

# Stonestreet Green Solar

## Environmental Statement

### Volume 2: Main Text

### Chapter 18: Summary of Significant Effects

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## Table of Contents

18	Summary of Significant Environmental Effects	18-1
18.1	Introduction	18-2
18.2	Summary of Significant Effects	18-2

## List of Tables

Table 18.1:	Summary of significant residual effects - Construction Phase	18-3
Table 18.2:	Summary of significant residual effects – Operational Phase	18-6
Table 18.3:	Summary of significant residual effects – Decommissioning Phase	18-13

# 18 Summary of Significant Environmental Effects

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## 18.1 Introduction

- 18.1.1 This Chapter of the ES summarises the conclusions from the assessment of the residual significant effects of the Project. Residual effects are defined as those effects that remain following the implementation of mitigation measures. Residual effects and mitigation measures are discussed in full in the relevant technical chapters of this ES (**ES Volume 2, Chapters 7 to 16 (Doc Ref. 5.2)**).
- 18.1.2 Each technical chapter contains detailed consideration of both the beneficial and adverse residual effects identified as likely to arise from the Project. The criteria applied to define the significance of residual effects are set out within **ES Volume 2, Chapter 6: EIA Methodology (Doc Ref. 5.2)**, with further detail provided within the individual technical chapters. Where technical chapters have deviated from this standard methodology, this is explained in the respective chapters and justification for the reason provided (for example to align with industry-standard guidance for that discipline).
- 18.1.3 The EIA for the Project has been undertaken in parallel with the design process. A number of measures have been implemented within the design of the Project to reduce adverse environmental effects and enhance effects such as landscape, biodiversity and socio-economics (PRoW network).
- 18.1.4 A **Mitigation Schedule (Doc Ref. 7.7)** has been produced and accompanies the DCO application. The **Mitigation Schedule (Doc Ref. 7.7)** outlines the Embedded Mitigation that has been included as part of the Project.

## 18.2 Summary of Significant Effects

- 18.2.1 A summary of the identified significant residual effects for each topic is presented in **Table 18.1** for the construction phase, **Table 18.2** for the operational phase, and **Table 18.3** for the decommissioning phase. Negligible and minor effects (adverse and beneficial) are not included in the following tables and are more numerous.

Table 18.1: Summary of significant residual effects - Construction Phase

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
<b>7. Cultural Heritage</b>			
No significant effects identified			
<b>8. Landscape and Views</b>			
Users of PRow within /adjacent proposed solar PV areas - temporary medium magnitude visual impact	Moderate adverse	None	Moderate adverse (significant)
Users of PRow within/adjacent to the Site with open panoramic views towards the Kent Downs NL- temporary medium magnitude visual impact	Moderate adverse	None	Moderate adverse (significant)
Users of PRow AE401, Collier's Hill - temporary small magnitude visual impact	Moderate adverse	None	Moderate adverse (significant)
<b>9. Biodiversity</b>			
Yellowhammer - loss of habitat (Short-term, reversible)	Local adverse (significant)	Monitoring throughout operational phases and habitat management adjustments if required.  Further mitigation not feasibly possible	Local adverse (significant)

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
Skylark – loss of habitat (short-term, reversible)	Local adverse (significant)	Monitoring throughout operational phases and habitat management adjustments if required. Further mitigation not feasibly possible	Local adverse (significant)
Brown Hare - habitat loss and disturbance (noise, human activity, lighting), displacement of species (Short-term, reversible)	Local adverse (significant)	Monitoring throughout operational phases and habitat management adjustments if required. Further mitigation not feasibly possible	Local adverse (significant)

**10. Water Environment**

No significant effects identified.

**11. Land Contamination**

No significant effects identified.

**12. Socio-economics**

No significant effects identified.

**13. Traffic and Access**

No significant effects identified.

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
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**14. Noise**

No significant effects identified.

**15. Climate Change**

No significant effects identified.

**16. Other Topics**

No significant effects identified.

Table 18.2: Summary of significant residual effects – Operational Phase

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
<b>7. Cultural Heritage</b>			
No significant effects identified.			
<b>8. Landscape and Views</b>			
Open Fields - medium duration large magnitude landscape impact	Major-Moderate adverse	Planting establishment secured by the Outline LEMP	Moderate adverse and beneficial (significant)
Hedgerow - medium duration small magnitude landscape impact	Minor beneficial	Planting establishment secured by the Outline LEMP	Moderate beneficial (significant)
Canopy Trees - medium duration small magnitude landscape impact	Minor beneficial	Planting establishment secured by the Outline LEMP	Moderate beneficial (significant)
The Character of the Site - medium duration large magnitude landscape impact	Major-Moderate adverse	Planting establishment secured by the Outline LEMP	Moderate adverse and beneficial (significant)
LCA – Aldington Ridge - medium duration medium magnitude landscape impact	Moderate adverse	Planting establishment secured by the Outline LEMP	Moderate adverse and beneficial (significant)

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
Users of PRow within /adjacent proposed solar PV areas -long duration large magnitude visual impact	Moderate adverse	Planting establishment secured by the Outline LEMP	Moderate adverse (significant)
People travelling along Bank Road - medium duration medium magnitude visual impact	Moderate adverse	Planting establishment secured by the Outline LEMP	Moderate adverse (significant)
Users of PRow AE401, Collier's Hill - long duration medium magnitude visual impact	Moderate adverse	Planting establishment secured by the Outline LEMP	Moderate adverse (significant)
Users of PRow AE428 – outside of the Site - long duration large magnitude visual impact	Moderate adverse	Planting establishment secured by the Outline LEMP	Moderate adverse (significant)

**9. Biodiversity**

Backhouse Wood LWS - buffering and diversification of habitat, reduction of pollution (in comparison to existing agriculture uses at the Site) (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Backhouse Wood ancient woodland - buffering and diversification of habitat, reduction of pollution (in comparison to	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)



Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
existing agriculture uses at the Site) (Medium-term, temporary)			
Other notable habitats (river) - buffering and expansion of habitat, reduction of pollution (in comparison to existing agriculture uses at the Site) (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Other notable habitats (pond, hedgerow, woodland, arable field margins) - buffering, enhancement and expansion of habitat, pollution (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Notable plants - buffering, enhancement and expansion of habitat, reduction of pollution (in comparison to existing agriculture uses at the Site) (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Invertebrates - habitat enhancement, expansion and diversification	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
(Medium-term, temporary)			
GCN - habitat enhancement, expansion (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Common toad - habitat enhancement, expansion (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Reptiles - habitat enhancement, expansion (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Wintering bird assemblage - habitat enhancement, expansion (including Schedule 1 species and excluding yellowhammer and skylark) (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Breeding bird assemblage including Schedule 1 species (excluding yellowhammer and skylark) - Habitat enhancement, expansion (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
Skylark - reduction in open habitat suitable for nesting (Medium-term, reversible)	Local adverse (significant)	Monitoring throughout operational phases and habitat management adjustments if required.  Further mitigation not feasibly possible	Local adverse (significant)
Bat assemblage - habitat enhancement, expansion (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Assumed hedgehog Population - habitat enhancement, expansion (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Harvest mouse - habitat enhancement, expansion (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Hazel dormouse - habitat enhancement, expansion (Medium-term, temporary)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)
Brown hare – reduced habitat connectivity and availability. (Medium-term, reversible)	Local beneficial (significant)	None required, addressed through Embedded Mitigation	Local beneficial (significant)
Otter - habitat enhancement, expansion	Local beneficial (significant)	None required	Local beneficial (significant)

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
(Medium-term, temporary)			

**10. Water Environment**

No significant effects identified.

**11. Land Contamination**

No significant effects identified.

**12. Socio-economics**

National renewable energy economy - contribution to renewable energy generation	Minor to moderate beneficial (significant)	N/A	Minor to moderate beneficial (significant)
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**13. Traffic and Access**

No significant effects identified (operational effects scoped out of the assessment).

**14. Noise**

No significant effects identified.

**15. Climate Change**

Global Climate - Effects of the Project on Climate Change	Beneficial and significant	None	Beneficial
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Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
			(significant)

**16. Other Topics**

No significant effects identified.

Table 18.3: Summary of significant residual effects – Decommissioning Phase

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
<b>7. Cultural Heritage</b>			
No significant effects identified.			
<b>8. Landscape and Views</b>			
Users of PRow AE401, Collier's Hill - temporary small magnitude visual impact	Moderate adverse	None	Moderate adverse (significant)
<b>9. Biodiversity</b>			
No significant effects identified.			
<b>10. Water Environment</b>			
No significant effects identified.			
<b>11. Land Contamination</b>			
No significant effects identified.			
<b>12. Socio-economics</b>			
No significant effects identified.			

Effect	Potential effect significance (incorporating Embedded Mitigation)	Additional mitigation	Likely Residual Effect
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**13. Traffic and Access**

No significant effects identified (decommissioning effects scoped out of the assessment).

**14. Noise**

No significant effects identified.

**15. Climate Change**

No significant effects identified.

**16. Other Topics**

No significant effects identified.