



National Infrastructure Planning  
 Temple Quay House  
 2 The Square  
 Bristol  
 BS1 6PN

Your Ref EN010133

Our Ref IPP-153

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Cc'd to Gate Burton Solar Project, West Burton Solar Project  
 and Tillbridge Solar Project:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Re: Deadline 4 Response, Cottam Solar Project**

We have examined the Deadline 3 documents and wish to make the following comments:

Draft Development Consent Order

We welcome the inclusion of the protective provisions for the Trust in Part 13 of Schedule 16 and the amendment to article 6(1)(i) to ensure the disapplication of legislation listed in Schedule 3 does not impact on the operation or maintenance of the River Trent as a navigable river. These reflect the provisions included in the draft DCOs for Gate Burton and West Burton projects. This wording is agreed by the Trust subject to any changes to the draft DCO or changes to the project which would impact the Trust.

Land South of Marton Grid Connection Options Report

The report considers the cable route options to the south of Marton village and east of the River Trent. In our Relevant Representation we advised that we own a dredging tip on the east side of the River Trent, which initially lay immediately north of the cable route corridor. The below extract is taken from the Environmental Constraints Plan – Figure 3-1 and shows the current red line order limit excluding the eastern dredging tip. The dredging tip is not mentioned as a constraint on the Environmental Constraints Figure 1a.



Option 2 (if the order limits are altered) does include land in the southeast corner of the eastern dredging tip. The inclusion of this land within order limits raises the potential need for Protective Provisions for the Trust and a Land Agreement if the route is altered. This is a similar situation to that proposed for the southwest corner of the Trust's western dredging tip as part of the West Burton Solar Project. The same would be the case for options 3, 4 and 5 which also appear to include land in the southeast corner of the eastern dredging tip, but do not appear to be the preferred options. We would wish to work with the applicant (and other NSIP applicants) to ensure this matter is discussed and included within future amendments.

**Canal & River Trust**

Fradley Junction, Alrewas, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 7DN

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Concept Design Parameters & Principles

We welcome that the updated at Deadline 3 version of this document includes the wording *The HDD depth will be a maximum of 25m below the bottom of the riverbed and a minimum of 5m below the lowest surveyed point of the River Trent riverbed in order to prevent risk of any scour exposing cable* as previously agreed with the applicant.

Joint Report on Interrelationships

We note that on page 47 of the Joint Report on Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects the entry on the date 10/08/23 mentions Canal. We believe this may be a typing error as we haven't had discussions with the applicants and EDF regarding Cottam substation.

Yours faithfully,

**Hazel Smith MRTPI**  
Area Planner – Midlands

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<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/specialist-teams/planning-and-design>

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