



**HELIOS** RENEWABLE  
ENERGY  
PROJECT

**PINS Document Number:**  
EN010140/APP/6.3.1.1

**Pursuant to:**  
APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

**Environmental Statement  
Appendix 1.1:  
Statement of Expertise**

June 2024

**Appendix 1.1: Statement on the Expertise and Qualifications of the Competent Experts Contributing to the ES**

Chapter no.	Chapter Title	Expertise/ Competence/ Qualifications
1	Introduction	
2	EIA Methodology	The ES has been coordinated and managed by Stantec's Environmental Planning Team. The team is made up of qualified EIA Practitioners with extensive experience and relevant qualifications. Stantec are registrants to the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) EIA Quality Mark programme which involves annual assessment of Stantec's EIA quality and standards.
3	Site and Development Description	
4	Alternatives and Design Evolution	
5	Construction Methodology and Phasing	
6	Cultural Heritage	
7	Landscape and Views	This chapter has been written by Simon Myers at SLR. Simon graduated with a Masters degree in Landscape Planning and Management from the University of

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		<p>Manchester. He is an Associate member of the Landscape Institute. Simon has over 20 years' environmental consultancy experience focused on environmental impact assessment, planning and landscape planning, design and management for large scale developments throughout the UK and Ireland. These projects have covered a wide range of development sectors including power generation, minerals, waste management, infrastructure, and built environment.</p>
8	Biodiversity	<p>This chapter is written by Howard Fearn at Avian. Howard is the Director of Avian. Howard has authored a large number of Ecological Impact Assessments, ranging from small scale developments to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs), and has provided Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRAs) relating to a diverse range of projects for the both the public and private sectors. His clients include the MoD, the Irish Planning Inspectorate, local planning authorities and many private developers across all development sectors. Howard has excellent management and liaison skills and a track record of delivering successful outcomes to programme and on budget.</p>
9	Water Environment	<p>This chapter has been prepared by PFA Consulting Ltd. PFA Consulting Ltd are competent experts in the assessment, preparation and checking of the Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage Environmental Impact Assessments and FRAs and have full membership of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (MCIWEM) and are Chartered Water and Environmental Managers (C.WEM) and Chartered Environmentalists (CEnv) or are Chartered or Incorporated Engineers registered</p>

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		with the Engineering Council.
10	Transport and Access	<p>The lead author of the chapter is James Darrall (BSc, MSc, CMILT, MCIHT). James is a Director at TPA with 22 years' experience and has served as an expert witness. He has considerable experience in Transport Planning and Highway Engineering and has been involved with projects in a full range of land uses across the UK. He has a broad range of specialist skills including highway mitigation solutions, town centre regeneration studies, strategic traffic modelling and Development Consent Orders. He has a working knowledge of Manual for Streets, the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges and is cognisant of the latest transport planning policies and EIA regulations. He is supported by Robert Roughan (BSc, MSc, MCIHT). Robert is an Associate with 13 years' experience in Transport Planning. He has also been involved in projects across a wide range of land uses across the UK and has advised on numerous planning applications for solar farms, including Development Consent Orders.</p>
11	Noise and Vibration	<p>This chapter is written by Jon Maguire BSc (Hons) MIOA, senior acoustic consultant at inacoustic. inacoustic is a UK-based company that offers independent acoustic consultancy services with expertise in evaluating the environmental impact of sound sources related to various sectors, including industrial, construction, commerce, energy generation and management, leisure, mineral extraction, and the waste industry. Jon is experienced in environmental acoustics, with a particular focus on the energy sector; he has led numerous projects in the energy field, including for anaerobic digestion plants, solar farms, battery energy storage developments and wind farms.</p>

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		<p>Jon’s input is overseen by the Senior Management Team at Inacoustic, comprising Antony Best BSc Hons MIOA (Director), Neil Morgan MSc MIOA (Director) and Victor Valeron BEng MSc MIOA (Technical Director) all having extensive prior experience within this specialist sector of 13 plus years each.</p>
12	Climate Change	<p>The climate change chapter has been prepared by Stantec’s Environmental Planning Team who have an established tracked record in the preparation of climate change ES chapters. The chapter was written by Neil Slattery, a practitioner member of IEMA. Neil has 4 years’ experience undertaking climate change assessments for EIA, including solar DCO projects. Neil specialises in both climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation/ resilience assessments. This chapter was reviewed by Lucy Wood, Director of Environmental Planning &amp; Climate Solutions Leader UK&amp;I.</p>
13	Socio-Economics	<p>The socio-economic chapter has been prepared by Stantec’s Development Economics Team who have an established track record in the preparation of both Socio-Economic and Population and Human Health ES chapters. In particular, the analysis has been undertaken by Debbie Mayes and Natalie Lillis. Debbie is an Associate Director within the Team, who holds a BA (Hons) in Geography and MA in Town Planning and has over 20-years of professional experience in the field of socio-economic research in both the public and private sector specialising in social and economic impact assessment. Natalie is a Senior Planner who holds a BSc and MSc in Land Management and Development Planning and is RTPi accredited. Natalie has over 10-years of professional experience in the field of economic impact.</p>

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		assessment.
14	Soils and Agricultural Land	Tony is a Chartered Surveyor and a Fellow of the British Institute of Agricultural Consultants. He has specialised in assessing the effects of development proposals on agricultural land (land quality and soils) and agricultural businesses, for over 35 years. Tony's experience includes many Environmental Assessments and NSIP applications. He is often called on as an expert witness.
15	Cumulative Effects	
16	Summary and Residual Effects	Stantec – see above.