to this frequency and its harmonics, all which fall into the category of extremely-low or super-low frequency radio waves (<300Hz). Radio transmissions, telephone transmissions, and Wi-Fi signals are generally between 20kHz and 300GHz and so will not be adversely affected the Scheme. Further, the propagation of electromagnetic fields attributed to

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				power is likely to be limited to within the Scheme extents and a narrow corridor around the cable route.

3.14 Planning Policy

Table 2.14: Applicant's Response to Planning Policy Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
PLA-01	REP-152; REP-164	Adherence to planning policy	Comment states that the development does not adhere to planning policies	<p>The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the statement that current and draft planning policy has not been followed.</p> <p>No better alternative sites on brownfield land or on lower grade agricultural land than the Scheme were identified. The C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067] sets out the potentially suitable locations for the Scheme and why the Site was identified as the most suitable, taking into account planning, environmental and operational factors. The Scheme therefore accords with paragraphs 5.10.8 and 5.10.15 of NPS EN-1, 2.48.13 and 2.48.15 of draft NPS EN-3 and with CLLP Policy LP19, DCLLP Policy S67, BDCSDMP Policy DM10 and emerging DBLP ST51.</p>
PLA-02	REP-189	Decommissioning responsibility	Comments on legality of decommissioning responsibility	<p>C7.2 Outline Decommissioning Statement [APP-338] sets out the principles of decommissioning and environmental considerations (see paras. 2.1.1 to 2.1.8) and provides a summary of potential mitigation and management measures during decommissioning in Table 3.1. The Statement is secured in Requirement 21 of the the draft C3.1_C Draft Development Consent Order Revision C [EN010133/EX2/C3.1_C].</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				It also sets out how roles, responsibilities and actions required in respect of implementation of the mitigation measures will be managed, along with principles for monitoring and reporting.
PLA-03	REP-165	National energy policy	Some comments refer to the Scheme jumping on a policy bandwagon driven by knee-jerk Government policy	The Applicant acknowledges this comment but is confident that the information presented throughout the submission is in accordance with the relevant policies and legislation. The C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] identifies how the Scheme addresses the national policy aims of Net Zero; energy security; and energy affordability.
PLA-04	REP-130	Neighbourhood planning policy	Large scale solar development is not supported by neighbourhood planning policies	The Applicant respectfully disagrees and considers that the Scheme is in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan as set out in Appendix 4 of C7.5_A Planning Statement [EN010133/EX1/C7.5_A].
PLA-05	REP-154	NSIP threshold	Comments question if the load factor for solar is around 10% does this imply that the Sites are not individually exporting more than 50MW, this falling short of the NSIP threshold	<p>The Applicant respectfully disagrees. Paragraph 5.2.2 of the C7.5_B Planning Statement [EN010133/EX2/C7.5_B] outlines that the Scheme is defined as an NSIP under Sections 14(1)(a), 15(1) and 15(2) of the Planning Act 2008.</p> <p>The application of the NSIP regime is based on a generating station's capacity. Section 3.1 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] describes the</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>assessment basis provided by the existing NPSs and their draft Revisions. Paragraph 3.1.1 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] describes that "Where developments do not fall within the scope of those NPSs (such as for solar), then they will be an important and relevant consideration pursuant to Section 105 of the Planning Act 2008."</p> <p>At Paragraph 3.1.4 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350], it is described that the suite of 2021 Revised Draft NPS documents has been extended to include solar generation developments of greater than 50MW capacity, and that the "Secretary of State has decided that for any application accepted for examination before designation of the 2021 amendments, the 2011 suite of NPSs should have effect in accordance with the terms of those NPS." And that "any emerging draft NPSs (or those designated but not having effect) are potentially capable of being important and relevant considerations in the decision-making process".</p> <p>Since the submission of the Application, the revised energy National Policy Statements have been made available, as of March 2023. The March 2023 draft NPS EN-3 states through paragraph 2.6.1 that the "NPS covers the following types of nationally significant</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>renewable electricity generating stations" inclusive of "solar photovoltaic (PV) (>50 MW in England and >350MW in Wales)".</p> <p>C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows, at Figure 7.2, National Grid Electricity System Operator's projections for the future installed capacity of different electricity generation technologies in Net-Zero consistent scenarios. In all scenarios, solar is required to make a significant contribution to the future generation mix.</p> <p>This is aligned with Government's position (as described in Paragraph 3.3.7 of the C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350]). Section 7.4 describes the decarbonisation benefits of solar energy. Sections 8.8 and Section 8.9 describe the energy security benefits of solar energy, and Section 10.2 and Section 10.3 describe the economic benefits of solar energy within the UK electricity system.</p>
PLA-06	REP-152; REP-154	Planning balance	Comments consider that the harms caused by the development clearly outweigh benefits	<p>The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the conclusion that the Application benefits do not outweigh its harms.</p> <p>Chapter 4 of the C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] sets out the UK's legal requirement to decarbonise and</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>explains how that requirement has created an increased need and urgency to meet the UK's obligations under the Paris Agreement (2015) as detailed within para. 4.2.7. The chapter summarises the latest expert views on the urgency for and depth of low-carbon infrastructure needed to deliver the UK's Net Zero legal obligations and demonstrates that there is an urgent need for the development of large-scale solar schemes.</p> <p>Paragraphs 6.2.17 to 6.2.19 of C7.5_B Planning Statement [EN010133/EX2/C7.5_B] explain that it is against this backdrop that NPS EN-1 paragraph 4.1.2 sets a presumption in favour of granting permission for energy NSIP projects. This is carried through to Draft NPS EN-1 at paragraphs 4.1.2 and 4.1.3.</p> <p>Section 6.2 of C7.5_B Planning Statement [EN010133/EX2/C7.5_B] sets out how the Scheme will meet the compelling need for renewable energy in accordance with relevant national planning policies. In summary, the Scheme would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a large amount of renewable generation capacity (35,590,658 MWh over the estimated 40-year assessed lifetime) (see para. 6.2.32) to

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>deliver the Government's energy objectives and legally binding net zero commitments in line with the requirements of paragraph 1.1.1 of NPS EN-3 (see para. 6.2.3), paragraph 3.3.21 of draft NPS EN-1 (see para. 6.2.10), section 3.4 of NPS EN-1 and the National Infrastructure Strategy 2020;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a reduction of 5,974,155 tCO₂e over the lifetime of the Scheme compared to if it did not go ahead (see para. 6.2.35) which would make a significant contribution towards reducing carbon emissions as required by paragraph 1.1.1 of NPS EN-1, paragraph 2.3.2 of Draft NPS EN-1, the National Infrastructure Strategy 2020 and the Energy White Paper: "Powering our net zero future"; • Deliver in a timescale that is short in the context of the delivery of other forms of energy generation in line with the urgent need to decarbonise set out in paragraphs 3.3.5, 3.3.15 (see para. 6.2.4) and 3.4.5 of NPS EN-1 (see para. 6.2.1), Paragraph 2.3.2 (see para. 6.2.8) of

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Draft NPS EN-1 and the National Infrastructure Strategy 2020;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable all consumers to benefit from the effect of low-marginal cost solar generation on reducing market prices, in line with the aim to provide affordable energy for consumers set out at Paragraph 2.3.2, Paragraph 2.3.5 and 3.3.21 of Draft NPS EN-1 (see paras. 6.2.8, 6.2.9 and 6.2.10); and • Help ensure security and reliability of energy supply in line with Paragraph 2.3.2 and 2.3.5 of the Draft NPS EN-1. <p>NPS EN-1 paragraph 3.2.3. and Draft NPS EN-1 paragraph 3.1.1, acknowledge that it will not be possible to develop the necessary amounts of such infrastructure to deliver these benefits without some significant residual adverse impacts as explained at paragraph 6.2.20 of C7.5_B Planning Statement [EN010133/EX2/C7.5_B].</p> <p>Whilst it has not been possible for the Scheme to avoid all significant residual impacts, these have been identified within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] and have been minimised, where possible,</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>through careful and sensitive design and detailed mitigation strategies.</p> <p>Section 6 of C7.5_B Planning Statement [EN010133/EX2/C7.5_B] demonstrates that when considered against national planning policies, the Scheme accords with the relevant policies, and with regard to specific policy tests, the substantial benefits of the Scheme are considered on balance to outweigh its limited number of significant residual adverse impacts. Therefore, it is considered that development consent for the Scheme should be granted.</p>
			<p>Comments refer to requiring the need for energy to not automatically override environmental protection</p>	<p>Chapter 4 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] sets out the UK's legal requirement to decarbonise and explains how that requirement has created an increased need and urgency to meet the UK's obligations under the Paris Agreement (2015) as detailed within para. 4.2.7. The Chapter summarises the latest expert views on the urgency for, and depth of, low-carbon infrastructure needed to deliver the UK's Net Zero legal obligations, and demonstrates that there is an urgent need for the development of large-scale solar schemes.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>The assessments set out within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] have concluded no significant adverse environmental effects will be caused to residents regarding visual amenity, transport impacts, noise and vibration, glint and glare, air quality, socio-economic impacts, tourism and recreation impacts or human health impacts. Where likely significant adverse effects have been identified, the Applicant's position is that the benefits of the Scheme outweigh the impacts.</p> <p>The Applicant notes this comment. Cumulative effects assessments have been prepared for the Application within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058].</p> <p>Cumulative effects assessments for each topic are set out in each of the ES Chapters and include the assessment of the impacts of the Scheme cumulatively with the NSIPs identified in paragraph 2.5.9 of C6.2.2 ES Chapter 2 EIA Process and Methodology [APP-037] (being West Burton Solar Project, Gate Burton Energy Park and Tillbridge Solar).</p> <p>This assessment is in accordance with Schedule 4 of the 2017 EIA Regulations and PINS Advice Note 17. The</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				mitigation measures set out across the ES therefore account for anticipated cumulative effects.
PLA-07	REP-195	Planning process	Some comments that the planning process is confusing and stressful	The Applicant points the Party to its socio-economic response to issue reference 'STR-10' as contained within C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [EN010133/EX1/C8.1.2].

3.15 Principle of Development

Table 2.15: Applicant's Response to Principle of Development Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
PD-01	REP-152	Combined works	Comments refer to pooled resourcing and infrastructure across the schemes linked by the powers in the DCO	The Applicant refers to the C8.1.8 Joint Report on Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects [EX2/C8.1.8_A] submitted at Deadline 2 which outlines the steps taken to coordinate mitigation measures between the Scheme, West Burton Solar Project and Gate Burton Energy Park.
PD-02	REP-130	Community benefits	Commentor requests more information on community financial benefits	The Applicant is committed to providing a Community Benefit Fund – see paragraph 4.8.1 of C7.5_B Planning Statement [EN010133/EX2/C7.5_B]. This fund will be available for community-based benefits such as (but not limited to) community-led energy related projects. The provision of the Community Benefit Fund itself does not form a part of the DCO Application, and therefore will be agreed separately between the Applicant and the fund's beneficiaries
PD-03	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-138; REP-142; REP-143; REP-144; REP-147;	Cumulative development	Comment that not all interested parties were consulted	The Applicant acknowledges this comment and is confident that the level of consultation undertaken and information presented throughout the pre-application stage is in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance. This

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
	REP-148; REP-152; REP-157; REP-159; REP-160; REP-162; REP-165; REP-167; REP-168; REP-169; REP-182; REP-194; REP-195			<p>has been evidenced in 5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and accepted for examination.</p> <p>As described in Chapter 2 of 5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021], the Applicant undertook two phases of community consultation to share information and invite feedback at different stages of Scheme development.</p> <p>Chapter 7 of 5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the Applicant's approach to statutory consultation, including consulting with relevant authorities on a draft Statement of Community Consultation.</p> <p>Table 7.1 [APP-021] sets out the comments received from authorities on the Applicant's approach to consultation and how these were considered by the Applicant. Table 7.3 in Chapter 7 describes how the Applicant complied with commitments made in the Statement of Community Consultation when undertaking statutory consultation.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Chapter 8 of 5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes how the Applicant undertook a six-week statutory phase two consultation on the Scheme, during which the Applicant presented consultees with environmental information sufficient for consultees to understand the potential likely significant effects of the Scheme in a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). A non-technical summary was published to accompany the PEIR, with public information events and free-to-use communications channels open to help aid accessibility and understanding of the Scheme. A Consultation Summary Report for this phase of statutory consultation was published on the dedicated Scheme website, shared with elected representatives and stakeholders and issued to over 9,000 properties within the vicinity of the Scheme, to help consultees understand how their feedback was being considered. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation Summary Report is provided as 5.7 Appendix 5.7: Phase Two Community Consultation Materials [APP-028].</p> <p>Chapter 11 of 5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to Section 47 consultation (local</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>community), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by 5.10 Appendix 5.10: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 47 Applicant Response [APP-033].</p> <p>Chapter 12 of 5.1 Consultation Report [APP-021] describes the significant volume of responses received to the Section 42 consultation (statutory stakeholders), including the issues raised and how these were considered by the Applicant. This is further evidenced by 5.11 Appendix 5.11: Consultation Report Appendix – Section 42 Applicant Response [APP-034].</p>
			Comments concern the nature of the project in 'back garden' felt 'forced' to move	The Applicant has taken care to design the Scheme to minimise, as far as practicable, the impacts on residents in the area. Please refer to response LAN-01 in C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049].
			Comments concerning the nature of using 4 companies/projects to disguise 1	The Scheme, West Burton Solar Project, Gate Burton Energy Park and Tillbridge Solar Project are separate projects with separate DCO applications.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Each project has a separate connection agreement with National Grid.</p> <p>The Applicant has been clear during consultation and in the DCO Application that the Applicant and the applicant for the West Burton Solar Project are both part of Island Green Power.</p>
			<p>Opposition to the Scheme due to the cumulative impact of solar Schemes in the same area.</p>	<p>The Applicant seeks to assure the Parties that a cumulative effects assessment has been prepared for the Application within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058].</p> <p>Cumulative effects assessments for each topic are set out in each of the ES Chapters and include the assessment of the impacts of the Scheme cumulatively with the NSIPs identified by West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) (Gate Burton Energy Park, West Burton Solar Project and Tillbridge Solar Project) - (see paragraph 2.5.9 of C6.2.2 ES Chapter 2 EIA Process and Methodology [APP-037]).</p> <p>This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Schedule 4 of the 2017 EIA Regulations and PINS Advice Note 17. The mitigation measures set out across the ES and</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>secured in the various management plans therefore account for anticipated cumulative effects.</p> <p>Whilst it has not been possible for the Scheme to avoid all significant adverse residual impacts, these have been identified within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] and have been minimised, where possible, through careful and sensitive design and detailed mitigation strategies. The Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] has considered cumulative effects throughout.</p> <p>The Applicant refers to the C8.1.8 Joint Report on Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects [EX2/C8.1.8_A] submitted at Deadline 2 which outlines the steps taken to coordinate mitigation measures between the Scheme, West Burton Solar Project and Gate Burton Energy Park, the intention being to reduce cumulative effects.</p>
			Some comments are concerned with the cumulative scale of development	The Applicant seeks to assure the Parties that a cumulative effects assessment has been prepared

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>for the Application within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058].</p> <p>Cumulative effects assessments for each topic are set out in each of the ES Chapters and include the assessment of the impacts of the Scheme cumulatively with the NSIPs identified by West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) (Gate Burton Energy Park, West Burton Solar Project and Tillbridge Solar Project) - (see paragraph 2.5.9 of C6.2.2 ES Chapter 2 EIA Process and Methodology [APP-037].</p> <p>This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Schedule 4 of the 2017 EIA Regulations and PINS Advice Note 17. The mitigation measures set out across the ES and secured in the various management plans therefore account for anticipated cumulative effects.</p> <p>Whilst it has not been possible for the Scheme to avoid all significant adverse residual impacts, these have been identified within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] and have been minimised, where possible, through careful and</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				sensitive design and detailed mitigation strategies. The Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] has considered cumulative effects throughout.
			Some comments are concerned with the cumulative scale of solar development across the whole of Lincolnshire	<p>The Applicant seeks to assure the Parties that a cumulative effects assessment has been prepared for the Application within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058].</p> <p>Cumulative effects assessments for each topic are set out in each of the ES Chapters and include the assessment of the impacts of the Scheme cumulatively with the NSIPs identified by West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) (Gate Burton Energy Park, West Burton Solar Project and Tillbridge Solar Project) - (see paragraph 2.5.9 of C6.2.2 ES Chapter 2 EIA Process and Methodology [APP-037]).</p> <p>This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Schedule 4 of the 2017 EIA Regulations and PINS Advice Note 17. The mitigation measures set out across the ES and secured in the various management plans</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>therefore account for anticipated cumulative effects.</p> <p>Whilst it has not been possible for the Scheme to avoid all significant adverse residual impacts, these have been identified within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] and have been minimised, where possible, through careful and sensitive design and detailed mitigation strategies. The Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] has considered cumulative effects throughout.</p>
			<p>Some comments cite this as being a total of 10,000 acres of development.</p>	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>Cumulative effects assessments for each topic are set out in each of the ES Chapters and include the assessment of the impacts of the Scheme cumulatively with the NSIPs identified by West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) (Gate Burton Energy Park, West Burton Solar Project and Tillbridge Solar Project) - (see paragraph 2.5.9 of C6.2.2 ES Chapter 2 EIA Process and Methodology [APP-037]).</p> <p>This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Schedule 4 of the 2017 EIA</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Regulations and PINS Advice Note 17. The mitigation measures set out across the ES and secured in the various management plans therefore account for anticipated cumulative effects.
			Some comments refer to the cumulative area of development equating to the largest solar installation in Europe	<p>Section 3.3 of document C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350], specifically paragraphs 3.3.2, 3.3.5 and 3.3.11, describes the Government's view that large capacities of low-carbon generation will be required to meet increased demand and replace output from retiring (fossil fuel) plants, and that "a secure, reliable, affordable, Net Zero consistent system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar". This support for large scale solar as part of the 'answer' to net zero and energy security has been repeated in its recent policy documents published in March 2023.</p> <p>C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067] explain how the site was chosen in light of that need. The methodology used for the site selection process is considered reasonable and proportionate and complies with</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				the requirements of NPS EN-1 4.4.3 as explained at Section 2.1 [APP-067].
			Some comments state that the nature of the cumulative development is unprecedented or overwhelming	Whilst it has not been possible for the Scheme to avoid all significant adverse residual impacts, these have been identified within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] and have been minimised, where possible, through careful and sensitive design and detailed mitigation strategies. The Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] has considered cumulative effects throughout.
PD-04	REP-133; REP-150; REP-165; REP-171	Developer motive	Some comments refer to the Scheme being designed to suit the commercial interests and profits for the Applicant and shareholders, and the community lose out.	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>Whilst not a direct local benefit, there is benefit to all UK citizens from the UK producing more clean, renewable electricity, in terms of affordability, decarbonisation of the domestic energy supply and energy security. This is demonstrated further in C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350].</p> <p>Chapter 10 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] sets out the economic benefits of solar energy. Section 10.2 shows how increasing capacities of solar generation will reduce the price of power for UK consumers. Figure 10.3 draws on UK Government analysis which shows that large</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>scale solar, already being highly competitive against current conventional and renewable generation costs, is predicted to retain a cost advantage for the decades ahead.</p> <p>In terms of the Scheme's benefits to the local community, section 5 of C7.10 Skills Supply Chain and Employment Plan [APP-349] demonstrates what additional measures are being pursued as part of the Scheme to provide local economic benefits. These include providing additional skills training (see paragraphs 5.2.1 to 5.2.12), maximising local recruitment and enhancing opportunities for local procurement (see paragraphs 5.3.1 to 5.4.6). A Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan is secured through Requirement 20 in Schedule 2 of the C3.1_C Draft Development Consent Order Revision C [EN010133/EX2/C3.1_C].</p> <p>The Applicant is committed to providing a Community Benefit Fund – see paragraph 4.8.1 of C7.5_B Planning Statement [EN010133/EX2/C7.5_B]. This fund will be available for community-based benefits such as (but not limited to) community-led energy related projects.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Some comments that the Scheme is profiteering and will not contribute to long-term energy security	Cottam Solar Project brings forward significant benefits in terms of Energy Security (Section 8.8) and affordability of electricity supplies (Section 10.3) of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350].
			The development is solely for the financial benefit of a few people	Section 10.2 and Section 10.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] describe the economic benefits of solar energy within the UK electricity system. The overall employment and economic benefit to the local area from the two-year construction period is anticipated to be 661 full-time equivalent jobs (see Table 18.11 and para. 18.7.23 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]), generating £30.9 million Gross Value Added per year (para. 18.7.52 [APP-053]).
PD-05	REP-175	Energy production	Concerned the scheme will deliver nothing like the headline figures quoted	The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this comment. The Scheme will be delivered in accordance with C3.1_C Draft Development Consent Order Revision C [EN010133/EX2/C3.1_C], including in accordance with the various management plans that are secured through this. The Scheme will deliver clear benefits, which the Applicant

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				considers will outweigh any residual adverse effects that the Scheme has not been fully able to mitigate, as stated in Section 4 of C7.5 Planning Statement [EN010122/EX2/C7.5_B].
PD-06	REP-127; REP-128; REP-133; REP-154; REP-159; REP-172	Ethical sourcing	Comment that the sourcing of manufactured materials for the Scheme raises ethical and moral concerns.	Paragraph 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 of C7.10 Skills Supply Chain and Employment Plan [APP-349] sets out the safeguarding measures taken to prevent human rights abuses, and is secured by Requirement 20 in Schedule 2 of C3.1_C Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [EN010133/EX2/C3.1_C]. Paragraph 5.4.7 of C7.10 Skills Supply Chain and Employment Plan [APP-349] states that: 'Any procurement of supplies internationally will comply with both national and international law, and all policy and safety measures will be adhered to in the transportation of supplies.'
PD-07	REP-176	Financial	Concern that the hidden costs to all consumers via Contract for Difference and Levelised Cost of Energy, will be a huge burden to users	Paragraph 6.2.15 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] states that Solar generation is, based on current economics, likely to be one of the cheapest source(s) of electricity in both the 2020s and 2050 energy mix. A diverse mix of low-carbon generation will be required to meet national decarbonisation targets.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Section 3.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] summarises the 2021 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3, which sets out Government's view that a Net-Zero consistent [energy] system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar. This point is reiterated in the newly published March 2023 Draft Revised National Policy Statement EN-3
PD-08	REP-154; REP-165	Local benefit versus national benefit	Comments raise that the local community will be severely impacted for the benefit of providing energy to the rest of the country	The assessments set out within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] have concluded no significant adverse environmental effects will be caused to residents regarding visual amenity, transport impacts, noise and vibration, glint and glare, air quality, socio-economic impacts, tourism and recreation impacts, human health impacts, or any other environmental effects.
PD-09	REP-177; REP-182; REP-185; REP-190	Location	Comment that 8-9 dwellings are passed on proposed cable route	The Site areas for panels have been determined through agreement with landowners, as well as following a staged site selection process. The Applicant initially presented a cable route search corridor, which has been refined through engagement and consultation with landowners.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>The assessments set out within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] have not concluded any no significant adverse environmental effects will be caused to residents regarding visual amenity, transport impacts, noise and vibration, glint and glare, air quality, socio-economic impacts, tourism and recreation impacts, human health impacts, or any other environmental effects.</p>
			<p>Concerns surrounding proximity of the Scheme to property developments</p>	<p>Paragraph 12.1.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] concludes that "Large-scale solar generation is essential to support the urgent decarbonisation of the GB electricity sector" and paragraph 4.4.11 describes that the location of the scheme presents a "highly suitable solution for the efficient delivery of solar at scale over timeframe which will provide significant decarbonisation benefits". It concludes that this Scheme and others located near it will all be essential for the decarbonisation of the UK electricity sector.</p> <p>The assessments set out within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] have not concluded any no significant adverse environmental effects will be caused to residents regarding visual</p>

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				amenity, transport impacts, noise and vibration, glint and glare, air quality, socio-economic impacts, tourism and recreation impacts, human health impacts, or any other environmental effects.
PD-10	REP-138	Loss of Green Belt	Commentor refers to loss of Green Belt and need to protect agricultural land in Lincolnshire	The Sites are not located within the Green Belt. The selection of the Scheme's location has followed a systematic step-by-step process as set out in detail within C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067]. This took a sequential approach to the consideration of potential sites taking into account agricultural land classification. As a result, paragraph 3.3.22 states that the Scheme maximises the utilisation of low grade, non best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land with 95.9% of the land being classified as non BMV land.
PD-11	REP-147	Mineral rights	Commentor questions if mineral rights are known and what happens if they are chosen to be exercised.	Article 46 of the Draft DCO C3.1C Draft Development Consent Order (submitted at Deadline 2) incorporates the minerals code which means that compensation is payable for the sterilisation of minerals as a result of the Scheme

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				in the event that planning consent is granted and implemented in the future for mineral extraction.
PD-12	REP-133	National security concerns	Comments infer that sourcing PV panels from China could give them greater influence over UK domestic affairs	Paragraph 5.4.7 of C7.10 Skills Supply Chain and Employment Plan [APP-349] states that: 'Any procurement of supplies internationally will comply with both national and international law, and all policy and safety measures will be adhered to in the transportation of supplies.'
PD-13	REP-150; REP-162; REP-164; REP-176; REP-193	Opposition in principle	Comment states there is a general opposition to Scheme in community	The Applicant notes this comment.
			Comments refer to opposition to the Scheme from the local MP	The Applicant notes this comment.
			Some comment object to the overuse of "Rochdale Envelope" and consider it means information is withheld	Use of the Rochdale Envelope is an approach recognised by PINS , as set out within Section 4.3 of ES Chapter 4: Scheme Description [REP-013]. The need for flexibility in design, layout and technology is recognised in National Policy Statement EN-1 as elements of a development may not be finalised.
			Some comments raise concern with the use of same legal company across the NSIP projects, and believe the examination process is 'unfair'	The Applicant and the applicants for the West Burton Solar Project, Gate Burton Energy Park and Tillbridge Solar Project are all separate registered companies.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				The Applicant has been clear during consultation and in the DCO Application that the Applicant and the applicant for the West Burton Solar Project are both part of Island Green Power.
PD-14	REP-139	Ownership of "Green Lane"	Commentor states that it is understood that Green Lane is common land	<p>The Applicant has undertaken diligent inquiries and does not consider Green Lane to be common land for the purposes of the Planning Act 2008.</p> <p>The Applicant has been informed that a DMMO application has recently been submitted in respect of Green Lane and these are discussed within the C6.3.14.3 Appendix 14.3 Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EX2/C6.3.14.3_B].</p>
PD-15	REP-126; REP-164; REP-166; REP-174; REP-176; REP-179; REP-184; REP-185	Size of scheme	Comment on magnitude of size of scheme, and concerns associated	Section 3.3 of document C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350], specifically paragraphs 3.3.2, 3.3.5 and 3.3.11, describes the Government's view that large capacities of low-carbon generation will be required to meet increased demand and replace output from retiring (fossil fuel) plants, and that "a secure, reliable, affordable, Net Zero consistent system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar". This support for large scale solar as part of the 'answer' to net zero and energy security has been repeated in its recent policy documents published in March 2023.

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>The Applicant has prepared the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058], which considers the environmental effects of the Scheme across a broad range of topics throughout the Scheme's lifetime from construction, through operation, and to and beyond decommissioning.</p> <p>Whilst it has not been possible for the Scheme to avoid all significant adverse residual impacts, these have been identified within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] and have been minimised, where possible, through careful and sensitive design and detailed mitigation strategies. The Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] has considered cumulative effects throughout.</p>
			<p>Some comments refer to solar taking up too much land, in comparison to alternative sources of energy</p>	<p>Section 3.3 of document C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350], specifically paragraphs 3.3.2, 3.3.5 and 3.3.11, describes the Government's view that large capacities of low-carbon generation will be required to meet increased demand and replace output from retiring (fossil fuel) plants, and that "a secure, reliable, affordable, Net Zero consistent system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar". This support for</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>large scale solar as part of the 'answer' to net zero and energy security has been repeated in its recent policy documents published in March 2023.</p> <p>Figure 7.1 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] shows National Grid Electricity System Operator's projections of the capacity of solar generation required to deliver a net-zero consistent system, which are 25 – 42GW by 2030, and 57 – 92GW by 2050, compared to just 14GW today as captured within paragraph 7.2.10.</p> <p>Figure 7.2 [APP-350] shows National Grid Electricity System Operator's projections for the future installed capacity of different electricity generation technologies in Net-Zero consistent scenarios. In all scenarios, solar is required to make a significant contribution to the future generation mix.</p>
PD-16	REP-130; REP-154; REP-155; REP-159; REP-160	Support for technology	Commentors state they support the development of solar power in principle	The Applicant agrees with this comment.
			Comments recognise the contribution of solar to overall improvement to energy security	The Applicant agrees with this comment.



3.16 Scheme Description

Table 2.16: Applicant's Response to Scheme Description Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
SCH-01	REP-161; REP-175	BESS	Comment states that due to charging from the National Grid, the BESS should be treated as an independent Scheme	The Applicant refers the party to its response regarding associated development reference '7A-45' as contained within C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049].
			Comment that the BESS should be a separate application	The Applicant refers the party to its response regarding associated development reference '7A-45' as contained within C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049].
SCH-02	REP-144; REP-147; REP-152; REP-159; REP-161; REP-166	Cable route	Concern regarding permitting all 4 solar Schemes to cross the River Trent in the same underwater pipe	<p>Each project will be responsible for its own horizontal directional drilling for its corresponding cable circuit. The projects will not share ducts.</p> <p>Paragraph 4.5.44 of C6.2.4_A ES Chapter 4 Scheme Description Revision A [REP-012] states that 'Where multiple circuits are directional drilled along parallel paths, the minimum separation distances between drilled cable circuits is 3.0m.' This is applicable to multiple circuits from the same project, or to circuits from another scheme.</p> <p>The minimum separation distance of 3.0m between drilled cable circuits along parallel paths is secured in C7.15 Concept Design Parameters and Principles</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>[REP-039], at Table 2.6. Requirement 5 of the Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; updated at Deadline 2] requires the details of the relevant Work Nos. to be approved by the relevant planning authority, and that the details must accord with the Concept Design Parameters and Principles.</p> <p>Ducting will therefore not be shared and instead parallel drilling for each project will be undertaken.</p>
			The length of the cable route induces catastrophic/unnecessary/extensive environmental impacts for residents and wildlife	<p>The assessments set out within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058] have concluded no significant adverse environmental effects will be caused to residents regarding visual amenity, transport impacts, noise and vibration, glint and glare, air quality, socio-economic impacts, tourism and recreation impacts, human health impacts, or any other environmental effects.</p> <p>Please refer to response EMH-03 in C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049] in respect of the impact of the Scheme on wildlife.</p>
SCH-03	REP-152; REP-160; REP-165; REP-166	Description of materials	Comments raise concerns about the visual appearance and intrusive nature	C6.2.8 ES Chapter 8 Landscape and Visual Impact [EN010133/EX2/C6.2.8_A] (the 'LVIA') includes a full and detailed assessment that deals with both effects on the

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			of security fencing, security lighting and CCTV cameras	<p>landscape itself and effects on the visual amenity of people, as well as interrelationships of these with other related topics in the ES. The LVIA process is iterative and as a result, the design of the Scheme changed to respond to the findings of the assessment to ensure that landscape mitigation is fully considered as part of the process.</p> <p>Please refer to response GEN-31 in C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049] for further information about how lighting will be managed to avoid permanent lighting.</p>
			Comments refer to the amount of glass, steel, concrete and miles of obtrusive wildlife unfriendly security fencing as part of the Scheme	The Applicant refers the Party to its ecology response to issue reference 'ECO-14', in relation to wildlife movement and biodiversity concerns, and LAN-03 for further details about how the visual impacts of the Scheme, particularly fencing, have been considered, as contained within C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049].
			Comments refer to the Scheme being an industrial zone of high fences, glass panels on a maze of steel scaffolding, and a mass of portacabin-like structures humming away day and night	Requirement 16 in C3.1_C Draft Development Consent Order Revision C [EN010133/EX2/C3.1_C] states that details of the operational mitigation measures set out in C6.2.15 ES Chapter 15 Noise and

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Vibration [APP-050] must be approved by the relevant planning authority.
SCH-04	REP-152	Dispersal of Sites	Comments object to the dispersed nature of the solar sites that make up the Scheme	<p>Please refer to response 1.2.30 of C8.1.15 Applicant's Response to the ExA First Written Questions (provided at Deadline 2) for a full explanation of the considerations and benefits of the 'network of sites' making up the Scheme.</p> <p>The C7.3_B Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C7.3_B] includes a significant area (approximately 94ha) of tussocky grassland habitat creation and management within buffer zones and other marginal locations which will provide suitable habitat for polecat, hedgehog and harvest mouse.</p> <p>Furthermore, significant lengths of new hedgerow (approximately 20km) and tree planting (approximately 10ha) is proposed. Buffer zones will be wider than existing uncultivated field margins throughout the Scheme. These measures will increase the abundance of field margin habitat of suitability to these species, including mitigating the effects of habitat loss for harvest mice.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Connectivity and dispersal corridors for these species would likely increase, along with a reduction in disturbance and degradation from farming practices.
SCH-05	REP-129; REP-148	Lack of time limit on consent	Comment suggests undefined time limit may be to allow for early decommissioning if other technologies overtake solar in efficiency	<p>The urgent need for renewable energy and decarbonisation has been set out in response ENG-07 in C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049]. Response ALT-05 in that document considers looks at alternative technologies that may be brought forward in the future.</p> <p>Requirement 21 of Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; updated at Deadline 2] has been updated to confirm that the Scheme will be decommissioned no later than 60 years following the date of final commissioning. The Applicant does not anticipate a scenario where it would make sense, either economically or in terms of supporting electricity production in the country, to decommission the Scheme whilst it remains productive and operational.</p> <p>Upon decommissioning, the Scheme will be returned to its previous condition, as detailed in paragraph 2.1.1 of C7.2 Outline Decommissioning Statement [APP-338].</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Commentor questions why the time limit for the operational lifetime of the Scheme has been left undefined	Paragraph 3.10.137 of draft NPS EN-3 states that the Secretary of State should ensure that outline plans for decommissioning the generating station and restoring the land have been put forward. An outline decommissioning statement forms part of the DCO application documents [APP-338] and decommissioning is secured by Requirement 21 of the DCO [EN010133/EX2/C3.1_C]. Requirement 21 now states that "The date of decommissioning must be no later than 60 years following the date of final commissioning" .
			Concern that lack of time limit undermines accuracy of impact assessments	As detailed within C6.2.2 ES Chapter 2 EIA Process and Methodology [APP-037] this assessment is in accordance with Schedule 4 of the 2017 EIA Regulations and PINS Advice Note 17 In response to concerns raised by the Examining Authority and interested parties regarding the Scheme being in place in perpetuity, the Applicant has amended Requirement 21 of Schedule 2 to the draft DCO submitted at Deadline 1 to require the Scheme to be decommissioned after 60 years. Paragraph 3.10.137 of draft NPS EN-3 states that the Secretary of State should

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>ensure that outline plans for decommissioning the generating station and restoring the land have been put forward.</p> <p>Please also refer to the Summary of Significant Effects [EX2/C6.2.23_A] submitted at Deadline 2.</p>
SCH-06	REP-154; REP-159	Land take	Some comments refer directly to comparing the land take for solar versus nuclear power stations	The Applicant refer the Party to its energy need response to issue response references 'KPCL-05' and 'ALT-05' as contained within C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049].
			Some comments refer directly to comparing the land take for solar versus the coal-fire power stations	The Applicant refers the Party to its climate change response to issue reference 'CC-08' and 'ALT-08' as contained within C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049].
			Specific comments have been raised regarding competing needs for land for housing, transport and other infrastructure	In respect of the comments relating to land use, the Applicant refers the Party to its response to issue reference 'PLA-05' as contained within C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049].
SCH-07	REP-103	Location of BESS	Concern that the BESS is located too close to residential properties	The Applicant points the Party to its Battery Energy Storage System Fire Risk response to issue reference 'OEM-04' as contained within C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049]

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
SCH-08	REP-130; REP-168	Location of infrastructure	Panel or substation infrastructure should not be located adjacent to Scheduled Monuments.	The Heritage Statement within C6.3.13.5 ES Appendix 13.5 [APP-125 to APP-128] provides a detailed assessment of the designated heritage assets located within the Stow Parish and any potential impacts caused by the Scheme. The assessment identified that there would be no change/Negligible change. Please refer to response 7A-13 in C8.1.2 The Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations [REP-049] for more details.
			Panel or substation infrastructure should not be located within 1km of settlements	The Applicant notes this comment.
SCH-09	REP-152; REP-158	Permanent vs temporary	Comments state that the 40+ year timescale is significant and could be extended further by ongoing works and decommissioning activity	The Applicant notes this comment. In response to concerns raised by the Examining Authority and interested parties regarding the Scheme being in place in perpetuity, the Applicant has amended Requirement 21 of Schedule 2 to the draft DCO submitted at Deadline 2 [EX2/C3.1_C] to require the Scheme to be decommissioned after 60 years.
SCH-10	REP-155; REP-158	Scale of Scheme	Concerns raised regarding the scale and density of the Scheme	As a result of the scale of the project, the Scheme is designated as a nationally significant infrastructure

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>project, and the application has been made for a Development Consent Order.</p> <p>Cumulative effects assessments have been prepared for the Application within the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-058]. Cumulative effects assessments for each topic are set out in each of the ES Chapters and include the assessment of the impacts of the Scheme cumulatively with the NSIPs identified in paragraph 2.5.9 of C6.2.2 ES Chapter 2 EIA Process and Methodology [APP-037]. This assessment is in accordance with Schedule 4 of the 2017 EIA Regulations and PINS Advice Note 17. The mitigation measures set out across the ES therefore account for anticipated cumulative effects.</p>
SCH-11	REP-154; REP-168	Size of infrastructure	Comments state that solar panels should be limited to 2m in height	The Applicant notes this comment.

3.17 Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation

Table 2.17: Applicant's Response to Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
STR-01	REP-130; REP-133; REP-159; REP-205; REP-199	Agricultural employment	Some comments refer to loss of agricultural employment	<p>The assessed worst-case loss of 17 FTE agricultural jobs as a result of the Scheme is equivalent to 0.4% of the agricultural employment in the Local Impact Area, as set out in para. 18.7.15 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. The Scheme is estimated to employ 10 full-time equivalent employees from the local area during operation; see Table 18.16. The net change in employment in the local area (defined as West Lindsey and Bassetlaw Districts) during the Scheme's operational life is a loss of approximately 2 full-time jobs, once consideration of direct, indirect and induced employment, and impacts on the tourism and recreation industry are considered (see Table 18.17 and para. 18.7.79). Overall, the economic benefit to the local area is estimated to be £2.2 million per year (see para. 18.7.97).</p> <p>The overall employment and economic benefit to the local area from the two-year construction period is anticipated to be 661 full-time equivalent jobs (see Table 18.11 and para. 18.7.23), generating £30.9 million per year (see para. 18.7.52).</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
STR-02	REP-127; REP-128; REP-138; REP-144; REP-164; REP-171	Agricultural employment	<p>Some comments refer to tenant farmers losing their jobs in the immediate future</p> <p>Some comments refer to a loss of farming skills in the area</p>	<p>The land included in the Scheme covers 4 farm businesses, all of which are owner occupiers of the land within the Sites. This is detailed in full in para. 7.1.1 to 7.1.17 of C6.3.19.1 ES Appendix 19.1 Agricultural Land Quality Soil Resources and Farming Circumstances [APP-145].</p> <p>As a result, the Scheme is anticipated to lead to a maximum loss of approximately 17 full-time equivalent agriculture jobs, as stated in paragraph 18.7.15 of document C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. The Scheme is estimated to employ 10 full-time equivalent employees from the local area during operation; see Table 18.16. The net change in employment in the local area (defined as West Lindsey and Bassetlaw Districts) during the Scheme's operational life is a loss of approximately 2 full-time jobs, once consideration of direct, indirect and induced employment, and impacts on the tourism and recreation industry are considered (see Table 18.17 and para. 18.7.79). Overall, the economic benefit to the local area is estimated to be £2.2 million per year (see para. 18.7.97).</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>As the Scheme will be decommissioned there will not be a permanent loss of agricultural land resource. Furthermore, the agricultural land can remain in productive use through the operational period, being grazed by livestock (see paras 19.10.2, 19.10.6, 19.10.10 of C6.2.19 ES Chapter 19 Soils and Agriculture Revision A [REP-010]).</p> <p>Skills and training opportunities, where practicable, are explored and given in more detail in C7.10 Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [APP-349], which is secured by Requirement 20 of the draft DCO [REP-006; REP-007].</p>
STR-03	REP-154	Comparative employment	Some comments refer to direct and induced job creation from the Scheme and that this is small compared to that for the coal-fire power stations	<p>The Applicant has set out the anticipated direct, indirect and induced employment created by the Scheme's construction, operation, and decommissioning in C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. The Applicant has also assessed the loss of employment in the energy sector as a result of the decommissioning of West Burton A power station.</p> <p>The benefits of the Scheme in regard to national net zero energy commitments, energy security, climate change, air quality etc., far outweigh the negatives of</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				the reduced level of employment in the energy sector in the Local Impact Area. Furthermore, the decommissioning of the coal-fire stations in the Trent Valley, with the associated loss of employment, is being undertaken whether or not the Scheme or other solar NSIPs are approved.
STR-04	REP-152; REP-161; REP-165	Crime	Some comments state that the Scheme will be a target for theft and this will increase crime in the locality	<p>The Applicant is aware that solar parks or farms can be subject to theft and criminal damage. In response to statutory consultation, Lincolnshire Police requested that specific consideration of and detailed measures in relation to security are included in the Scheme (in C5.11 Consultation Report Appendix – Section 42 Applicant Response [APP-034]). Work No. 7, described in Schedule 1 to the Draft DCO [REP-006; REP-007] provides for suitable security measures, including fencing and CCTV, in order to ensure the Scheme is secure and not a target of crime.</p> <p>Lincolnshire Police raised no objection to the Scheme as a whole and raised no concerns relating to public security. As set out in C5.11 Consultation Report Appendix – Section 42 Applicant Response [APP-034]. The only comments provided relate to the security features of the Scheme itself.</p> <p>As set out in C7.1 Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [REP-037] Section</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>2.11, there will be designated security staff during construction who will manage the Order limits and patrol the perimeter.</p> <p>The C7.16 Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [APP-353] in Section 2.8 sets out that the Sites will receive several security risk management threat assessments during the development, construction, operation, and ultimately decommissioning phases. These security risk management threat assessments are conducted by suitable qualified and experienced persons (SQEP) and will determine security risks.</p> <p>The Applicant recognises the symbiotic relationship between safety and security. The security arrangements to be present at the Site will therefore contribute to the overall safety of all who will, or may, enter the Sites. The security arrangements will be SQEP reviewed at identified times commensurate to the Security Risk rating and will further assess any changes in the Security Risk Management Threat Assessment.</p> <p>The security features that are proposed as part of the Scheme are set out within Section 4.5 Chapter 4 Scheme Description of the ES [REP-012] and set out in Section 2.8 of C7.16 Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [APP-353] (as</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>secured by Requirement 14 of Schedule 2 to the C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006]):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detection systems such as beam break, image detection etc. to raise alarm when fence breached; • Audio announcement when intruder detected to warn alarm triggered and police on way; • Barriers/locked gates at main entrances to the Sites; • Steel doors on substation buildings; • Buried cables as much as possible; • Remote monitoring; and • Alarm response contract with keyholder/security company <p>For the solar arrays there will be a maximum of 2.5m high deer wire mesh fencing, 3m high maximum pole mounted CCTV systems. The substations and BESS are proposed to have palisade fencing which is a maximum height of 2.6m (see paragraphs 4.5.57 to 4.5.59 of C6.2.4 ES Chapter 4 Scheme Description Revision A [REP-012]).</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>As per paragraph 4.5.61 of C6.2.4 ES Chapter 4 Scheme Description Revision A [REP-012], "Lighting is not required within the solar arrays. Lighting will be provided within substations and within the Energy Storage site to be used only in the event of it being required for maintenance and security purposes. Down lighting would be used on lighting columns of a maximum height of 3m."</p> <p>The Applicant is confident that its approach to ensuring the Scheme is and remains secure during construction, operation and decommissioning, will ensure that it is not a target of crime and there will be no increase in crime levels in the local area.</p>
STR-05	REP-162	Deprivation	Concern there the Scheme will negatively an area already suffering from social deprivation	<p>The Applicant recognises potential socio-economic impacts of the Scheme. ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-035] has assessed the economic impact of the Scheme.</p> <p>The overall impacts on the level of income as measured by Gross Value Added per person, and access to employment as a measured index of deprivation has been assessed in Section 18.7 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053].</p> <p>The level of income generated by the Scheme is assessed to have an overall positive effect on the local workforce during construction (para. 18.7.53),</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				operation (18.7.98) and during decommissioning (18.7.137). This beneficial effects are anticipated to be significant during construction (18.8.14, Table 18.29).
STR-06	REP-143; REP-144; REP-154	Deprivation	Concern there will be an overall reduction in quality of life	Impacts on the local socio-demographic environment across the Scheme's construction, operation, and decommissioning have been assessed in Section 18.7 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. This includes assessment of the existing resident demographic profile, access to primary healthcare, population health and wellbeing, deprivation levels, and skills and qualifications. Subject to mitigation and enhancement measures as set out in Section 18.8 [APP-053], the Scheme is not anticipated to have any significant adverse impacts on the socio-demographic environment. The Scheme is however anticipated to have significant beneficial effects on access to employment (para. 18.8.12) and education (para. 18.8.13) as measured indices of deprivation during construction.
STR-07	REP-162; REP-165; REP-166; REP-171	Desirability of the local area	Comments raise concern that the Scheme will reduce the desirability of the local area as a place to live and will drive young people to move elsewhere	Whilst desirability to live in an area has not been directly assessed, the Applicant has considered the impact of the Scheme on the use of the area for tourism and recreation. The impacts on the desirability and use of tourist attractions and recreational facilities in the countryside have been assessed in paras. 18.7.54

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			Concerns raised about the desirability of the area for recreational activity	<p>to 18.7.68, 18.7.99 to 18.7.113, and 18.7.138 to 18.7.154 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. After mitigation is put in place, significant effects are identified during construction of the Scheme only, with no significant effects identified during operation or decommissioning of the Scheme.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Applicant will provide the measures set out in C7.10 Skills Supply Chain and Employment Plan [APP-349], secured through Requirement 20 of Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006]. As part of this Plan, measures to secure local employment, supply chains, and upskilling opportunities will be taken to mitigate against 'brain-drain' by supporting employability and skills uplift in the working age population.</p>
STR-08	REP-185; REP-191	Economic Prosperity	Concerns that house value will depreciate	<p>Impacts on property values are not directly assessed. Consideration of the impact of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme on accommodation stock in C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053] identifies beneficial significant impacts to accommodation stock (housing). There is no strong evidence to show solar farms negatively affect nearby</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				property value, and it is more likely that other factors are more significant to changes in property value.
STR-09	REP-159; REP-161; REP-165	Economic Prosperity	Some comments raise concerns about the local economy not benefitting from the Scheme	<p>The Scheme is anticipated to bring direct, indirect, and induced employment and economic benefits to the Local and Regional Impact Area as set out in Section 18.7, 18.8, and 18.10 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. The net changes to employment, and to economic Gross Value Added in the local area (defined as West Lindsey and Bassetlaw districts) are:</p> <p>For construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> +661 FTE jobs (para. 18.7.23 [APP-053]); +£30.9 million per year change to economic Gross Value Added (GVA) (para. 18.7.52 [APP-053]); <p>For operation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -2 FTE jobs (para. 18.7.79 [APP-053]); +£2.2million per year change to economic GVA (para. 18.7.97 [APP-053]); <p>For decommissioning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> +509 FTE jobs (para. 18.7.125 [APP-053]); minor beneficial impact to GVA (para. 18.7.135 [APP-053]). <p>In addition, the Applicant is committed to providing a Community Benefit Fund – see paragraph 4.8.1 of C7.5</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Planning Statement [EX2/C7.5_B]. This fund will be available for community-based benefits such as (but not limited to) community-led energy related projects.
STR-10	REP-138	Economic Prosperity	Some comments refer to increase in inequality	The overall impacts on the level of income as measured by Gross Value Added per person, and access to employment as a measured index of deprivation has been assessed in Section 18.7 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. 6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053] assesses impacts on socio-demographic and health receptors both for Cottam Solar Project in isolation (Section 18.7), and cumulatively (Section 18.10). The full list of effects from the Scheme set out in Table 18.29 [APP-053] demonstrates no significant adverse effects to socio-demographic and human health indicators.
STR-11	REP-128; REP-160; REP-168; REP-140	Economic Prosperity	Some comments refer to reduction in house prices	Impacts on property values are not directly assessed. Consideration of the impact of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme on accommodation stock in C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053] identifies beneficial significant impacts to accommodation stock (housing). There is no strong evidence to show solar farms negatively affect nearby

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				property value, and it is more likely that other factors are more significant to changes in property value.
STR-12	REP-140	Economic Prosperity	Some comments refer to lack of ability to sell houses and move elsewhere as a result of the Scheme	Impacts on the ability to sell property are not assessed. Consideration of the impact of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme on accommodation stock in C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053] identifies beneficial significant impacts to accommodation stock (housing). There is no strong evidence to show solar farms negatively affect the sale of property.
STR-13	REP-143	Economic Prosperity	Some comments refer to reduction in land and house prices	Impacts on property and land values are not directly assessed. Consideration of the impact of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Scheme on accommodation stock in C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053] identifies beneficial significant impacts to accommodation stock (housing). There is no strong evidence to show solar farms negatively affect nearby property value, and it is more likely that other factors are more significant to changes in property value.
STR-14	REP-161; REP-162	Economic Prosperity	Comments believe that the Scheme will provide low	The overall impacts on the level of income as measured by Gross Value Added per person, and access to employment as a measured index of deprivation has

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			employment and limited economic benefit	<p>been assessed in Section 18.7 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053].</p> <p>The level of income generated by the Scheme is assessed to have an overall positive effect on the local workforce during construction (para. 18.7.53), operation (18.7.98) and during decommissioning (18.7.137). This beneficial effect is anticipated to be significant during construction (18.8.14, Table 18.29).</p> <p>Access to employment during construction (see para. 18.7.38 and 18.8.12) is anticipated to result in a significant beneficial effect. During operation, access to employment is anticipated to be enhanced through the measures set out in Section 5 of C7.10 Skills Supply Chain and Employment Plan [APP-349] (maximising local recruitment and enhancing opportunities for local procurement (para. 5.3.1-5.4.6)), to provide an overall beneficial effect. The Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan is secured by Requirement 20 of Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006].</p>
STR-15	REP-160	Economic Prosperity	Comments refer to greater community support for rooftop solar if greater financial incentives were available	<p>Paragraph 7.6.3 of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] analyses the potential contribution of "brownfield" solar sites to the national need for solar generation. Brownfield sites, including rooftop and other community energy systems, are likely to grow in the UK</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>and will make a contribution to decarbonisation of the UK energy system. However, C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] concludes in Section 7.6 that, on their own, brownfield developments are unlikely to be able to meet the national need for solar. Paragraph 8.5.10 and Section 8.5 more generally of C7.11 Statement of Need [APP-350] describe and express agreement with Government's view that decentralised and community energy systems are unlikely to lead to the significant replacement of large-scale infrastructure. The Applicant therefore supports Government's view that large scale solar must be deployed to meet the urgent national need for low-carbon electricity generation.</p> <p>The consideration of alternatives has been undertaken within C6.2.5 ES Chapter 5 Alternatives and Design Evolution [APP-040] and its accompanying appendix C6.3.5.1 ES Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [APP-067]. Specifically, paragraphs 2.1.23 to 2.1.32 detail the consideration of brownfield land and roof tops and set out why these were discounted as unsuitable. The methodology used for the site selection process is considered reasonable and proportionate and complies with the requirements of NPS EN-1, paragraph 4.4.3.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
STR-16	REP-130; REP-144; REP-162; REP-168; REP-173	Impact on use of PRow	Comments state the Scheme will negatively affect use of PRowS and unsurfaced roads	<p>The likely impacts on the desirability and recreational use of public rights of way and other recreational routes during construction and operation are set out in Tables 18.15 and 18.20 respectively, in Section 18.7 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. No significant effects are identified for any public rights of way affected by the Scheme. A Public Rights of Way Management Plan will be implemented for the Scheme as secured by Requirement 18 of Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006]. The Public Rights of Way Management Plan must be in substantial accordance with the submitted outline C6.3.14.3 ES Appendix 14.3 Public Rights of Way Management Plan [REP-018; REP-019]</p> <p>The Applicant will be providing a new permissive path between Stow and Stow Pastures, which is Work No. 11 in Schedule 1 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007], and which must be provided in accordance with Requirement 17 in Schedule 2 to the draft Order [REP-006; REP-007]. This will improve the availability of recreational routes during the lifetime of the Scheme.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Applicant is committed to providing a Community Benefit Fund (see paragraph 4.8.1 of C7.5 Planning Statement [EX2/C7.5_B]). This fund will be</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				available for community-based benefits such as (but not limited to) promoting the use of public rights of way and installing information boards to explain biodiversity enhancement measures within the Scheme. The provision of the Community Benefit Fund itself does not form a part of the DCO Application, and therefore will be agreed separately between the Applicant and the fund's beneficiaries.
STR-17	REP-127; REP-159; REP-205; REP-128; REP-130; REP-138; REP-164; REP-165	Loss of employment or business	Some comments refer to job losses or economic impacts across the local area due to the Scheme.	The Scheme is anticipated to lead to a maximum loss of approximately 17 full-time equivalent agriculture jobs, as stated in paragraph 18.7.15 of document C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. The Scheme is estimated to employ 10 full-time equivalent employees from the local area during operation; see Table 18.16. The net change in employment in the local area (defined as West Lindsey and Bassetlaw Districts) during the Scheme's operational life is a loss of approximately 2 full-time jobs, once consideration of direct, indirect and induced employment, and impacts on the tourism and recreation industry are considered (see Table 18.17 and para. 18.7.79). Overall, the economic benefit to the local area is estimated to be £2.2 million per year (see para. 18.7.97).

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
STR-18	REP-128; REP-130; REP-138; REP-164; REP-165	Loss of employment or business	Some comments refer to negative impact on tourism, recreation, leisure and hospitality business	The likely impacts on the desirability and use of the area surrounding the Scheme for tourism and recreation have been assessed in Section 18.7 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. The greatest level of effect to access, desirability and use of tourism and recreational receptors is moderate-minor adverse and is anticipated during construction (para. 18.7.60-67) and decommissioning (para. 18.7.143-153). These effects are not anticipated to be significant.
STR-19	REP-130	Permissive paths	<p>Commentor questions why the request for access along the banks of the River Till has not been included.</p> <p>Commentor seeks additional permissive access to areas removed from panels and set aside for wildlife habitat</p>	<p>A potential route along the banks of the River Till was not brought forward to the DCO application stage as it was not possible to reach an agreement for this with the landowners that would be affected by the route, and who are not otherwise associated with the Scheme.</p> <p>The option for providing permissive access to habitat creation areas may be explored as a community benefit, but this is likely to fall outside the remit of the DCO. Furthermore, careful consideration would have to be made as to whether the habitat creation areas would be able to support permissive access without negatively impacting their biodiversity gain performance.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
STR-20	REP-160	PROWs	Concerns raised that public rights of way could be closed	<p>No public rights of way will be permanently closed as a result of the Scheme.</p> <p>The Applicant is aware of the significance of the Public Rights of Way network for recreational activity and its importance to physical and mental wellbeing. The likely nature and significance of effect of the Scheme on the recreational use of public rights of way for all users has been assessed in Section 18.7 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. The greatest level of effect (moderate-minor adverse) to the use of bridleways and byways is anticipated during construction (see Table 18.15 [APP-053]) and decommissioning (see paras. 18.7.143 to 18.7.149 of [APP-053]), which is not considered to be a significant adverse effect.</p> <p>Construction impacts on Public Rights of Way are as a result of temporary closures or diversions where necessary to facilitate the construction of the Scheme. These closures and diversions are temporary, and all affected Public Rights of Way are proposed to be re-opened following the completion of the Scheme's construction and kept open during the operational lifetime of the development. Efforts have been made to ensure the number of closures and diversions are minimised. A Public Rights of Way Management Plan will be implemented for the Scheme as secured by</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Requirement 18 of Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006]. The Public Rights of Way Management Plan must be in substantial accordance with the submitted outline C6.3.14.3 ES Appendix 14.3 Public Rights of Way Management Plan [REP-018; REP-019].
STR-21	REP-160; REP-165	Tourism impacts	Some comments raise concerns regarding the impact of the Scheme on the attractiveness of Lincoln for visitors	<p>The likely impacts on the desirability and use of the area surrounding the Scheme for tourism and recreation have been assessed in Section 18.7 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053].</p> <p>The greatest effect during construction is anticipated to be a peak medium-term temporary moderate adverse on the landscape setting of tourism attractions (see para. 18.7.57), which is a significant effect. During operation, the greatest effects to tourism and recreation receptors are anticipated to be long-term moderate-minor adverse (see para. 18.7.101), which is therefore not significant.</p> <p>Furthermore, Section 18.10 of C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053] assesses the likely cumulative impacts on tourism and recreation receptors during construction (para.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>18.10.27 to 18.10.31), operation (para. 18.10.51 to 18.10.55), and decommissioning (Table 18.29).</p> <p>The only significant adverse cumulative effect from the proposed solar NSIPs is anticipated to be to the Trent Valley Way. This long-distance recreational route could experience a peak cumulative short to medium-term temporary moderate adverse effect during construction (para 18.10.31).</p>

3.18 Soils and Agriculture

Table 2.18: Applicant's Response to Soils and Agriculture Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
SAA-01	REP-152	ALC survey results	Some comments object to any BMV land being developed	Development of the scheme is reversible and will not result in loss of or degradation to the agricultural land resource.
SAA-02	REP-165; REP-172	ALC survey results	Some comments refer to the need for ALC survey results to be independently tested	Natural England deadline 1 submission [REP-098] states "Natural England are satisfied that the detailed ALC survey undertaken across the order limits is appropriate."
SAA-03	REP-127; REP-172	ALC survey results	Some comments refute that the land is lower agricultural classification	Natural England deadline 1 submission [REP-098] states "Natural England are satisfied that the detailed ALC survey undertaken across the order limits is appropriate."
SAA-04	REP-172	ALC survey results	Some comments specifically refer to the reassessment of WB4 as demonstration of why this is needed	Natural England deadline 1 submission [REP-098] states "Natural England are satisfied that the detailed ALC survey undertaken across the order limits is appropriate."
SAA-05	REP-172	ALC survey results	Some comments state that the ALC survey results should not be given weight in the examination until an independent survey is undertaken	Natural England deadline 1 submission [REP-098] states "Natural England are satisfied that the detailed ALC survey undertaken across the order limits is appropriate."

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
SAA-06	REP-138; REP-147; REP-149; REP-152; REP-154; REP-160; REP-162; REP-164; REP-165; REP-167; REP-169	ALC survey results	Some comments state that Grade 3b land is still productive and should be avoided	Development of the scheme is reversible and will not result in loss of or degradation to the agricultural land resource.
SAA-07	REP-160; REP-171	Decommissioning and restoration	Some comments state that they do not believe the land can be restored to its original state	Defra R&D project LE0206 demonstrates that open cast and landfill sites are routinely restored to agricultural land without loss of ALC Grade. We can therefore have confidence that there will be no loss of ALC Grade from the insertion and subsequent drawing out of narrow steel piles.
SAA-08	REP-160	Grazing under panel areas	Commentor believes mention of grazing sheep on the solar sites is purely a marketing tactic	Grazing by sheep represents a cost effective means of managing vegetation below and between solar panel rows, and provides an additional agricultural income from the land.
SAA-09	REP-152	Soil Compaction	Concerns raised around soil compaction and damage causing long term harm to viability of the land in future	Current arable land use entails use of high axle load vehicles such as grain tailers and combine harvesters. It also requires land work to take place at sensitive periods of the year (spring and autumn) when the soil may be wet and vulnerable to structural damage. In contrast the land within the solar farm is given an extended fallow from this compacting arable landwork, with construction and decommissioning operations confined to dry and friable soil conditions

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				by the Outline Soil Management Plan (C6.4.1.1 [APP-146])
SAA-10	REP-144; REP-159	Soil Quality	Comments refer to damage to soil structure and subterranean ecosystems during construction and left in permanent shade for lifetime of development	Land within the solar farm is given an extended fallow from compacting arable landwork, with construction and decommissioning operations confined to dry and friable soil conditions by the Outline Soil Management Plan (C6.4.1.1 [APP-146]). Grass growth below and between solar panels demonstrates that land is not in permanent shade.
SAA-11	REP-173; REP-174; REP-175	Use of agricultural land	Comment and concern for loss of land and impact on jobs	Agricultural land within the Order limits is owner occupied land as set out in paragraphs 19.8.16 to 32 of ES Chapter 19 Soils and Agriculture (C6.2.19A [REP-010]). The Scheme is anticipated to lead to a maximum loss of approximately 17 full-time equivalent agriculture jobs, as stated in paragraph 18.7.15 of document C6.2.18 ES Chapter 18 Socio Economics Tourism and Recreation [APP-053]. The Scheme is estimated to employ 10 full-time equivalent employees from the local area during operation; see Table 18.16. The net change in employment in the local area (defined as West Lindsey and Bassetlaw Districts) during the Scheme's operational life is a loss of approximately 2

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				full-time jobs, once consideration of direct, indirect and induced employment, and impacts on the tourism and recreation industry are considered (see Table 18.17 and para. 18.7.79). Overall, the economic benefit to the local area is estimated to be £2.2 million per year (see para. 18.7.97).
SAA-12	REP-127; REP-128; REP-154; REP-164; REP-167	Use of agricultural land	Comment refers to the clay content of the soils allowing for higher crop yield than higher category land	High clay content limits opportunities for arable land work and/or carrying livestock following rainfall. This is the basis of the ALC soil wetness and workability limitation detailed in ES Chapter 19 Soils and Agriculture (C6.2.19A [REP-010])
SAA-13	REP-182	Use of agricultural land	Comment that landowner has asked tenants to relocate	Agricultural land within the Order limits is owner occupied land as set out in paragraphs 19.8.16 to 32 of ES Chapter 19 Soils and Agriculture (C6.2.19A [REP-010]), The Applicant has entered into voluntary agreements with the landowners for each of the Sites.
SAA-14	REP-164	Use of agricultural land	Comments refer to energy crops and rapeseed oil being grown on the land	Solar in the UK produces substantially more renewable energy per hectare than any energy crop. See paragraph 19.5.2 of ES Chapter 19 Soils and Agriculture (C6.2.19A [REP-010])

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
SAA-15	REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-130; REP-132; REP-133; REP-140; REP-141; REP-143; REP-144; REP-147; REP-148; REP-150; REP-152; REP-155; REP-158; REP-159; REP-161; REP-162; REP-163; REP-165; REP-166; REP-169; REP-171	Use of agricultural land	Opposition to the Scheme due to a loss of agricultural land.	Decommissioning of the solar farm is secured through the Development Consent Order (C3.1B [REP-006]). Agricultural land is therefore not lost as a result of the Scheme.
SAA-16	REP-127; REP-128	Use of agricultural land	Some comments are concerned about the loss of arable land to rising sea levels	The United Kingdom Food Security Report 2021 published by Defra notes that UK self sufficiency trends for food production have been stable for over two decades. Climate Change and Soil Degradation are noted as two key threats to UK food security. Land use change is not. Any loss of arable land to rising sea level would be as a result of climate change, that this Scheme seeks to address by reducing carbon emissions through the production of renewable energy.
SAA-17	REP-127; REP-142; REP-154	Use of agricultural land	Some comments refer to the war in Ukraine exacerbating food security issues.	The United Kingdom Food Security Report 2021 published by Defra notes that UK self sufficiency trends for food production have been stable for over two decades. Climate Change and Soil Degradation are noted as two key threats to UK food security. Land

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				use change is not. The Applicant's position is that the proposed Scheme is not a threat to UK food security.
SAA-18	REP-103; REP-126; REP-127; REP-128; REP-129; REP-138; REP-141; REP-154; REP-155; REP-157; REP-158; REP-159; REP-160; REP-161; REP-162; REP-163; REP-164; REP-165; REP-166; REP-167; REP-199; REP-200; REP-201; REP-202; REP-205; REP-206; REP-175; REP-176; REP-178; REP-183; REP-186; REP-195	Use of agricultural land	Some comments refer to this loss of land having a negative impact on UK food security	The United Kingdom Food Security Report 2021 published by Defra notes that UK self sufficiency trends for food production have been stable for over two decades. Climate Change and Soil Degradation are noted as two key threats to UK food security. Land use change is not. The Applicant's position is that proposed Scheme is not a threat to UK food security.
SAA-19	REP-126	Use of agricultural land	Some comments refer to impacts on the cost of living as a result of increasing food prices	The United Kingdom Food Security Report 2021 published by Defra notes that UK self sufficiency trends for food production have been stable for over two decades. Climate Change and Soil Degradation are noted as two key threats to UK food security. Land use change is not. The Applicant's position is that the proposed Scheme is not a threat to UK food security.

3.19 Transport and Access

Table 2.19: Applicant's Response to Transport and Access Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
TRA-01	REP-130	Abnormal loads	Concerns that road closures for AIL deliveries will cause significant disruption	<p>Information on Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) movements are set out in Section 7 on the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.1_A] and Section 6 of the C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.2_A] . There will be a total of 10 AIL movements associated with the solar array element of the scheme. Half of vehicles will be 36m in length, with five movements for the largest transformers on vehicles of 70m in length.</p> <p>For the grid connection corridor, cable drums will be brought on Cable Reel Trailer 26m in length (vehicles over 18.65m are classified as 'abnormal'). As set out in paragraph 7.7 of the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.1_A] there could be up to 25 of these deliveries per access (one every 3-4 days during the 90-day period).</p> <p>As stated from paragraph 7.15 of the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.1_A] traffic management will be in place for all AIL movements into the Site including temporary or 'rolling' road closures and vehicle escorts.</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				The exact nature of the traffic management will be agreed with the local highway authority and police prior to the movement taking place.
TRA-02	REP-130	Alternative access arrangements	Alternative access arrangements through the Scheme from A-roads should be explored to a greater amount	<p>The construction vehicle access arrangements are set out in Section 4 of C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.1_A] . The most appropriate access has been chosen for each parcel of land, given its location and constraints.</p> <p>An Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been prepared to support the application within C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.2_A]. C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007], provides (in 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 or, where the part falls within the administrative areas of multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities". It further provides that "The construction traffic management plan must be substantially in accordance with the outline construction traffic management plan."</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				The outline CTMP submitted as part of the DCO application provides a framework for the management of construction vehicle movements to and from the Scheme, to ensure that the effects of the temporary construction phase on the local highway network are minimised and made acceptable.
TRA-03	REP-130; REP-139	Alternative access arrangements	Objection to use of the unsurfaced section of Coates Lane for operational access	Operational access to individual parcels of land will not be a frequent occurrence and will be undertaken by car/van. The unsurfaced section of Coates Lane is public highway and access is permitted.
TRA-04	REP-147	Compensation for road damage and alterations	Commentors seek the developer to pay for repairs to roads damaged by construction traffic Commentors seek the developer to pay for widening and improvements of narrow roads	An Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been prepared to support the application within C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.2_B] . C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006; REP-007], provides (in 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 or, where the part falls within the administrative areas of multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities". It further provides that "The construction traffic management plan must be substantially in

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>accordance with the outline construction traffic management plan.”</p> <p>The outline CTMP submitted as part of the DCO application provides a framework for the management of construction vehicle movements to and from the Scheme, to ensure that the effects of the temporary construction phase on the local highway network are minimised and made acceptable.</p> <p>Measure xxi of C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.2_B] is for a road condition survey. This will ensure that any identified highways defects resulting from construction activities associated with the Site will be corrected to the satisfaction of the local highway authority.</p>
TRA-05	REP-159	Damage from HGV movements	Concerns over impacts from HGV and AIL traffic during construction on heritage assets, roads, buried infrastructure, and housing on or adjacent to construction routes	An Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been prepared to support the application within C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.2_B]. C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007], provides (in 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

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>planning authority or, where the part falls within the administrative areas of multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities". It further provides that "The construction traffic management plan must be substantially in accordance with the outline construction traffic management plan."</p> <p>The outline CTMP submitted as part of the DCO application provides a framework for the management of construction vehicle movements to and from the Scheme, to ensure that the effects of the temporary construction phase on the local highway network are minimised and made acceptable.</p> <p>Measure xxi of C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010133/EX2/C6.3.14.2_B] is for a road condition survey. This will ensure that any identified highways defects resulting from construction activities associated with the Site will be corrected to the satisfaction of the local highway authority.</p>
TRA-06	REP-130; REP-142; REP-147; REP-166	Damage from HGV movements	Lack of assessment of impacts from HGV and AIL traffic during construction on heritage assets and housing adjacent to construction routes	The Applicant has used abnormal load specialists <i>Wynns</i> to assess each AIL delivery. A detailed report setting out how access for AILs will be managed safely, minimising impacts, is included within C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-135].

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				The impacts of the Scheme on heritage assets are considered in C6.2.13 ES Chapter 13 Cultural Heritage [APP-048]. A single instance of potential direct physical impact from HGV and AILs has been identified, set out in paragraph 13.8.5. That potential impact can be mitigated by the close monitoring of the AIL manoeuvres by a suitably qualified banksman to ensure this impact does not occur.
TRA-07	REP-139	DMMO applications	Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMO) application made on unsurfaced section of Coates Lane for registration as public bridleway	DMMO applications have been noted, and are discussed within the C6.3.14.3 Appendix 14.3 Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EX2/C6.3.14.3_B].
TRA-08	REP-190	Highway safety impacts	Concerns of increase road traffic accidents	An assessment of the effects of the Scheme on Accidents and Safety are set out in C6.2.14 ES Chapter 14 Transport and Access [APP-049]. Table 14.25 provides a summary of the effects during construction, when traffic associated with the Scheme will be at its highest, after mitigation is taken into account. This shows negligible impacts on the risk of accidents for all roads. This is not considered to be a significant effect.
TRA-09	REP-159	Highway safety impacts	Concerns regarding safety risks from construction traffic on	An assessment of the effects of the Scheme on Accidents and Safety are set out in C6.2.14 ES Chapter 14 Transport and Access [APP-049]. Table 14.25 provides

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
			pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians	<p>a summary of the effects during construction, when traffic associated with the Scheme will be at its highest, after mitigation is taken into account. This shows negligible or minor impacts on pedestrian amenity. This is not considered to be a significant effect.</p> <p>An Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been prepared to support the application within C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [REP-016; REP-017]. C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007], provides (in 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 or, where the part falls within the administrative areas of multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities". It further provides that "The construction traffic management plan must be substantially in accordance with the outline construction traffic management plan."</p> <p>The outline CTMP submitted as part of the DCO application provides a framework for the management of construction vehicle movements to and from the</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				Scheme, to ensure that the effects of the temporary construction phase on the local highway network are minimised and made acceptable.
TRA-10	REP-192	Local highway network	Comments asking how much traffic will be generated	The trip generation and routing for construction vehicles is set out Sections 5 and 6 of the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134].
TRA-11	REP-201; REP-202	Local highway network	Concerns for road infrastructure and inability to cope	<p>An assessment of the effects of the Scheme in terms of transport is set out in the C6.2.14 ES Chapter 14 Transport and Access [APP-049] and the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134].</p> <p>IEMA Guidelines provide the industry standard for assessing transport impacts. Paragraph 14.4.23 of C6.2.14 ES Chapter 14 Transport and Access [APP-049] provides that a detailed assessment is only necessary where the Scheme will increase traffic flows or the number of HGVs by 30%, or by 10% on sensitive roads. This ensures that where a road is to be used significantly more than under normal circumstances, the impacts are assessed in detail.</p> <p>Table 14.25 provides a summary of the effects during construction, when traffic associated with the Scheme will be at its highest, after mitigation is taken into account. This</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				shows only negligible or minor impacts which are not considered significant.
TRA-12	REP-190	Local highway network	Concerns regarding volume of vehicles	<p>The trip generation and routing for construction vehicles is set out Sections 5 and 6 of the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134]</p> <p>IEMA Guidelines provide the industry standard for assessing transport impacts. Paragraph 14.4.23 of C6.2.14 ES Chapter 14 Transport and Access [APP-049] provides that a detailed assessment is only necessary where the Scheme will increase traffic flows or the number of HGVs by 30%, or by 10% on sensitive roads. This ensures that where a road is to be used significantly more than under normal circumstances, the impacts are assessed in detail.</p> <p>Table 14.25 provides a summary of the effects during construction, when traffic associated with the Scheme will be at its highest, after mitigation is taken into account. This shows only negligible or minor impacts which are not considered significant.</p>
TRA-13	REP-129; REP-159; REP-160; REP-162; REP-166; REP-167; REP-127; REP-128; REP-139; REP-152; REP-155; REP-171; REP-130	Local highway network	Concerns that the construction will cause significant disruption on the local highway network	The assessment of the effects of the Scheme in terms of transport is set out in C6.2.14 ES Chapter 14 Transport and Access [APP-049] and in C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134]. It is concluded

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>that the Scheme will not have significant effects on the local highway network.</p> <p>An Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been prepared to support the application within C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [REP-016; REP-017]. C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007], provides (in 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 or, where the part falls within the administrative areas of multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities". It further provides that "The construction traffic management plan must be substantially in accordance with the outline construction traffic management plan."</p> <p>The outline CTMP submitted as part of the DCO application provides a framework for the management of construction vehicle movements to and from the Scheme, to ensure that the effects of the temporary</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				construction phase on the local highway network are minimised and made acceptable.
TRA-14	REP-127; REP-128; REP-139; REP-152; REP-155; REP-171; REP-130	Local highway network	Concerns raised that access for essential and emergency services will be disrupted during construction	<p>An assessment of the effects of the Scheme in terms of transport is set out in the C6.2.14 ES Chapter 14 Transport and Access [APP-049] and the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-135]. It is concluded that the Scheme will not have significant effects on the local highway network.</p> <p>An Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been prepared to support the application within C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [REP-016; REP-017]. C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007], provides (in 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 or, where the part falls within the administrative areas of multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities". It further provides that "The construction traffic management plan must be</p>

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				<p>substantially in accordance with the outline construction traffic management plan.”</p> <p>The outline CTMP submitted as part of the DCO application provides a framework for the management of construction vehicle movements to and from the Scheme, to ensure that the effects of the temporary construction phase on the local highway network are minimised and made acceptable.</p>
TRA-15	REP-130	Local highway network	Specific concerns raised regarding HGV and AIL use of the B1241 through Sturton by Stow and Stow	<p>The C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134] sets out the number of construction vehicles that travel to Cottam 1 West from paragraph 6.20. A small number of vehicles will use the B1241 to route to accesses 10 and 11 on Coates Lane. Table 6.3 of the Transport Assessment [APP-134] shows that, on an average day, there will be two HGVs and three cars/LGVs accessing Coates Lane via the B1241. This is a total of 10 two-way movements. Paragraph 6.24 of the Transport Assessment confirms that smaller vehicles will be used to deliver equipment to these accesses in order to reduce the impact through the settlements of Stow and Sturton by Stow.</p> <p>During the construction of the cable route, there will be a 90-day period when a small number of additional</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>vehicles will use the B1241 to route to access 114 and 115.</p> <p>Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Routes have been assessed in the detail through Section 7 of the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134] and Section 6 of the C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-135]. The AIL summary report is included at Appendix F of the Transport Assessment [APP-134].</p> <p>AIL movements will be undertaken by abnormal load specialists and will be closely managed and escorted to the Site. In transport and access terms, there will be very temporary effects lasting a matter of hours per movement.</p>
TRA-16	REP-103; REP-130; REP-152; REP-157; REP-160	Local highway network	Concerns that the narrow country lanes are not suitable for HGV construction traffic	<p>An Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been prepared to support the application within C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [REP-016; REP-017]. C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007], provides (in 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 or,</p>

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				<p>where the part falls within the administrative areas of multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities". It further provides that "The construction traffic management plan must be substantially in accordance with the outline construction traffic management plan."</p> <p>The outline CTMP submitted as part of the DCO application provides a framework for the management of construction vehicle movements to and from the Scheme, to ensure that the effects of the temporary construction phase on the local highway network are minimised and made acceptable. This includes requiring HGVs to travel to site accesses on specified routes, avoiding unsuitable roads and minimising impacts to the local road network.</p>
TRA-17	REP-130	Methodology	<p>Concerns raised regarding the methodology for assessing in-combination traffic impacts regarding parts of the cable route, excluding the need for Safety and Delay assessment</p> <p>Specific concerns regarding the lack of assessment on the B1241</p>	<p>As set out in Paragraph 4.14 of the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134], the cable route corridor will be built out in sections over a 24-month period. It has been estimated that each section will be approximately 4.4km with approximately four accesses. Each section will take approximately 90 working days to construct. Each access will generate up to four HGVs per day. Over a 90 day period, the effects</p>

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			through Sturton by Stow by the primary school	<p>are assessed to be minor and very temporary. This is not considered significant.</p> <p>The C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134] sets out the number of construction vehicles that travel to Cottam 1 West from paragraph 6.20. A small number of vehicles will use the B1241 to route to accesses 10 and 11 on Coates Lane. Table 6.3 of the Transport Assessment [APP-134] shows that, on an average day, there will be two HGVs and three cars/LGVs accessing Coates Lane via the B1241. This is a total of 10 two-way movements. Paragraph 6.24 of the Transport Assessment confirms that smaller vehicles will be used to deliver equipment to these accesses in order to reduce the impact through the settlements of Stow and Sturton by Stow.</p> <p>During the construction of the cable route, there will be a 90-day period when a small number of additional vehicles will use the B1241 to route to access 114 and 115.</p> <p>Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Routes have been assessed in the detail through Section 7 of the C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134] and Section 6 of the C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>[APP-135]. The AIL summary report is included at Appendix F of the Transport Assessment [APP-134].</p> <p>AIL movements will be undertaken by abnormal load specialists and will be closely managed and escorted to the Site. In transport and access terms, there will be very temporary effects lasting a matter of hours per movement.</p>
TRA-18	REP-159; REP-165; REP-166	Traffic noise	Concerns raised regarding noise from construction HGV traffic	<p>An assessment of noise from construction traffic is included in C6.2.15 ES Chapter 15: Noise and Vibration. Paragraphs 15.7.44 to 15.7.62 show that there are no significant noise effects from Scheme construction traffic.</p> <p>An Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been prepared to support the application within C6.3.14.2 ES Appendix 14.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [REP-016; REP-017]. C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [REP-006; REP-007], provides (in 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 or, where the part falls within the administrative areas of</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>multiple relevant planning authorities, each of the relevant planning authorities". It further provides that "The construction traffic management plan must be substantially in accordance with the outline construction traffic management plan."</p> <p>The outline CTMP submitted as part of the DCO application provides a framework for the management of construction vehicle movements to and from the Scheme, to ensure that the effects of the temporary construction phase on the local highway network are minimised and made acceptable.</p> <p>Measures to minimise the effects with regards to noise are set out in Section 7 of the CTMP.</p> <p>The C6.3.14.1 ES Appendix 14.1 Transport Assessment [APP-134] sets out the number of construction vehicles that travel to Cottam 1 West from paragraph 6.20. A small number of vehicles will use the B1241 to route to accesses 10 and 11 on Coates Lane. Table 6.3. of the Transport Assessment shows that, on an average day there will be two HGVs and three cars/LGVs access Coates Lane which will use the B1241. A total of 10 two-way movements. Paragraph 6.24 of the Transport Assessment confirms that smaller vehicles will be used to deliver equipment to these</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				accesses to reduce the impact through the settlements of Stow and Sturton by Stow.

3.20 Waste

Table 2.20: Applicant's Response to Waste Themed Issues

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
WAS-01	REP-202	Battery	Concern surrounding battery disposal	<p>As set out in para. 20.3.4 and 20.6.4, end-of-life, damaged, or decommissioned batteries are required to be separated from waste electronic and electrical equipment so that they can be recovered, recycled, or disposed of in accordance with the Waste Batteries and Accumulators Regulations 2009 (or the relevant legislation at the point of time the processing of the batteries is required). A specialist recycling company will be contracted to process end-of-life, damaged, or decommissioned batteries. This is set out in the measures in Table 3.13 of C7.16 Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [APP-353], itself secured through Requirement 14 of Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006].</p> <p>This process ensures environmental impacts from the disposal of batteries is minimised and controlled.</p>
WAS-02	REP-175	Battery	Concerned about limited lifespan of batteries and need for replacement	<p>The Applicant has assessed the requirement to replace the batteries as part of the Scheme once during its operational lifetime in Table 7.27 and Table 7.28 of C6.2.7 A ES Chapter 7 Climate Change Revision A [REP-014]. The waste streams arising from the need to</p>

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				replace batteries will not have any greater level of impact on waste handling than at either construction or decommissioning. As such, these impacts are not significant effects, as assessed in para. 20.7.17-22 in C6.2.20 ES Chapter 20 Waste [APP-055]. Replacement of broken or faulty equipment will be through a specialist recycling company, and suitable mitigation is secured in C7.16 Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [APP-353] by way of Requirement 14 of Schedule 2 to C3.1 Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006].
WAS-03	REP-175	Battery	Concerns for decommissioning of batteries	End-of-life, damaged, or decommissioned batteries are required to be separated from waste electronic and electrical equipment so that they can be recovered, recycled, or disposed of in accordance with the Waste Batteries and Accumulators Regulations 2009 (or the relevant legislation at the point of time the processing of the batteries is required). This is most likely to be undertaken by the battery manufacturer or supplier. Decommissioning waste generated across the Sites is outlined in section 20.7.23 of C6.2.20 ES Chapter 20 Waste [APP-055]. Mitigation measures are set out in Table 3.13 of C7.16 Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [APP-353], itself secured through Requirement 14 of Schedule 2 to C3.1

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>Draft Development Consent Order Revision B [REP-006].</p> <p>This process ensures environmental impacts from the disposal of batteries is minimised and controlled, and that those handling batteries for decommissioning are suitably trained to do so and can process the waste batteries in a controlled environment.</p>
WAS-04	REP-160	Recycling of infrastructure	Comments raised that panels are not fully recyclable	<p>The solar panels are predominantly made of recyclable materials (metal and glass). Subject to damage and material degradation, these materials are also suitable for reuse. Of that which cannot be reused, it is assumed 75- 82.6% will be recycled as set out in paragraphs 20.5.5 and 20.5.10 of C6.2.20 ES Chapter 20 Waste [APP-055]</p> <p>The solar cells themselves will be treated as waste electrical or electronic equipment (WEEE) and will be handled as such at waste facilities identified by the host authorities as identified at para. 20.5.7 and 20.5.12.</p> <p>While it is recognised that there are no facilities that specifically handle waste solar infrastructure in the host authority areas (although this may well improve in future given the emerging industry for recycling and reusing the internal fittings and electrical equipment</p>

Reference	Written Representation(s) Reference	Issue	Summary of Issue Raised	Applicant's Response
				<p>within solar panels (para. 20.7.29)), the assessment of WEEE handling capabilities show that the host authority areas have sufficient capacity in their identified facilities to handle the quantum of WEEE anticipated to be generated by the Scheme.</p>