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Status of Negotiations on Protective Provisions

January 2025



# Helios Renewable Energy Project Status of Negotiations on Protective Provisions

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010140

January 2025

### Prepared on behalf of Enso Green Holdings D Limited

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Stantec 7 Soho Square London W1D 3QB





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#### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1. Overview

- 1.1.1. This document has been prepared on behalf of Enso Green Holdings D Limited ('the Applicant') to update the Examining Authority (the 'ExA') on the status of negotiations on protective provisions in respect of the Helios Renewable Energy Project Development Consent Order (the 'Proposed Development').
- 1.1.2. The Rule 6 letter issued 1 November 2024, ExA provided a list of documents to be submitted at each Examination Deadline (as appropriate) at Annex F Section 6. The ExA has requested that the Applicant submits a 'Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers' (Point G, Annex F Section 6).
- 1.1.3. This Status of Negotiations on Protective Provisions provides the requested updates on the status of negotiations with statutory undertakers as well as any further updates on negotiations on protective provisions with other bodies. The Applicant will update this document to provide an update on negotiations at the following deadlines at which progress has been made.
- 1.1.4. In respect of each relevant party, Table 1.1 of this document summarises the asset / interaction type, the location and relevance of the interaction to the Proposed Development, and the status of negotiations between the parties.

#### 2. Record of Engagement

#### 2.1. Summary of consultation and engagement

2.1.1. The Consultation Report [APP-181] sets out the consultation between the Applicant and interested parties/stakeholders prior to the submission of the Application. This document focuses on further engagement with the stakeholders detailed below since the submission of the application for the Proposed Development.

## 3. Status of Negotiations on Protective Provisions

**Table 1.1 Status of Negotiations on Protective Provisions** 

Party	Asset / Crossing Type / Responsibilities	Location and Relevance to Proposed Development	Status of Negotiations at Deadline 2
The Environment Agency ("EA")	Responsible for water quality and resources and the management of risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs, estuaries and the sea	The majority of the Site falls within Flood Zone 3a. The River Ouse to the north and River Aire to the south converge to the east of the Site. There are areas of elevated risk ('high' — 'medium') associated with the combined risk of flooding from watercourse and tidal sources due to the proximity of the Site to the River Aire and River Ouse	Protective Provisions for the EA are included in Part 4 of Schedule 9 of the draft DCO ("dDCO") [AS-007].  The Applicant has been in contact with the EA since October 2024 and is continuing its discussions with the EA's legal advisors.  The EA submitted a written representation [REP-027] further to their relevant representation [EA-04] in respect of the negotiation of protective provisions. In [REP-027] the EA reiterated that it is in direct conversation with the application regarding the use of the EA's most up to date protective provision wording which has been shared and is being negotiated between the parties.  It is considered that agreement on PPs will be reached before the end of the Examination.
National Gas Transmission ("NGT")	National Gas Transmission Pipeline	The pipeline runs east – west across the Site as shown on the Utilities Plan [APP-038] attached at Appendix 1.	Protective provisions for gas undertakers are included in Part 1 of Schedule 9 of the dDCO [AS-007].  NGT submitted a relevant representation [RR-123] in respect of NGT's land, assets and undertaking and

		The pipeline runs through the proposed panel areas. The pipeline has the benefit of an easement which ensures a protective buffer either side of the pipeline. The easement has been built into the design with the perimeter fence line and PV modules remaining outside of the protective area. Road crossings will be required.	requested bespoke protective provisions to be included in the dDCO [AS-007] to ensure that its interests are adequately protected and to ensure compliance with relevant safety standards.  Engagement between the parties' legal advisors commenced in August 2024 and is ongoing to negotiate bespoke protective provisions for NGET together with any side agreement as necessary.  NGT submitted a written representation [REP2-029] in respect of its land and assets and reiterated its position in relation to the request for protective provisions.  The Applicant is continuing to engage with NGT and considers that it will be able to come to an agreement with NGT by the close of the examination. In the event that protective provisions are not agreed, the Applicant reserves the right to make a detailed representation in response to the comments raised in the written representation [REP2-029].
National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc ("NGET")	Land interests	National Grid Electricity Transmission plc is noted as having multiple Category 1 interests in the Book of Reference [AS-010] as Occupier of land parcels 11, 12, 14, 19, 62, 68 and 69  National Grid Electricity Transmission plc is noted as having a Category 1 interest as owner in land parcel 62, 68 and 69  National Grid Electricity Transmission plc is noted as	Protective provisions for electricity undertakers are included in Part 1 of Schedule 9 of the dDCO.  NGET submitted a relevant representation [RR-266] in respect of NGET's existing and future assets and requested bespoke protective provisions to be included in the dDCO [AS-007] to ensure that its interests are adequately protected and to ensure compliance with relevant safety standards. Engagement between the parties' legal advisors commenced in November 2024 and is ongoing to negotiate bespoke protective provisions.  NGET submitted a written representation [REP2-030] in respect of its land and assets and reiterated its position in relation to the request for protective

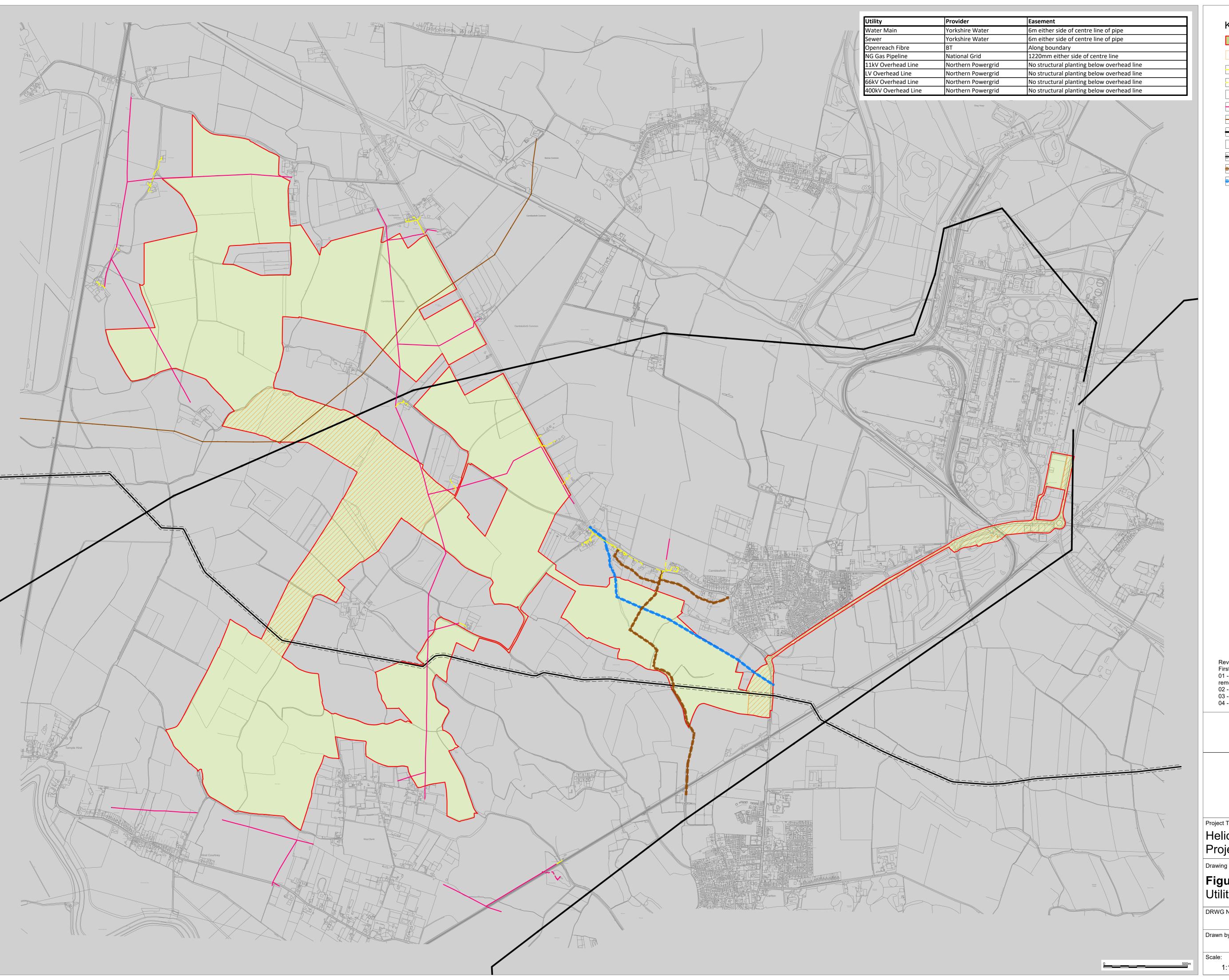
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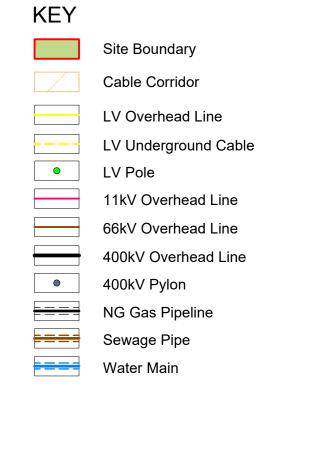
		having a Category 2 interest in land parcels 51, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 65, 66, 67, 68 and 69	provisions.  The Applicant is continuing to engage with NGET and considers that it will be able to come to an agreement with NGET by the close of the examination. In the event that protective provisions are not agreed, the Applicant reserves the right to make a detailed representation in response to the comments raised in the written representation.
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited ("NR")	Land interests	The Book of Reference [AS-010] identifies Network Rail Infrastructure Limited as having a Category 2 interest in respect of land parcels 55, 56, 57, 59 and 61.	NR submitted a relevant representation [RR-272] in respect of their existing rights and noted that they wish to ensure that the scheme does not have detrimental effect on the operation of the railway and that the safety of the railway is maintained during the construction, operation and ongoing maintenance requirements of the scheme. NR accordingly requested bespoke protective provisions.  It should be noted that the Proposed Development does not affect any of Network Rail's rail infrastructure. The railway to be crossed by the Proposed Development is a private railway owned by Drax Power Limited. On this basis the Applicant considers that protective provisions are not required with NR.  Engagement between the parties' legal advisors commenced in November 2024 with a view to satisfactorily resolving NR's concerns before the end of the examination.  NR submitted a written representation [REP2-033] in respect of its land and assets and reiterated its position in relation to the request for protective provisions.  The Applicant does not dispute the existence of the rights as set out by Network Rail within the Order Limits but has confirmed to NR that is has no intention of extinguishing these rights and is in discussion with

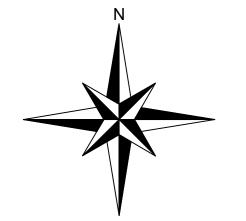
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			Network Rail in respect of resolving this concern.  The Applicant is in discussions with Network Rail regarding the appropriate mechanism(s) to resolve their concerns. The Applicant is also hopeful that matters will be resolved by Deadline 6.
Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) LLP ("NPG")	11kV Overhead Line LV Overhead Line 66kV Overhead Line 400kV Overhead Line Land interests	The overhead lines cross the Site at various points – as shown on the Utilities Plan [APP-038] attached at Appendix 1.  Northern Powergrid are noted as having multiple Category 1 interests in the Book of Reference [AS-010] as Occupier of land parcels 1, 2, 6, 11, 13, 14, 16, 19, 22, 24, 32, 39, 40, 41, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 66, 68, 69  Northern Powergrid are noted as having a Category 1 interest as lessee/tenant in land parcel 56  Northern Power Grid are noted as having a Category 2 interest in land parcels 52, 53, 54,55, 57, 5, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69.	Protective provisions for electricity undertakers are included in Part 1 of Schedule 9 of the dDCO.  NPG submitted a relevant representation [RR-280] in respect of its existing apparatus and has requested bespoke protective provisions to protect its apparatus  Engagement between the parties' legal advisors commenced in November 2024 and is ongoing to negotiate bespoke protective provisions for NPG.  The Applicant considers that it will be able to come to an agreement with NPG by the close of the examination.

# **Appendix 1: Utilities Plan**







Revisions:
First Issue- 27/06/2022 JS
01 - (24/07/2023 JS) Revised boundary and landowners removed
02 - (04/08/2023 AD) Key and graphical changes
03 - (31/08/2023 JS) Revised cable corridor
04 - (15/04/2024 AH) Revised boundary

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Enso Energy Limited, Unit 1 & 2 Cirencester Office Park, Tetbury Road, Cirencester, GL7 6JJ Tel: 01452 764685 Email: enquiries@ensoenergy.co.uk

# Helios Renewable Energy Project

Drawing Title:

# **Figure 2.1**Utilities Plan

DRWG No:	Rev:	Sht no:
DX-01-P45	04	-
Drawn by :	Checked by:	
AH KL		_
Scale:	Date:	
1:10,000 @ A1	15/04/2024	