

Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Appendix 3 of <u>Advice Note Six: Preparation and submission of application documents</u>

Version: April 2024

Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at legislation.gov.uk, here: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/section/55

DISCLAIMER: This Checklist is for information only and is not a formal application document. It is a non-statutory checklist for the Planning Inspectorate to complete. Completion or self-assessment by the Applicant does not hold weight at the Acceptance stage. Unless specified, all references to the Planning Inspectorate are made in relation to functions being carried out on behalf of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Sec	ction 55(2) Acceptance of Applications				
1	Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) the Planning	Date received	28 day due date	Date of decision	
	Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for Examination.				
	ction 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only cept an application if it concludes that:		Planning Inspectora	ate comments	
Sec	ction 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for	an order granting d	levelopment consent		
2	Is the development a Nationally Significant	Yes			
	Infrastructure Project ¹ (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that it is an application for a Development Consent	Tillbridge Solar Proje 15(2)(c) of the PA 20	,	P under sections 14(1)(a), 15(1) and	
that it is an application for a Development Consent Order ² (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), or equivalent words? Does the application		The Scheme is an onshore generating station wholly within England, that does not generate electricity from wind, and has a capacity of more than 50 megawatts (MW).			
	specify the development to which it relates (i.e. which			0142/APP/1.4] and the Explanatory ft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]. The	

¹ NSIP is defined generally in s14 with the detailed thresholds for each of the specified categories being set out in ss15 to 30

² Development consent is required for development to the extent that the development is or forms part of an NSIP (s31 of the PA2008)

category or categories in ss14 to 30 does the Proposed Development fall)?

works that form the Scheme are set out in Schedule 1 of the **draft DCO** [EN010142/APP/3.1].

If the development does not fall within the categories in s14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required? The **Covering Letter [EN010142/APP/1.1]** clearly states that this application (the Application) is for development consent under the PA 2008.

The description of the Scheme is set out in the **Guide to the Application** [EN010142/APP/1.2] and explained in non-technical language in the **Non-Technical Summary** of the Environmental Statement (ES) [EN010142/APP/6.4]. A detailed description is provided in **Chapter 3: Scheme Description** of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.1].

Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)

The Planning Inspectorate can be satisfied that the Application as submitted is an application for a DCO under the PA 2008 and that development consent is required for the development to which the Application relates.

Section 55(3)(e): The Applicant in relation to the application made has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure)

In accordance with the EIA Regulations³, did the Applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request the Planning Inspectorate adopt a Screening Opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of that development?

Yes

On 30 September 2022, the Applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate under Regulation 8(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations) that it proposes to provide an Environmental Statement (ES) in respect of the Scheme and by virtue of Regulation 6(2)(a), the Scheme is 'EIA development'.

The Applicant also formally requested a Scoping Opinion on 30 September 2022 from the Planning Inspectorate under Regulation 10(1) of the EIA Regulations, accompanied by the necessary information to inform the request, via the EIA Scoping Report. The EIA Scoping Report is provided in as **Appendix 1-1** of the ES **[EN010142/APP/6.2]**.

The Planning Inspectorate's Scoping Opinion, dated 04 November 2022, is also provided in **Appendix 1-2** of the **ES [EN010142/APP/6.2]**. The Scoping Opinion

³ Regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (2017 EIA Regulations), or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 6 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (2009 EIA Regulations)

acknowledges the Applicant's notice at paragraph 1.1.1. of the Applicant's proposal to provide an ES in respect of the Proposed Development and by virtue of Regulation 6(2)(a) of the EIA Regulations. Notice of the Applicant's proposal to provide an Environmental Statement was given prior to the carrying out of consultation in accordance with section 42 of the PA 2008.

A copy of the Applicant's Regulation 8(1)(b) and 10(1) Regulations letter dated 20 September 2022 is provided in Appendix 1-2 of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.2][EN010142/APP/5.2].

Have any Adequacy of Consultation Representations⁴ been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?

No such representations have been received by the Applicant however it is anticipated that following submission of the Application, the Planning Inspectorate will invite relevant local authorities to provide a statement relating to the adequacy of the consultation pursuant to section 55(4)(b) of the PA 2008 and the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Fourteen (April 2012). In the pre-application stages, the Applicant has engaged with relevant local authorities on an informal and formal basis and is not aware of any issues that the relevant local authorities have had with regard to the adequacy of consultation undertaken by the Applicant. The 'host' authorities for the Scheme are:

- West Lindsey District Council (B lower-tier District Council in which the Proposed development is situated).
- Bassetlaw District Council (B lower-tier District Council in which the Proposed development is situated).

The following authorities were notified as 'A' authorities (neighbouring authority that shares a boundary with a 'B' host authority):

- East Lindsey District Council
- North East Lincolnshire Council
- North Lincolnshire Council

⁴ Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the Consultation Report, and any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received

- Doncaster MBC
- Rotherham MBC
- Bolsover District
- Mansfield District
- Newark and Sherwood District
- North Kesteven District
- City of Lincoln Council

The following authorities were notified as 'C' authorities as upper tier authorities:

- Lincolnshire County Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council

The following authorities were notified as 'D' authorities as they adjoin County level authorities:

- Derbyshire County Council
- Leicestershire County Council
- Rutland County Council
- North Northamptonshire Council
- Norfolk County Council
- Cambridgeshire County Council
- Nottingham City Council
- Peterborough City Council

Section 42: Duty to consult

Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?

6 Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed⁵?

Yes

The statutory consultation period for the Scheme was held between 30 May 2023 and 11 July 2023 during which the Applicant consulted with all applicable parties, including all the relevant parties prescribed under S42(1)(a) of the PA 2008. The Applicant wrote to the prescribed consultees setting out the background to the Scheme, the Applicant's intention to submit a DCO application, the fact that the Applicant had identified them as a consultee under section 42(1)(a) of the PA 2008, the documents being provided as part of the consultation, and explained how to respond to the consultation. A copy of the section 48 notice was also provided in accordance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations. A sample copy of this letter is provided in **Appendix E-3.4** of the **Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2]**. This letter was delivered by 1st class Royal Mail and further details are provided in **Section 8** of the **Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1]**.

The list of Prescribed Consultees consulted during the statutory consultation is set out in **Appendix E-2** of the **Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2]**. The list was compiled using Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations) and included consultation bodies identified under Regulation 11 by the Planning Inspectorate on 4 November 2022 as part of the Scoping Opinion. Regard was also had to the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Three: EIA Notification and Consultation in identifying the consultation bodies.

The Applicant carried out a further targeted consultation with a targeted group of prescribed consultees under section 42(1)(a) of the PA 2008 which was held between 14 December 2023 and 25 January 2024. Further details of this engagement are provided in **Section 11** of the **Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1]** and **Appendix G** of the **Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2]**.

⁵ Statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations)

7	Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management	Yes
	Organisation ⁶ ?	The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) must be consulted if the Scheme sits below the mean high-water springs mark or in any tidal river to the extent of the tidal influence. The Applicant wrote to the MMO under s42(1)(aa), due to an inland waterway which has a tidal influence, the River Trent, which is crossed by the Order limits. The Applicant wrote to the MMO on the 26 May 2023 setting out the background to the Scheme; the Applicant's intention to submit a DCO application; the fact that the Applicant had identified them as a consultee under section 42(1)(aa) of the PA 2008; the documents being provided as part of the consultation; and explained how to respond to the consultation. A copy of the section 48 notice was also provided in accordance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations. A copy of this letter and the enclosed section 48 notice is provided in Appendix E-3.2 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2] . This letter was delivered by Royal Mail delivery and further details are provided in Section 8 of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] .
		[The MMO was also consulted during the targeted consultation on the Scheme which was held from 14 December 2023 to 25 January 2024. Further details of this engagement is provided in Section 11 of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] and Appendix G of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2].
8	Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43 ⁷ ?	Yes , the Applicant wrote via Royal mail to consultees under s42(1)(b) of the PA 2008 on 26 May 2023 setting out the background to the Scheme, the Applicant's intention to submit a DCO application and their identification under s42(1)(b) of the PA 2008, the documents being provided as part of the consultation and how to respond.
		The Applicant enclosed a feedback form. The letter also confirmed that the documents and information was also available electronically on a website maintained by the Applicant and the respective address was supplied.

⁶ In any case where the Proposed Development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008

⁷ Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority

		A copy of the section 48 notice was also provided in accordance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations. A sample copy of this letter and the enclosed section 48 notice is provided in Appendix E-3.3 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2]. This letter was delivered by Royal Mail delivery and further details are provided in Section 8 of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] .
		The full list of S42(1)(b) consultees consulted during the statutory consultation is provided in Appendix E-3.3 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2].
		Four section 42(1)(b) local authorities, West Lindsey District Council, Lincolnshire County Council, Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council were consulted during the targeted statutory consultation on the Scheme which was held from 14 December 2023 and 25 January 2024. Further details of this engagement are provided in Section 11 of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] and Appendix G of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2].
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in	No
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?	No This is not applicable. The Scheme does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Greater London Authority, and therefore they were not consulted.
9	Greater London area)? Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44	This is not applicable. The Scheme does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Greater
	Greater London area)?	This is not applicable. The Scheme does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Greater London Authority, and therefore they were not consulted.
	Greater London area)? Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44	This is not applicable. The Scheme does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Greater London Authority, and therefore they were not consulted. Yes For the purposes of the statutory consultation, the Application consulted with all
	Greater London area)? Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44	This is not applicable. The Scheme does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Greater London Authority, and therefore they were not consulted. Yes For the purposes of the statutory consultation, the Application consulted with all relevant parties as defined under s44 of the PA 2008 which included: Category 1 persons as per (s44(1) – comprising owners, lessees, tenants (whatever

⁸ Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land; Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land; Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim. There is no requirement on the Planning Inspectorate to check the accuracy of the list(s) provided or whether the Applicant has made diligent inquiry

included those with relevant interests to make a claim under Part 1 of the LCA 1973, s10 of the CPA 1965 and section 152(3) of the PA2008.

The process of identifying Section 42(1)(d) consultees is set out in **Section 8.5** of the **Consultation Report [EN101042/APP/5.1]**.

The Applicant wrote by Royal Mail to consultees identified under s42(1)(d) of the PA 2008 on 26 May 2023 prior to the start of consultation setting out the background to the Scheme, the Applicant's intention to submit a DCO application, the fact that the Applicant had identified them as a consultee under s42(1)(d) of the PA 2008, the documents being provided as part of the consultation, and how to respond to the consultation. A sample copy of this letter is provided in **Appendix E-3.4** of the **Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2]**.

The Applicant enclosed with the letter a feedback form. The letter also confirmed that these documents, alongside the consultation booklet, plan showing the Order limits, Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report and its non-technical summary, were available electronically on a website maintained by the Applicant, and the website address was provided.

All relevant interests with the potential to make a claim under section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965, because they are in benefit of a restrictive right or covenant over land within the Order limits, have been included within the **Book of Reference [EN010142/APP/4.3]** as Category 2 or Category 3 persons.

All relevant interests with the potential to make a claim under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973, because they are in benefit of a restrictive right or covenant over land within the Order limits, have been included within the **Book of Reference [EN010142/APP/4.3]** as Category 2 or Category 3 persons.

All relevant interests with the potential to make a claim under section 152(3) of the PA 2008, because they are in benefit of a restrictive right or covenant over land within the Order limits, have been included within the **Book of Reference [EN010142/APP/4.3]** as Category 2 or Category 3 persons.

Sample letters with respect to s42(1)(d) are set out in **Appendix E-3.4** of the **Consultation Report Appendices EN010142/APP/5.2**].

A full list of consultees identified in accordance with Section 42(1)(d) of the PA 2008 is set out in the Book of Reference [EN010142/APP/4.3]. Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation Did the Applicant notify s42 consultees of the Yes 11 deadline for receipt of consultation responses; and if The Applicant wrote formally to all consultees identified under s42 of the PA 2008 ahead so was the deadline notified by the Applicant 28 days of statutory consultation starting on 30 May 2023 to notify them of the consultation. On or more starting with the day after receipt of the 26 May 2023 those persons identified under s42 were sent a letter to inform them of the consultation documents? statutory consultation. The letters provided an overview of the Scheme, explained that the Scheme was EIA development and set out how to respond to the consultation. The Applicant notified s42 consultees that its deadline for receipt of consultation responses was 23:59 on 11 July 2023. The deadline was more than 28 days after the day after receipt of the consultation documents by s42 consultees. Samples of the letters sent to Section 42 consultees are provided at Appendix E of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.2]. Each of the letters issued to the section 42 consultees clearly stated a deadline for the receipt of consultation responses. Following the statutory consultation, the Applicant made a number of minor changes to the Order limits having regard to feedback from the consultation, and in light of further work on the Scheme's access and engineering design. The Applicant, as part of its targeted consultation on these changes, wrote to selected prescribed consultees and local authorities under Section 42(1)(a), (aa) and (b); and parties under Section 42(1)(d) (where their interest in land had the potential to be affected by the changes to the Order limits) of the PA 2008 to notify them of the changes and invited comment between 14 December 2023 and 25 January 2024. This period exceeded the 28-day period that starts after the day after receipt of the documents. Appendix G-4 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2] lists all consultees engaged as part of the targeted consultation process.

Section 46: Duty to notify the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application

Did the Applicant supply information to notify the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application;

Yes

and if so, was the information supplied to the Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42 consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42?

The Applicant gave notice to the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with section 46 of the PA 2008 on 24 May 2023, which was on or before the date it was sent to s42 consultees and before the beginning of the section 42 consultation which commenced on the 30 May 2023 and ran until 11 July 2023.

On 25 May 2023 a letter was received from the Planning Inspectorate confirming that all documentation had been received and stating that: 'I acknowledge that you have notified the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application for an Order granting development consent for the purposes of section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 and supplied the information for consultation under section 42'.

Copies of the letter issued on 24 May 2023, an example e-mail sending documentation and the letter from PINS received on 25 May 2023 are provided in **Appendix F-1 and Appendix F-2** of the **Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2]**. The Consultation started on 30 May 2023.

Section 47: Duty to consult local community

Did the Applicant prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land?

Yes

In accordance with section 47(1) of the PA 2008, a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) was published on the 25 May 2023 setting out how the Scheme proposed to consult with people living in the vicinity. A copy of the SoCC is provided in Appendix B-7 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2]. Appendices B-8, B-9, B-10 and B-11 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2], which sets out how the SoCC was publicised in newspapers, with host authorities, neighbouring authorities and parish councils attaching a PDF copy of the SoCC and section 47 notice (as well as a link to where it could be found on the project website) plus details of the five document inspection locations where copies were lodged.

Section 6 of the **Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1]** sets out how the SoCC was developed, consultation undertaken prior to its formal publication, how the SoCC was publicised and how the Scheme adhered to the SoCC in carrying out consultation on the Scheme.

In accordance with s47(2) of the PA 2008 and Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, consultation was undertaken on the draft SoCC prior to its publication with the host

		authorities for a period of 28 days. A letter was sent out to the host authorities on the 13 February 2023 seeking comments no later than 11.59pm on 14 March 2023. A copy of this letter is included at Appendix B-3 of Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2].
14	Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and	Yes In accordance with section 47(2) of the PA 2008 and Regulation 12 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations), the Applicant undertook consultation with a number of local authorities on
	(where applicable) 'C' authorities received the consultation documents?	Regulations), the Applicant undertook consultation with a number of local authorities on the proposed methods for consulting people living in the vicinity of the Scheme as set out in the SoCC. This took place through two rounds of consultation. The first informal round of consultation ran from 20 December 2022 and 13 January 2023. The SoCC was then updated based on these comments ahead of a formal consultation period on the updated draft SoCC, which ran for 28 days from 13 February 2023 to 14 March 2023.
		The local authorities consulted in both rounds were:
		• 'B' authorities: West Lindsey District Council and Bassetlaw District Council; and
		• 'C' authorities: Lincolnshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.
		A copy of the consultation letter sent to each local authority and the draft SoCC is included in Appendix B-4 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2].
		As outlined in Section 6 of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1], the Applicant received responses to the draft SoCC from Lincolnshire County Council, West Lindsey District Council and Bassetlaw District Council by the deadline of 14 March 2023. Following contact by the Applicant, Nottingham County Council advised by email on 23 February 2023 it had no further comments on the draft SoCC. Copies of the responses from each of the host authorities are included in Appendix B-5 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2] .
15	Has the Applicant had regard to any responses	Yes
	received when preparing the SoCC?	The Applicant has had regard to all responses from local authorities consulted on the draft SoCC. Appendix B-4 of the Consultation Report Appendices

		[EN010142/APP/5.2] provides the comments received from the local authorities and Table 6.2 of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] sets out how the Applicant has had regard to them.
		A copy of the draft SoCC is provided in Appendix B-3 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2] . A copy of the published SoCC is provided at Appendix B-7 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2] .
16	Has the SoCC been made available for inspection in	Yes
	a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?	In accordance with the requirements of section 47(6) of the PA 2008, the Applicant published and made the SoCC publicly available on its website from 25 May 2023. Printed copies of the SoCC were lodged and available at the document inspection locations outlined in Section 6.4 of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] .
	bo inspected.	The Applicant also publicised a notice stating where and when the SoCC could be inspected in newspapers circulated in the vicinity of the land, as follows:
		Lincolnshire Echo (published 25 May 2023);
		Retford Times (published 25 May 2023); and
		Gainsborough Standard (published 25 May 2023).
		Copies of the final SoCC notices as published (which confirm the name of the publication and the date) are provided within Appendix B-8 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2] .
17	Does the SoCC set out whether the development is	Yes
	EIA development ⁹ ; and does it set out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the	In section 4.3 on page 14 of the SoCC it is stated that:
	Preliminary Environmental Information?	"The Scheme is an "environmental impact assessment (EIA) development' under the infrastructure (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017"
		"The application for development consent will therefore require an EIA to be carried out the ensure the likely significant effects of the Scheme are properly understood and that

⁹ Regulation 12 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 10 of the 2009 EIA Regulations

18	Has the Applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?	where available, appropriate mitigation measures are identified to control or reduce environmental effects". Section 4.3 also sets out how the Applicant will consult: "The PEI Report will build upon the findings from the Scoping Report (submitted in September 2022) and the feedback received through early engagement with stakeholders. It will provide preliminary environmental information on the potential environmental effects of the Scheme and any proposed mitigation to help the local community and consultation bodies to understand the likely environmental effects of the Scheme on the environment and inform responses regarding the proposals." A PEI Report was presented as part of the statutory consultation. A copy of the published SoCC can be found in Appendix B-7 of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2] which sets out how the Applicant intended to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information. Yes The Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] at Sections 6 and 7 set out how the Applicant has complied with the commitments of the SoCC, in accordance with section 47(7) of the PA 2008. Paragraph 7.15.1 of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] specifically sets out how the consultation undertaken meets the statutory requirements under the PA 2008 as well as Government guidance and relevant Planning Inspectorate Advice Notes. This confirms at Paragraph 7.15.1 (e) that the SoCC was available in the deposit locations during the statutory period which ran between 30 May 2023 and 11 July 2023.
Sec	etion 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application	ran between 30 May 2023 and 11 July 2023.
19	Did the Applicant publicise the proposed application in	Yes
	the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4(2) of the APFP Regulations?	The Applicant publicised the proposed Application in accordance with the requirements of Section 48(1) of the PA 2008 and Regulations 4(2) and 4(3) of the APFP Regulations as outlined below. Section 9 of the Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] set out how publicity was undertaken in accordance with Section

				ection 48 newspaper notices eport Appendices [EN010	
		Newspaper(s)			Date
a)	for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated;	provides details published in for t	of the local newspape two successive weeks ncolnshire Echo, the F	ort [EN010142/APP/5.1] ers that the notice was s. The local newspapers Retford Times and the	25 May 2023 and 1 June 2023
		[EN010142/APP	8 notice was publishe	eport Appendices of the newspapers and ed in local newspapers.	
		Newspaper outlet	1st Publication date	2 nd Publication date	
		Lincolnshire Echo	Thursday 25 May 2023	Thursday 1 June 2023	
		Retford Times	Thursday 25 May 2023	Thursday 1 June 2023	
		Gainsborough Standard	Thursday 25 May 2023	Thursday 1 June 2023	
b)	once in a national newspaper;		•	ort [EN010142/APP/5.1] shed in The Guardian.	25 May 2023

			[EN01	0142/	-2 of the Consultation Report Apper APP/5.2] provides copies of the newspader section 48 in the Guardian.		
c)	once in the London Gazette at affected, the Edinburgh Gazet	•	sets or	ut that	of the Consultation Report [EN01014 the s48 notice was published in the Lomits do not include any land within Sco	ondon Gazette.	25 May 2023
			[EN01	0142/	-2 of the Consultation Report Apper APP/5.2] provides copies of the newspader section 48 in the London Gazette.	paper notices	
d)	where the proposed application redevelopment — (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing		Not ap develo	•	le – the Scheme does not relate to off t.	shore	N/A
20	Did the s48 notice include the out in Regulation 4(3) of APFF	•	the Co	nsulta	e published s48 notices set out above ation Report Appendices [EN010142 information as set out in Regulation 4	2/APP/5.2] . Those	
	Information	Paragraph			Information	Paragraph	
a)	the name and address of the Applicant.	First paragraph (beginnin Notice is hereby given the Tillbridge Solar Limited	at	b)	a statement that the Applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State		(beginning: Notice is at Tillbridge Solar
c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	Fifth paragraph (beginnin proposed Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") development).	g: The	d)	a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the Proposed Development	consist of) for and third paragi	aph (beginning: (the "Scheme") will the main proposals raph (beginning: The Scheme is located)

e)	a statement that the documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location of the Proposed Development are available for inspection free of charge on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant, including the address of the website; the place on the website where the documents, plans and maps may be inspected; and a telephone number which can be used to contact the Applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps	Seventh paragraph (beginning: Copies of the consultation documents.) Eighth paragraph (beginning: Printed copies of the consultation) for the locations of leaflets and feedback questionnaires. Ninth paragraph (beginning: A number of public information events.) for the location and dates of statutory consultation events. Tenth and eleventh paragraph for telephone number and email address for enquiries related to documents, plans and maps. In accordance with the requirements of the APFP Regulations, all documents, plans and maps were available for inspection free of charge at all times during the statutory consultation period on a website hosted by or on behalf of the Applicant.	f)	the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection on the website	Seventh paragraph (beginning: Copies of the consultation documents.)
g)	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or	Twelfth paragraph (beginning: A full set of consultation documents.)	h)	details of how to respond to the publicity	Fifteenth paragraph (beginning: Any person may comment on the proposals.) and sixteenth

	maps and the amount of any charge	Thirteenth paragraph (beginning: If you would I hard copy.) Fourteenth paragraph (beginning: All other consultation documents.)	ike a			paragraph (beginning: A response can also be made.)
i)	a deadline for receipt of those responses by the Applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published	Fifteenth paragraph (begin Any person may comment the proposal.)	-			
21		8 notice as set out in the Perents on the proposals which	A 2008 and	the APFP Regulations. The n	en. Section	ined the required information 48 consultation was held in parallel ion 9 of the Consultation Report
	[EN010142/APP/5.1].	. The house accords with e	0000011 40 0	the Flaming Act 2000 as set	t out in occi	non 3 of the Consultation Report
22	Has a copy of the s48 notice to consultation bodies and to any Applicant in accordance with the same of the same o	y person notified to the	required b Regulation materials, on the 25 provided i [EN01014	y Regulation 13 of the EIA Re is. This took place at the same as the section 42(1)(a), section 42(2) as 2023 contained a copy of a Appendix E-3 of the Consu	egulations as e time as the on 42(1)(aa) f the Section altation Rep ction 48 not	ort Appendices ices are contained in Appendix D-2

¹⁰ Regulation 13 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 11 of the 2009 EIA Regulations

s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity

Has the Applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?

Yes

All responses received to the Consultation under section 42, section 47 and section 48 of the PA 2008 have been considered by the Applicant. **Section 10** of the **Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1]** provides a summary of matters raised by consultees consulted under section 42, section 47 and section 48 of the PA 2008.

These responses are sorted by theme, setting out how regard has been had to the responses by the Applicant in line with section 49 of the PA 2008, as well as whether they have led to a change to the Scheme. The Applicant did not receive any feedback that could be identified as being specifically submitted as a result of the publicity required by s48 of PA 2008.

Section 11 of the **Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1]** provides an overview of the responses received from consultees during the targeted consultation which took place between 20 December 2023 and 25 January 2024.

Section 12 of the **Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1]** sets out on-going engagement activities with consultees following the statutory consultation.

Appendix H and I of the Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2] provides tables evidencing how regard has been had to responses received in relation to sections 42 and 47 of the PA 2008 respectively for both the statutory consultation and the targeted consultation.

Guidance about pre-application procedure

To what extent has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process'¹¹?

Section 13 of the **Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1]** evidences how the Applicant has complied with MHCLG 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the preapplication process' published March 2015.

¹¹ The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the Applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50

25	Summary: Section 55(3)(e)	The Planning Inspectorate can be satisfied that the Applicant has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure) of the PA 2008.
to v		ompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent tents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and
26	Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations, and does it include:	Yes. The Application is made in the prescribed form (Application Form [EN010142/APP/1.4]) as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations.
	 a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; 	Section 4 of the Application Form [EN010142/APP/1.4] explains why the Application falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate.
	 and a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it 	Section 5 of the Application Form [EN010142/APP/1.4] provides a brief non-technical description of the site and Section 6 of the Application Form [EN010142/APP/1.4] provides a brief statement identifying the location of the Scheme.
	is a linear scheme?	A Location Plan [EN010142/APP/2.1] has also been provided showing the location of the Scheme.
27	Is it accompanied by a Consultation Report?	Yes
		The Application is accompanied by a Consultation Report [EN010142/APP/5.1] and Consultation Report Appendices [EN010142/APP/5.2].
28	Where a plan comprises three or more separate	Yes
	sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets? ¹²	Key plans have been provided for all plans containing of three or more sheets including the:
		Location Plan [EN010142/APP/2.1],
		Land and Crown Land Plans [EN010142/APP/2.2],
		Works Plans [EN010142/APP/2.3],
		Streets, Access and Rights of Way Plan [EN010142/APP/2.4],

¹² Regulation 5(4) of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

				Traffic Reg [EN010142			orary Traffic Management Plan
				Statutory a [EN010142			ures of the Historic Environment Plans
						Non-statutory Sites or Feat tat Plans [EN010142/APP/2	ures of Nature Conservation, and 2.7],
				Waterbodie	es in	a River Basin Managemer	nt Plan [EN010142/APP/2.8],
				Vegetation	n Rer	noval Plan [EN010142/APP	/2.9].
				The above	plans	s form Volume 2 Plans [EN	010142/APP/2.1-2.9].
25	9	Is it accompanied by the doc set out in APFP Regulation		are set out i	in the	e documents and locations woplication [EN010142/APP/	Regulation 5(2) of the APFP Regulations vithin the Application as listed below. The 1.2] and the Electronic Application Index
						APFP Regulation reference	submitted with the respective Document s.
		Information	Document		and		

¹³ The 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, the 2009 EIA Regulations

		The Environmental Statement is based on the Scoping Report, provided in Appendix 1-1 of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.2] and Scoping Opinion, provided in Appendix 1-2 of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.2]. The individual topic chapters in the Environmental Statement [EN010142/APP/6.1] provide a tabulated summary of scoping comments relevant to that chapter and how the comments have been complied with.			
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
c)	An Explanatory Memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	An Explanatory Memorandum [EN010142/APP/3.2] to the draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1] has been submitted with the Application which explains the purpose and effect of the provisions of the draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1].	d)	Where applicable, a Book of Reference (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition)	A Book of Reference [EN010142/APP/4.3] is provided and meets the requirements of DCLG's Planning Act 2008: guidance related to procedures for the compulsory acquisition of land.
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
e)	A copy of any Flood Risk Assessment	A Flood Risk Assessment within Appendix 10-3 of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.2] is provided in accordance with Regulation 5(2)(e) of the APFP Regulations.	f)	A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the matters set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances) and if so how	A Statutory Nuisances Statement [EN010142/APP/7.7] is provided with the Application.

				the Applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
h)	A Statement of Reasons and a Funding Statement (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition)	The Application is accompanied by a Statement of Reasons [EN010142/APP/4.1] and a Funding Statement [EN010142/APP/4.2].	i)	A Land Plan identifying:- (i) the land required for, or affected by, the Proposed Development; (ii) where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of Compulsory Acquisition or any rights to use land; (iii) any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements, servitudes and other private rights; and (iv) any special category land and replacement land	The Application is accompanied by the Land and Crown Land Plans [EN010142/APP/2.2] showing the land required / affected by the Scheme. These are in accordance with Regulation 5(2)(i) of the APFP Regulations. Plots and descriptions listed within the Book of Reference [EN010142/APP/4.3] are consistent with the plots shown in the Land and Crown Land Plans. There is no special category land within the Order limits, so no replacement land is required.
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	

j)	A Works Plan showing, in relation to existing features:- (i) the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and (ii) the limits within which the development and works may be carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO	The Application is accompanied by the Works Plans [EN010142/APP/2.3]. The Works Plans accord with Regulation 5(2)(j) of the APFP Regulations and show the proposed location of the Scheme and the limits within which the works are proposed to be carried out.	k)	Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation	The Application is accompanied by the Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010142/APP/2.4]. These are in accordance with Regulation 5(2)(k) of the APFP Regulations.
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
1)	Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:- (i) any statutory/ nonstatutory sites or features of nature conservation eg sites of geological/ landscape importance; (ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and	The DCO is accompanied by a Statutory and Non-statutory Sites or Features of Nature Conservation, and Important Habitats Plans [EN010142/APP/2.7] and Waterbodies in a River Management Plan [EN010142/APP/2.8]. Supporting assessments of the effects of the Scheme on these sites and features required by this regulation are presented in Chapter 9: Ecology and Nature Conservation and Chapter 10:	m)	Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory/ non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (eg scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures	The Application is accompanied by a Statutory and Non-statutory Sites or Features of the Historic Environment Plan [EN010142/APP/2.6]. The assessment of the Scheme's effects on these sites and features required by this regulation is presented in Chapter 8, Cultural Heritage of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.1], Heritage Harm Statement in Appendix D of the Planning Statement [EN010142/APP/7.2] and Appendix 8-2:

	(iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan, together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the Proposed Development	Water Environment of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.1] and Appendix 9-12: Habitat Regulations Assessment of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.2]. Figure 9-1: Sites Statutorily Designated for Nature Conservation and Value, Figure 9- 2: Non-Statutory Sites Designated for Nature Conservation, and Figure 9-3: Phase 1 Habitat Map [EN010142/APP/6.3], also contain information pertaining to the constraints covered by this regulation.		likely to be caused by the Proposed Development	Heritage Desk Based Assessment of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.2]. The Application is also accompanied by Figure 8-1: Designated, Figure 8-2: High Value Heritage Assets within 3-5km of the Principal Site, Figure 8-3: Non-designated Heritage Assets, Figure 8-4: Archaeological Events, and Figure 8-5: Historic Landscape Characterisations of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.3].
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
n)	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	The Application is accompanied by the Land and Crown Land Plans [EN010142/APP/2.2] in accordance with Regulation 5(2)(n) of the APFP Regulations. Since there is only one plot/land parcel affected by Crown Land, this has been merged into combined Land and Crown Land Plans [EN010142/APP/2.2] in accordance with the Section 51	0)	Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of buildings/ structures, drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping	The Application is accompanied by the following plans and drawings provided under Regulation 5(2)(o) of the AFPF Regulations 2009 (as amended): Location Plan [EN010142/APP/2.1]; Traffic Regulation Measures Plan [EN010142/APP/2.5]; and Vegetation Removal Plan [EN010142/APP/2.9].

	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	advice provided by the Planning Inspectorate on draft plans received on the 8 March 2024.		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	
p)	Any of the documents prescribed by Regulation 6 of the APFP Regulations:	The Application is accompanied by a Grid Connection Statement [EN010142/APP/7.5] as required by Regulation 6(1)(a)(i) of the APFP Regulations.	q)	Any other documents considered necessary to support the application	The Application includes the following additional documents considered necessary to support the Application: Covering Letter [EN010142/APP/1.1]; Guide to the Application [EN010142/APP/1.2]; Electronic Application Index [EN010142/APP/1.5]; Consents and Agreements Position Statement [EN010142/APP/3.3]; Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Sought [EN010142/APP/4.4]; Environmental Mitigation and Commitments Register [EN010142/APP/6.5]; Statement of Need [EN010142/APP/7.1]; Planning Statement [EN010142/APP/7.2];

	Design and Assess Statement
	Design and Access Statement [EN010142/APP/7.3];
	Outline Design Principles Statements [EN010142/APP/7.4];
	Report on the Interrelationship with other NSIPs [EN010142/APP/7.6];
	Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.8];
	Framework Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.9];
	Framework Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.10];
	Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.11];
	Framework Soil Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.11];
	Framework Battery Safety Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.13];
	Biodiversity Net Gain Report [EN010142/APP/7.14];
	Equality Impact Assessment [EN010142/APP/7.15];

	Are they of a satisfactory standard?		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Framework Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.16]; Framework Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.17]; and Framework Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [EN010142/APP/7.18].	
30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents	provided at Box 2	29 (a) to (q) above?		
	Not Applicable.				
31	Is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which Regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the Proposed Development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site if required by Regulation 48(1)? ¹⁴	Yes A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report (Appendix 9-12 of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.2]) has been prepared to support the Secretary of State with its duties under the Habitats Regulations. The baseline evidence gathering, and survey work identified no European Sites within or surrounding the Order limits that may be impacted by the Scheme. Therefore, the pre-screening report concluded that there are no European Sites to be taken forward to Stage 1 for the likely effects.			
				e is not directly connected with or tof a European Site and does not risk	

¹⁴ Regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP Regulations

		having a significant effect on a European Site on its own or in combination with other proposals.			
32	If requested by the Planning Inspectorate, two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans ¹⁵	The Planning Inspectorate no longer requires a hard copy of the Application at the point of submission as confirmed in the pre-submission letter dated 5 March 2024.			
33	Has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance', and has this regard led to the application being prepared to a standard that the Planning Inspectorate considers satisfactory?	Yes The Applicant has had regard to the DCLG guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance' when preparing the Application Form [EN010142/APP/1.3]. The Applicant considers that the Application has been prepared to the standards that the Secretary of State considers satisfactory.			
34	Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)	The Planning Inspectorate can conclude that the Application (including accompaniments) has been prepared to a standard that it considers satisfactory.			
The	The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended)				
Fee	s to accompany an application				
35	Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made ¹⁶ ?	The fee was paid by the Applicant on 13 March 2024, with a further fee paid by the Applicant on 22 March 2024 due to the increase in fees commencing on 1 April 2024.			

Role	Electronic signature	Date
Case Manager		

¹⁵ Regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP Regulations

¹⁶ The Planning Inspectorate must charge the Applicant a fee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the Applicant fails to pay the fee, the Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee must be paid at the same time that the application is made

Acceptance Inspector	