



Hearing Transcript

Project:	EN010142 - Tillbridge Solar Project
Hearing:	Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3) – Part 4
Date:	15 January 2025

Please note: This document is intended to assist Interested Parties.

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1

00:00:00.155 --> 00:00:03.565

Okay, it is 3:42 PM

2

00:00:03.905 --> 00:00:06.365

and the hearing is now resumed.

3

00:00:06.585 --> 00:00:08.165

Uh, could I please confirm

4

00:00:08.165 --> 00:00:10.725

that the live recording has commenced?

5

00:00:10.745 --> 00:00:14.925

Yes. Excellent. So I will now pass over to, uh, Mr.

6

00:00:15.195 --> 00:00:19.365

Eley, who will take you through agenda item 3D.

7

00:00:21.335 --> 00:00:23.325

Thank you. Um, yes, uh,

8

00:00:23.465 --> 00:00:26.845

agenda item 3D is biodiversity and ecology.

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00:00:27.265 --> 00:00:28.325

Uh, and I'm just going

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00:00:28.325 --> 00:00:30.565

to enter into the issues looking into more detail

11

00:00:30.625 --> 00:00:33.525

of the effect of the proposed development on wildlife at the

12

00:00:33.525 --> 00:00:35.885

site throughout the life of the development

13

00:00:36.265 --> 00:00:38.405

and beyond that, the effect

14
00:00:38.485 --> 00:00:39.845
of the proposed development on woodland

15
00:00:39.845 --> 00:00:41.325
and hedges at the site throughout the life

16
00:00:41.325 --> 00:00:42.405
of the development and beyond,

17
00:00:43.225 --> 00:00:44.925
and the measures that are proposed to deliver

18
00:00:44.985 --> 00:00:47.165
and maintained biodiversity net gain.

19
00:00:48.785 --> 00:00:50.445
Uh, I note

20
00:00:50.445 --> 00:00:53.245
that natural England's most recent representation is they

21
00:00:53.245 --> 00:00:57.325
have no comment on the impact on wildlife potentially

22
00:00:57.325 --> 00:01:01.005
disturbed at the site due to the lack of designation, uh,

23
00:01:01.105 --> 00:01:02.165
of the site itself.

24
00:01:02.795 --> 00:01:05.285
However, I also note that West Lindsay District Council

25
00:01:05.895 --> 00:01:07.365
would welcome some clarification

26
00:01:07.425 --> 00:01:11.125
and justification on how the conclusion of minor benefit,

27
00:01:12.225 --> 00:01:14.605

uh, in species such as golden Plover

28

00:01:14.605 --> 00:01:16.965
and Skylark have been reached, given

29

00:01:16.965 --> 00:01:19.685
that such species require open habitats,

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00:01:20.345 --> 00:01:21.645
and the proposal would seem

31

00:01:21.645 --> 00:01:23.525
to have a negative impact in that regard.

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00:01:23.625 --> 00:01:25.325
So please give, ask the applicant

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00:01:25.325 --> 00:01:26.485
if they could address that.

34

00:01:28.255 --> 00:01:30.045
Thank you, sir. Um, I'm going to pass over

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00:01:30.045 --> 00:01:31.085
to my colleague, um, Mr.

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00:01:31.275 --> 00:01:33.965
Neil Gates, who's a technical director at acom.

37

00:01:39.875 --> 00:01:41.295
Uh, afternoon everyone.

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00:01:41.365 --> 00:01:43.015
Neil Gates on behalf of the applicant.

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00:01:44.195 --> 00:01:46.935
Um, so I think was your specific question

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00:01:47.125 --> 00:01:50.975
regarding species more associated with open landscapes

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00:01:51.955 --> 00:01:55.135

in terms of Golden Plover and Skylark and Skylar?

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00:01:55.555 --> 00:01:56.815

Um, so yes.

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00:01:57.075 --> 00:02:01.935

Uh, we, we acknowledge that, um, creating sort of,

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00:02:01.935 --> 00:02:05.295

um, solar farms, uh, putting those sort of structures into,

45

00:02:05.485 --> 00:02:07.855

into the landscape will displace some of those species.

46

00:02:08.315 --> 00:02:12.855

Um, however, uh, we have sort of embedded,

47

00:02:13.115 --> 00:02:16.975

uh, large areas of undeveloped land within the,

48

00:02:16.975 --> 00:02:19.375

within the application foundry, within the order limits.

49

00:02:20.035 --> 00:02:22.815

Uh, so there's over sort of 200 hectares, for example.

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00:02:23.115 --> 00:02:26.175

Uh, we've put these on the, the, the western, the southern,

51

00:02:26.195 --> 00:02:27.615

and in the eastern boundaries as well.

52

00:02:27.635 --> 00:02:29.215

So they're on the edges of the scheme

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00:02:29.235 --> 00:02:32.695

so they can maintain those open landscapes that those sorts

54

00:02:32.695 --> 00:02:34.095

of birds would, would require.

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00:02:34.715 --> 00:02:38.015

Uh, and yeah, essentially that's the basis

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00:02:38.075 --> 00:02:39.575

for our mitigation, for those,

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00:02:39.875 --> 00:02:42.815

for those open aspect species.

58

00:02:46.025 --> 00:02:50.345

Thank you. Um, obviously there's less provision

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00:02:51.375 --> 00:02:53.945

than there was historically in the proposal.

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00:02:54.655 --> 00:02:58.365

What also, I appreciate the site not being designated and

61

00:02:58.365 --> 00:02:59.365

therefore not necessarily a

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00:02:59.365 --> 00:03:00.925

designated breeding ground for those species.

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00:03:01.185 --> 00:03:05.165

What's the likely impact on the population for that site?

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00:03:05.905 --> 00:03:08.045

Uh, so protect the two species in turn then.

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00:03:08.045 --> 00:03:10.805

So for golden plover, um, we did record some

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00:03:10.805 --> 00:03:13.285

of those species, um, occurring on site

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00:03:13.285 --> 00:03:15.405

during our non breeding bird surveys across the land.

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00:03:15.585 --> 00:03:18.605

But, uh, those numbers were fairly low in the context

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00:03:18.745 --> 00:03:20.645

of the wider Lincoln shear populations.

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00:03:20.905 --> 00:03:24.085

Uh, the species is also quite nomadic across wider

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00:03:24.185 --> 00:03:25.205

arable landscapes.

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00:03:25.785 --> 00:03:28.485

Um, so the impact on that particular species is,

73

00:03:28.625 --> 00:03:29.885

is not significant,

74

00:03:30.065 --> 00:03:32.165

and the creation of permanent grassland as well

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00:03:32.165 --> 00:03:35.525

for those species, um, will outweigh the loss

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00:03:35.565 --> 00:03:37.325

of any arable habitat for that.

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00:03:37.505 --> 00:03:41.165

In terms of Skylark, uh, again, whilst, uh, the,

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00:03:41.165 --> 00:03:44.165

the quantum overall provision of habitat isn't like

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00:03:44.165 --> 00:03:46.965

for like, uh, the, the, the quality of habitat

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00:03:46.965 --> 00:03:48.365

that we're providing is better.

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00:03:48.905 --> 00:03:52.045

So whilst in arable farming landscapes, uh, the,

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00:03:52.045 --> 00:03:54.925

the suitability of habitat between any given year in terms

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00:03:54.925 --> 00:03:56.485

of the cropping rotation for things like

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00:03:56.635 --> 00:03:58.085

skylark will change.

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00:03:58.665 --> 00:04:01.485

Um, so only some fields will be suitable in any given year.

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00:04:01.745 --> 00:04:05.445

Uh, we are creating large areas of open permanent grassland,

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00:04:05.445 --> 00:04:08.685

which will be able to support those species every year, uh,

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00:04:08.795 --> 00:04:13.005

equally in modern day farming practices, um, the sort

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00:04:13.125 --> 00:04:15.805

of the, the cropping patterns when harvesting occurs,

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00:04:15.865 --> 00:04:18.365

for example, that reduces the overall productivity

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00:04:18.425 --> 00:04:20.565

and the number of nests that can survive.

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00:04:20.625 --> 00:04:23.645

So having permanent good quality grassland, uh,

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00:04:23.645 --> 00:04:26.365

with sympathetic management techniques, uh,

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00:04:26.395 --> 00:04:29.165

will allow things like Skylar to have greater productivity.

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00:04:29.505 --> 00:04:31.965

So in terms of there'll be more nests,

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00:04:32.095 --> 00:04:35.085

those nests will have more chance of success, uh,

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00:04:35.105 --> 00:04:36.765

and there'll be more breeding attempts

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00:04:36.765 --> 00:04:38.125

coming outta those as well.

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00:04:38.185 --> 00:04:40.645

So the overall, uh, maintenance

100

00:04:40.665 --> 00:04:43.125

of popul population will be maintained.

101

00:04:44.075 --> 00:04:47.045

Okay, thank you. Um, I'm conscious, uh, I'll come

102

00:04:47.045 --> 00:04:48.925

to the rest of the room now, but I'm conscious West Lindsey

103

00:04:48.925 --> 00:04:52.165

raised this in their ecological, uh, LIR that came back.

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00:04:52.625 --> 00:04:54.365

Um, would West Lindsay like to make,

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00:04:54.365 --> 00:04:55.605

uh, any comments on that?

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00:04:55.665 --> 00:04:57.085

Uh, the applicant's comments,

107

00:04:58.105 --> 00:05:00.205

Um, Alex Blake, west Lindsay District Council?

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00:05:00.705 --> 00:05:02.565

Um, no. So I mean, you've asked the questions

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00:05:02.565 --> 00:05:03.885

that we raised and I've heard the answer.

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00:05:04.125 --> 00:05:06.125

I think we'll take that away and consider that in rice,

111

00:05:06.145 --> 00:05:08.125

but I'm grateful for the response, which, you know,

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00:05:08.625 --> 00:05:10.365

did those, joining those dots

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00:05:10.365 --> 00:05:11.725

between the impacts and the mitigation.

114

00:05:11.745 --> 00:05:12.885

So it's very helpful. Thank you.

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00:05:12.945 --> 00:05:15.845

But will anything further we'll clarify in writing. Thank

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00:05:15.845 --> 00:05:16.845

You. Right. Are there any

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00:05:16.845 --> 00:05:18.245

other comments from any other parties

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00:05:18.265 --> 00:05:19.685

on the room on those, uh, issues?

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00:05:19.945 --> 00:05:21.005

Uh, 7,000 acres.

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00:05:22.335 --> 00:05:24.165

Thank you, sir. Liz Gar at 7,000 acres,

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00:05:24.435 --> 00:05:25.965

it's just a general question.

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00:05:26.065 --> 00:05:29.965

So what are the guarantees that the displaced, um, birds

123

00:05:29.965 --> 00:05:33.525

and species, we actually then utilize the created habitats?

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00:05:33.525 --> 00:05:35.885

Will they just be displaced and then go elsewhere?

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00:05:35.885 --> 00:05:37.005

I mean, you know,

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00:05:37.005 --> 00:05:39.285

if you have an arrow saying you can actually go here,

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00:05:39.305 --> 00:05:43.765

you know, you know, it's depend it, anyway, that's,

128

00:05:43.765 --> 00:05:45.125

that's the point I wanted to raise then. I,

129

00:05:45.245 --> 00:05:47.245

I, I understand, uh, Ms. Gilbert,

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00:05:47.305 --> 00:05:49.525

and also I think there, there is the recognition that

131

00:05:51.015 --> 00:05:52.925

there is the duration of the construction project

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00:05:52.925 --> 00:05:55.005

before that grassland gets restored.

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00:05:55.265 --> 00:05:59.405

So there is a period where the site is a construction site

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00:05:59.785 --> 00:06:01.005

and perhaps not so habitable.

135

00:06:01.065 --> 00:06:02.725

So if you could perhaps address that sir,

136

00:06:03.705 --> 00:06:05.285

Uh, Neil Gates on behalf of the applicant.

137

00:06:05.625 --> 00:06:07.565

Uh, yes. We, we acknowledge that

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00:06:07.565 --> 00:06:09.605

during construction there will be disturbance across the

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00:06:09.605 --> 00:06:13.005

site, however, sort of, um, uh, that, that the maintenance

140

00:06:13.005 --> 00:06:14.805

of undeveloped areas, uh,

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00:06:14.905 --> 00:06:16.725

and at the earliest possible opportunity,

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00:06:16.725 --> 00:06:19.725

those grassland habitats will be provided in those areas.

143

00:06:20.105 --> 00:06:21.965

Uh, equally, um,

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00:06:22.485 --> 00:06:24.085

construction across the scheme will be

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00:06:24.085 --> 00:06:25.565

sequential to a certain extent.

146

00:06:26.025 --> 00:06:28.645

So yes, whilst in some breeding seasons

147

00:06:28.665 --> 00:06:30.165

for things like Skylark, some

148

00:06:30.165 --> 00:06:32.765

of the areas may be unsuitable, there will still be

149

00:06:33.525 --> 00:06:35.645

suitable areas for those species to nest in

150

00:06:35.785 --> 00:06:37.285

during the construction period.

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00:06:37.945 --> 00:06:40.925

Um, and with the undeveloped land as well,

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00:06:41.035 --> 00:06:44.485

that the biodiversity zones that we have, um,

153

00:06:44.535 --> 00:06:47.325

there will be absorption into those areas.

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00:06:47.745 --> 00:06:49.485

We would also expect there to be some sort

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00:06:49.485 --> 00:06:51.645

of wider displacement into, uh,

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00:06:51.645 --> 00:06:53.205

the wider countryside as well.

157

00:06:53.835 --> 00:06:58.525

Okay, thank you. Um, I'm going to

158

00:06:59.385 --> 00:07:01.765

on the similar theme of, uh, swapping my script

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00:07:01.765 --> 00:07:03.205

around a little bit, but it's a similar theme of,

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00:07:03.205 --> 00:07:04.245

uh, ground nesting birds.

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00:07:05.215 --> 00:07:07.405

Other sections of your environmental statement indicate

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00:07:07.405 --> 00:07:09.565

that the ground nesting bird population will actually

163

00:07:09.765 --> 00:07:11.885
increase due to a lack of predation.

164

00:07:12.065 --> 00:07:14.925
Uh, the idea of being that Skylar can have a species like

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00:07:14.925 --> 00:07:16.365
that, that, that do nest on the ground,

166

00:07:16.435 --> 00:07:19.285
will go under the panels and nest there.

167

00:07:19.825 --> 00:07:21.965
Uh, I was interested, um,

168

00:07:22.275 --> 00:07:25.405
what the potential impact on local birder prey population

169

00:07:25.405 --> 00:07:27.885
might be for that, whether the increase in ground nesting

170

00:07:27.885 --> 00:07:32.005
bird means, but being sheltered by the solar panels, whether

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00:07:32.005 --> 00:07:34.405
that means the birds of prey can't predate them

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00:07:34.425 --> 00:07:35.805
or whether they're because of the increasing

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00:07:35.805 --> 00:07:37.245
population, they over predate them.

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00:07:37.665 --> 00:07:39.205
Uh, and does, you know, sheltering

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00:07:39.205 --> 00:07:40.365
and reducing their food supply,

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00:07:40.365 --> 00:07:42.925

what impacts it may have on their population species?

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00:07:43.985 --> 00:07:46.485

Uh, Neil Gates from half the applicant, so in terms

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00:07:46.485 --> 00:07:49.525

of species like Skylark, um, they, they don't tend

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00:07:49.525 --> 00:07:52.325

to nest within the solar panel that raise themselves.

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00:07:52.325 --> 00:07:56.725

They'll use the, the, the solar panel fields for foraging.

181

00:07:56.985 --> 00:07:58.605

Um, but the nesting habitat will be

182

00:07:58.765 --> 00:08:00.045

provided in the undeveloped areas.

183

00:08:00.505 --> 00:08:04.925

So in terms of the overall effect that has on predators, um,

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00:08:05.705 --> 00:08:06.965

it is, it is minimal.

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00:08:07.035 --> 00:08:09.605

Essentially those prey items will still be available.

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00:08:09.845 --> 00:08:11.845

I mean, I probably would draw the point more back

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00:08:11.865 --> 00:08:16.405

to the fact that we are creating extensive sort of areas

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00:08:16.545 --> 00:08:19.085

of permanent grass and both within the paneled areas,

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00:08:19.145 --> 00:08:22.045

but also outside of those, uh, within all the buffers

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00:08:22.045 --> 00:08:25.845

that we have from the retained habitat features that, uh,

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00:08:26.325 --> 00:08:28.805

creation of hedge rows and improvements to hedge rows

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00:08:28.805 --> 00:08:31.725

as well will also be beneficial for small birds.

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00:08:31.945 --> 00:08:34.885

Um, it'll be be beneficial for small mammals as well.

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00:08:35.225 --> 00:08:39.005

All of those will be a prey resource for birds of prey.

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00:08:39.345 --> 00:08:40.445

So, uh, in terms

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00:08:40.445 --> 00:08:43.005

of the overall impact on predators on the site, um,

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00:08:43.095 --> 00:08:45.965

there will be beneficial effects from the, the habitats

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00:08:45.965 --> 00:08:48.325

that we are creating and the prey resources

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00:08:48.325 --> 00:08:50.405

that will be brought into those areas.

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00:08:51.035 --> 00:08:54.445

I'll come a bit onto bio diversity net gain later,

201

00:08:54.585 --> 00:08:56.445

but no, I appreciate that response.

202

00:08:56.445 --> 00:08:57.685

Thank you. Um,

203

00:09:00.905 --> 00:09:03.395

looking at other wildlife on the site, uh, I noticed also

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00:09:03.395 --> 00:09:05.435

that West Lindsay have raised in their reply that, um,

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00:09:06.545 --> 00:09:08.755

they felt that there was a concern that no tree

206

00:09:08.815 --> 00:09:11.235

or structure surveys for bat roosts were undertaken

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00:09:12.115 --> 00:09:13.155

actually within the order limits.

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00:09:13.655 --> 00:09:15.875

Uh, and the assessment stated that the roosts

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00:09:15.875 --> 00:09:18.355

and potential roost features identified were all outside

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00:09:18.355 --> 00:09:20.835

of the current footprint of the project, and

211

00:09:20.835 --> 00:09:21.995

therefore would not be impacted.

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00:09:23.895 --> 00:09:26.115

It was raised that the plans show there are features,

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00:09:26.475 --> 00:09:27.995

existing features within the order limits of trees

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00:09:27.995 --> 00:09:30.595

and woodland blocks, uh, within this outside boundaries.

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00:09:30.595 --> 00:09:34.075

And it was not clear why those potential roosts were not

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00:09:34.115 --> 00:09:37.315

surveyed, uh, or, you know, and

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00:09:37.315 --> 00:09:39.355

therefore considered to be outside of the zone of influence.

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00:09:39.455 --> 00:09:41.515

So can we understand, you know,

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00:09:41.785 --> 00:09:45.075

were comprehensive full height bat roosting surveys

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00:09:45.075 --> 00:09:46.915

undertake women's site for the whole height

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00:09:46.915 --> 00:09:49.355

of these features, uh, and within the order limits,

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00:09:51.735 --> 00:09:53.315

Uh, gates from behalf of the applicant.

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00:09:53.655 --> 00:09:56.955

Uh, so in terms of our approach to, uh, bat surveys

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00:09:57.135 --> 00:10:00.515

and the, the, the impact assessment for bats, um,

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00:10:01.895 --> 00:10:06.435

all trees and structures within the order limits, uh, were

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00:10:06.955 --> 00:10:08.595

assessed in terms of their, uh,

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00:10:08.595 --> 00:10:10.835

potential support roosting bats.

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00:10:11.455 --> 00:10:14.395

So that's called a sort of a ground level, uh, assessment.

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00:10:14.575 --> 00:10:18.075

So each of the features was assigned a category essentially.

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00:10:18.695 --> 00:10:23.195

Um, that assignment then fills into the, um,

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00:10:23.295 --> 00:10:24.915

the scheme design, uh,

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00:10:25.135 --> 00:10:26.355

and the, the sort of, um,

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00:10:26.405 --> 00:10:29.475

where construction access routes may go, buffers

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00:10:29.475 --> 00:10:31.955

that we may want to place in certain areas.

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00:10:32.575 --> 00:10:35.155

So for example, where we've got areas of woodland,

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00:10:35.155 --> 00:10:37.475

there's a minimum 15 meter buffer from those areas

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00:10:37.535 --> 00:10:40.715

of woodland, uh, that should be perfectly adequate to,

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00:10:40.735 --> 00:10:43.235

to mitigate sort of any, any disturbance

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00:10:43.235 --> 00:10:46.115

during construction, uh, on any trees within that woodland

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00:10:46.115 --> 00:10:48.315

that may have bats roosting within them.

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00:10:49.095 --> 00:10:52.595

So as we are not directly impacting any trees

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00:10:52.595 --> 00:10:55.395

and we've got sufficient protection buffers around trees

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00:10:55.395 --> 00:10:58.235

and woodlands, um, it's not necessary

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00:10:58.255 --> 00:11:01.795

or proportionate at this stage to undertake detailed surveys

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00:11:01.795 --> 00:11:04.835

to determine if there are actually bats roosting in those.

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00:11:05.775 --> 00:11:09.275

Um, there are measures I believe set out in the framework

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00:11:09.385 --> 00:11:13.395

hemp as well, that's, uh, upon detailed design as well.

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00:11:13.935 --> 00:11:17.195

Um, should it be found that we do need to do any works

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00:11:17.215 --> 00:11:19.195

to trees or we encroach further into any

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00:11:19.195 --> 00:11:20.995

of those protective buffers, uh,

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00:11:21.105 --> 00:11:24.435

then appropriate surveys will be undertaken at that point.

252

00:11:24.895 --> 00:11:27.475

Um, but based on our initial approach

253

00:11:27.545 --> 00:11:29.595

that we can design the scheme essentially to,

254

00:11:29.975 --> 00:11:31.235

to avoid any impacts

255

00:11:31.255 --> 00:11:33.435

to trees which may have roosting bats in them.

256

00:11:35.135 --> 00:11:37.705

Okay, thank you. So I'm just trying to clarify in my head

257

00:11:37.705 --> 00:11:40.545

what you're saying was that because you are not impacting on

258

00:11:40.545 --> 00:11:44.025

any of the features designated on that on the site,

259

00:11:44.045 --> 00:11:45.185

not designated wrong word,

260

00:11:45.205 --> 00:11:48.665

but, um, you undertook a ground level survey

261

00:11:49.445 --> 00:11:51.305

and then created a buffer on those features

262

00:11:51.415 --> 00:11:53.140

because you're not planning to impact them.

263

00:11:53.465 --> 00:11:57.445

So we don't actually know if, if roost exists,

264

00:11:57.545 --> 00:11:59.045

but you're taking the view that you are not.

265

00:11:59.185 --> 00:12:00.645

I'm just coming back to earlier points.

266

00:12:00.645 --> 00:12:04.805

We raised obviously about the extensive, um, uh, schedules

267

00:12:04.805 --> 00:12:06.405

and articles in the DCO, which allow

268

00:12:06.405 --> 00:12:07.565

for lopping and removal of trees.

269

00:12:08.505 --> 00:12:11.285

Uh, and just trying to one, understand if,

270

00:12:11.285 --> 00:12:13.525

if this be any existing routes will be

271

00:12:13.525 --> 00:12:15.205
protected going forwards,

272

00:12:16.345 --> 00:12:17.845
Uh, Neil Gates on behalf of the applicant.

273

00:12:18.425 --> 00:12:22.605
Um, so yes, I think you, you are correct in summation there.

274

00:12:22.785 --> 00:12:24.885
Um, I would sort of reiterate that

275

00:12:24.885 --> 00:12:27.125
that's following the approach of the mitigation hierarchy.

276

00:12:27.125 --> 00:12:30.125
Essentially, we've looked at potential features

277

00:12:30.305 --> 00:12:32.525
and we've avoided those potential features.

278

00:12:33.025 --> 00:12:36.965
Um, so therefore no further surveys really are required at

279

00:12:36.965 --> 00:12:38.565
this stage to determine

280

00:12:39.425 --> 00:12:42.085
if bats are present in a particular tree.

281

00:12:42.095 --> 00:12:43.365
We've assumed a worst case

282

00:12:43.755 --> 00:12:45.765
that if there are features present in that tree,

283

00:12:45.765 --> 00:12:47.765
which could support roosting bats, that

284

00:12:48.345 --> 00:12:49.805

it may have roosting bats.

285

00:12:49.805 --> 00:12:50.885

And that's the approach we've taken

286

00:12:50.985 --> 00:12:53.485

and we put it in appropriate avoidance measures.

287

00:12:57.155 --> 00:13:01.685

Okay. Um, I'll come, um, thank you.

288

00:13:01.705 --> 00:13:05.685

Uh, as is Wes Lindsay has raised some of these issues.

289

00:13:05.685 --> 00:13:07.805

Would we Lindsay like to come back on that point at all?

290

00:13:08.715 --> 00:13:10.525

Yeah. Alex Blake, west Lindsay District Council.

291

00:13:11.025 --> 00:13:12.605

Um, yeah, I think you summarized it

292

00:13:12.605 --> 00:13:14.165

between the, between the two of you.

293

00:13:14.315 --> 00:13:17.085

What, what I took away from that, that I suppose in a,

294

00:13:17.425 --> 00:13:19.525

in simple terms, it's all on the buffer, isn't it?

295

00:13:19.625 --> 00:13:21.005

If the buffer's right, we're fine.

296

00:13:21.005 --> 00:13:22.325

If it isn't, we've got a lack

297

00:13:22.325 --> 00:13:23.725

of data on what that impact might be.

298

00:13:24.185 --> 00:13:27.045

So if I've understood that rightly, um, yeah, um,

299

00:13:27.755 --> 00:13:28.925

look forward to being confirmed in writing.

300

00:13:28.985 --> 00:13:29.885

But yeah, if that's,

301

00:13:30.425 --> 00:13:31.645

if that's the approach, then that's fine.

302

00:13:31.705 --> 00:13:34.285

We, at least we've got clarity on that, so thank you. Right.

303

00:13:35.655 --> 00:13:37.845

Sorry, just Neil Gates on behalf of the applicant, again,

304

00:13:37.845 --> 00:13:40.365

just to come back on that point, uh, to Wes Lindsey, um,

305

00:13:40.425 --> 00:13:42.325

yes, I, we, we have picked up these

306

00:13:43.125 --> 00:13:45.205

responses in our deadline for responses as well,

307

00:13:45.265 --> 00:13:46.685

so I think there'll be more

308

00:13:46.685 --> 00:13:48.085

information coming forward at that point.

309

00:13:49.945 --> 00:13:51.525

Are there any other parties that would wish

310

00:13:51.525 --> 00:13:53.765

to comment on the, uh, uh, potential for barring?

311

00:13:58.225 --> 00:14:00.415

Thank you, sir. Liz Bert, 7,000 acres, yes,

312

00:14:00.665 --> 00:14:03.415

we're concerned about, as I understand it, um,

313

00:14:03.485 --> 00:14:07.135

this has only been assessed with in the order limits this

314

00:14:07.975 --> 00:14:12.575

activity, bat activity not outside the order limits, and

315

00:14:12.575 --> 00:14:15.055

therefore, in terms of movement

316

00:14:15.075 --> 00:14:19.945

and foraging, um, don't we need a wider area

317

00:14:20.055 --> 00:14:21.825

outside the order limits

318

00:14:21.965 --> 00:14:24.665

to accommodate movement bat activity.

319

00:14:24.835 --> 00:14:25.835

Thank you.

320

00:14:26.685 --> 00:14:27.705

Yes. I think, you know, we, we,

321

00:14:27.705 --> 00:14:28.745

we did raise a written question

322

00:14:28.745 --> 00:14:31.225

regarding bat commuting routes and foraging routes,

323

00:14:31.245 --> 00:14:33.145

and I think you have pro, to be fair, you have

324

00:14:33.385 --> 00:14:34.505

provided a written response to that.

325

00:14:34.505 --> 00:14:36.385

But if you'd like to comment in on that, Pam,

326

00:14:36.885 --> 00:14:38.185

Uh, Neil Gates on behalf of the applicant.

327

00:14:38.245 --> 00:14:39.865

So yes, that's, that's correct.

328

00:14:40.365 --> 00:14:43.665

Um, that the surveys have concentrated in the order limits

329

00:14:43.665 --> 00:14:46.425

because that's the zone of impact, essentially, uh,

330

00:14:46.425 --> 00:14:47.785

where effects may occur.

331

00:14:48.205 --> 00:14:50.305

Um, but obviously we are considering

332

00:14:50.605 --> 00:14:51.885

how the scheme is designed

333

00:14:51.985 --> 00:14:54.565

and maintaining connectivity throughout the scheme

334

00:14:54.585 --> 00:14:56.525

and within the wider landscape as well.

335

00:14:56.705 --> 00:15:00.405

So, um, where there are, where we have sort of noted

336

00:15:00.405 --> 00:15:04.125

through our surveys maybe, um, corridors

337

00:15:04.125 --> 00:15:05.725

or hedge rows linking up bits of woodland,

338

00:15:05.725 --> 00:15:08.805

which have higher area of back bat activity, um,

339

00:15:08.875 --> 00:15:11.605

then obviously we, we've looked at how that's designed

340

00:15:11.705 --> 00:15:14.485

and linked up to, um, hedges

341

00:15:14.485 --> 00:15:16.325

and areas of woodland outside of the site.

342

00:15:16.325 --> 00:15:19.085

So whilst we haven't surveyed specifically outside

343

00:15:19.085 --> 00:15:20.165

of the site for bats,

344

00:15:20.465 --> 00:15:22.565

we have considered the general movement

345

00:15:22.565 --> 00:15:24.165

of bats across the wider landscape.

346

00:15:25.225 --> 00:15:26.445

Um, that, that comes on nicely

347

00:15:26.545 --> 00:15:28.645

to my next question actually, which is that similarly

348

00:15:28.645 --> 00:15:31.005

for Otter and Water Bowl surveys, um,

349

00:15:31.705 --> 00:15:34.645

number were un undertaken outside of the site boundary.

350

00:15:34.665 --> 00:15:36.045

And it did seem that

351

00:15:36.045 --> 00:15:37.725

that was slightly contrary to current guidance,

352

00:15:40.035 --> 00:15:41.535

Uh, Neil Gates from behalf of the applicant.

353

00:15:42.115 --> 00:15:46.895

Um, so I think we, we, uh, uh, again, um, I think we've

354

00:15:47.055 --> 00:15:50.295

provided a response in more detail, um, a deadline free

355

00:15:50.315 --> 00:15:52.815

to this and further a deadline for, um,

356

00:15:52.875 --> 00:15:55.655

but in general, we used three sources of information

357

00:15:55.995 --> 00:15:59.455

to determine, uh, the presence of both Waterfall and TER

358

00:15:59.455 --> 00:16:00.895

and, uh, and mink as well.

359

00:16:00.915 --> 00:16:04.335

So collectively termed rip mammals, uh,

360

00:16:04.335 --> 00:16:06.775

within the law order limits and relevant zones of influence.

361

00:16:07.075 --> 00:16:09.135

So that's a, a wider desktop study.

362

00:16:09.435 --> 00:16:13.855

So we will, um, gather information from other sources,

363

00:16:13.855 --> 00:16:17.535

environmental record centers, third parties, et cetera, uh,

364

00:16:17.555 --> 00:16:20.215

to get an idea as to the overall distribution

365

00:16:20.215 --> 00:16:22.055
of the species in the, the local area.

366

00:16:22.635 --> 00:16:25.495
Uh, second to that, we, uh, collaborated

367

00:16:25.525 --> 00:16:27.535
with the other solar schemes in the area.

368

00:16:27.755 --> 00:16:30.855
So, uh, Gabe Burton, um, west Burton

369

00:16:30.955 --> 00:16:34.055
and Cotton as well, looking at, uh, their data sets,

370

00:16:34.055 --> 00:16:36.735
which they've collected over over the years as well.

371

00:16:36.935 --> 00:16:38.975
'cause obviously there are parts of the scheme

372

00:16:38.975 --> 00:16:40.575
that are shared potentially.

373

00:16:40.715 --> 00:16:42.855
So in particular the grid connection corridor.

374

00:16:43.355 --> 00:16:46.295
Um, but also they have surveyed other areas

375

00:16:46.435 --> 00:16:47.575
in relation to their scheme.

376

00:16:48.035 --> 00:16:51.175
Uh, and then thirdly, once we'd had a look at all

377

00:16:51.175 --> 00:16:54.615
of those elements of data, we looked at where do we need

378

00:16:54.615 --> 00:16:57.935

to undertake our specific surveys, IE are there data gaps

379

00:16:57.995 --> 00:17:01.495

or are there any other areas of, uh, information data

380

00:17:01.495 --> 00:17:03.335

that we need to inform our impact assessment.

381

00:17:03.435 --> 00:17:08.295

So those three sets of data really have, um, determined sort

382

00:17:08.295 --> 00:17:10.735

of the baseline for rip mammals.

383

00:17:10.875 --> 00:17:13.535

So that to a certain extent, answers the question as

384

00:17:13.535 --> 00:17:15.695

to why we haven't surveyed fully

385

00:17:15.725 --> 00:17:17.215

outside of the order limits.

386

00:17:17.875 --> 00:17:21.375

Um, second part of that really is looking at the suitability

387

00:17:21.435 --> 00:17:23.735

of some of the watercourse within the order limits.

388

00:17:24.075 --> 00:17:26.815

So the first stage of the survey approach is

389

00:17:26.815 --> 00:17:28.855

to look at the suitability of all watercourse,

390

00:17:29.355 --> 00:17:31.615

are they suitable for waterfall or not?

391

00:17:31.995 --> 00:17:33.055

Uh, and the vast majority

392

00:17:33.055 --> 00:17:34.975

of them within the order limits within the solar

393

00:17:35.605 --> 00:17:37.695

site itself essentially aren't.

394

00:17:38.155 --> 00:17:41.655

So therefore that again reduced the need to, um,

395

00:17:42.245 --> 00:17:45.375

look at sort of additional areas outside of the site.

396

00:17:45.955 --> 00:17:50.445

So I think, yeah, uh, in summary, um, a variety of data sets

397

00:17:51.425 --> 00:17:55.685

we looked at, which then considered the, uh,

398

00:17:55.865 --> 00:17:57.885

the overall survey area, um,

399

00:17:57.985 --> 00:18:00.885

and the proportionality in terms of the, the suitability

400

00:18:00.905 --> 00:18:02.005

of the habitat on site.

401

00:18:02.315 --> 00:18:04.765

Okay, thank you. Um, I do, I would remind the applicant

402

00:18:04.765 --> 00:18:06.845

that the environment agency has, um, highlighted

403

00:18:06.845 --> 00:18:08.445

that they has been no, uh,

404

00:18:08.565 --> 00:18:12.165

riparian mammal surveys done on the, uh, cable route.

405

00:18:12.465 --> 00:18:14.205

Uh, appreciate because you have yet

406

00:18:14.205 --> 00:18:16.485

to define the exact location of your cable route,

407

00:18:16.485 --> 00:18:18.725

but just want a reminder that that piece

408

00:18:18.725 --> 00:18:20.685

of work will obviously require their consent anyway. Uh,

409

00:18:20.685 --> 00:18:22.725

Neil Gates on behalf of the applicant, so just to clarify,

410

00:18:23.305 --> 00:18:26.805

whilst we have an undertaken specific surveys,

411

00:18:26.805 --> 00:18:29.965

there is data from third party surveys along the grid

412

00:18:29.965 --> 00:18:33.485

connection corridor and where appropriate, we ground truth

413

00:18:33.485 --> 00:18:35.685

to that to say, has the condition

414

00:18:35.685 --> 00:18:38.965

of the watercourse changed over that intervening time period

415

00:18:39.025 --> 00:18:40.085

to suggest that it's no longer

416

00:18:40.365 --> 00:18:41.645

suitable or it may become suitable?

417

00:18:41.945 --> 00:18:45.645

So there is survey data available

418

00:18:45.785 --> 00:18:47.205

and presented in the impact assessment.

419

00:18:47.315 --> 00:18:49.605

It's just that we didn't personally collect it.

420

00:18:50.355 --> 00:18:53.685

Okay. Thank you. Uh, yes, thanks

421

00:18:53.755 --> 00:18:54.845

Alex, come for the applicant.

422

00:18:54.915 --> 00:18:57.765

Just to, um, when you mentioned the point about the, um,

423

00:18:57.995 --> 00:18:59.605

bats and the buffers around trees in the context

424

00:18:59.625 --> 00:19:02.765

of Article 39, it's quite a useful example

425

00:19:02.765 --> 00:19:05.445

because it, it demonstrates how that power would be subject

426

00:19:05.625 --> 00:19:07.645

to the requirements and the Kemp.

427

00:19:07.645 --> 00:19:09.125

So for example, the Kemp,

428

00:19:09.225 --> 00:19:11.525

the Construction Environmental Management Plan has

429

00:19:11.525 --> 00:19:13.365

that buffer that, um, Mr. Gates is referred

430

00:19:13.365 --> 00:19:14.565

to in the 15 meters

431

00:19:14.565 --> 00:19:18.165

and then sets out that if precautionary work has to be done

432

00:19:18.345 --> 00:19:20.445

or any sort of work had to be done within that buffer,

433

00:19:20.445 --> 00:19:22.125
that a precautionary working method

434

00:19:22.125 --> 00:19:23.285
statement will be provided.

435

00:19:23.665 --> 00:19:25.005
Um, and so it sets up what would happen.

436

00:19:25.065 --> 00:19:28.005
So that power in 39 is, is exercise subject

437

00:19:28.065 --> 00:19:30.845
to those controls that are secured by the requirements.

438

00:19:31.225 --> 00:19:33.325
So hopefully that just adds a bit of clarity to

439

00:19:33.325 --> 00:19:35.165
that early discussion, but it was just quite a useful

440

00:19:35.435 --> 00:19:38.325
example, I suppose, of, of how that might work in practice.

441

00:19:38.455 --> 00:19:39.455
Thank you. Thanks.

442

00:19:40.705 --> 00:19:44.765
Um, would, um, any of the local authorities initially like

443

00:19:44.765 --> 00:19:46.765
to come in on any of those points on the, uh,

444

00:19:47.045 --> 00:19:49.645
wildlife species and any other representatives in the room?

445

00:19:53.495 --> 00:19:55.115
It scar 7,000 acres, um,

446

00:19:55.115 --> 00:19:56.795
just from doing a bit of basic research.

447

00:19:56.975 --> 00:20:00.915
So we've obviously come across articles, um, in the applied,

448

00:20:01.015 --> 00:20:03.875
uh, journal, journal of Applied Ecology where, um,

449

00:20:04.455 --> 00:20:07.275
recent research has found, um, renewable energies, um,

450

00:20:07.905 --> 00:20:12.355
have affected, um, about movements in terms of flight and,

451

00:20:12.415 --> 00:20:15.435
and, and feeding, um, around ground mounted solar farms.

452

00:20:15.435 --> 00:20:18.075
And obviously this is recent research and so

453

00:20:18.075 --> 00:20:21.555
therefore, um, I just wondered if the applicant had also

454

00:20:22.245 --> 00:20:25.155
taken that into consideration, um,

455

00:20:25.895 --> 00:20:27.875
and the design of the scheme, um,

456

00:20:27.875 --> 00:20:31.835
because obviously research in this matter is emerging, so,

457

00:20:32.015 --> 00:20:35.155
um, we just want it, um, this to be considered.

458

00:20:35.155 --> 00:20:36.155
Thank you.

459

00:20:39.475 --> 00:20:41.465

Would the applicant like to come back on that comment,

460

00:20:41.845 --> 00:20:43.305

Uh, Neil Gate on behalf the applicant?

461

00:20:43.685 --> 00:20:47.845

Um, so yes, uh, in chapter nine, which is, uh,

462

00:20:48.245 --> 00:20:51.045

a PP 0 4 0, uh, we, we do reference

463

00:20:51.045 --> 00:20:53.485

that research in our impact assessment.

464

00:20:53.745 --> 00:20:55.245

Uh, we have provided, again,

465

00:20:55.245 --> 00:20:56.445

a bit more further clarification,

466

00:20:56.485 --> 00:20:58.245

I think a deadline three in our, uh,

467

00:20:58.245 --> 00:21:00.045

written responses to yourself.

468

00:21:00.625 --> 00:21:03.405

Um, I think sort of the main things to to point out are,

469

00:21:03.785 --> 00:21:07.325

yes, fully accept it's an, an emerging sort of situation.

470

00:21:07.665 --> 00:21:12.125

Um, the, the monitoring, um, reported in those studies,

471

00:21:12.465 --> 00:21:16.925

uh, are referenced is, is on smaller scale schemes, um,

472

00:21:17.015 --> 00:21:20.165

areas where there, there hasn't been significant habitat

473

00:21:20.165 --> 00:21:21.605
enhancements in terms of grass

474

00:21:21.625 --> 00:21:25.085
and creation, uh, improvements to hedge rows, buffers,

475

00:21:25.085 --> 00:21:27.925
those types of things which are really important for sort

476

00:21:27.925 --> 00:21:29.925
of maintaining connectivity for bats

477

00:21:30.105 --> 00:21:33.245
and also sort of providing food resources as well.

478

00:21:33.745 --> 00:21:37.845
So, um, yeah, uh, we do acknowledge those studies, um,

479

00:21:38.025 --> 00:21:39.365
and sort of set out by,

480

00:21:39.425 --> 00:21:41.965
we don't necessarily think they're comparable in

481

00:21:41.965 --> 00:21:43.005
all, all instances.

482

00:21:44.375 --> 00:21:47.205
Thank you. Okay.

483

00:21:47.205 --> 00:21:49.045
Moving, moving on to the subject of, of, uh,

484

00:21:49.085 --> 00:21:50.525
biodiversity net gain.

485

00:21:50.585 --> 00:21:54.045
Now, um, the applicant's assessment

486

00:21:54.105 --> 00:21:58.205

of biodiversity net gain is large.

487

00:21:59.425 --> 00:22:01.605

Um, but their commitment in the, um,

488

00:22:01.735 --> 00:22:04.565

legal documentation in DCO appears to allude

489

00:22:04.565 --> 00:22:05.885

to the minimum of 10%.

490

00:22:07.025 --> 00:22:11.325

The scheme is predicted to result in a net gain of 64.55%

491

00:22:11.325 --> 00:22:12.605

of area based habitats.

492

00:22:13.505 --> 00:22:17.405

Um, 17.33% of hydro units

493

00:22:18.065 --> 00:22:21.245

and 22.94% for watercourse units.

494

00:22:22.025 --> 00:22:24.285

And then what I'm trying to get to is it's

495

00:22:24.385 --> 00:22:27.245

how does this provision of biodiversity net gain align

496

00:22:27.245 --> 00:22:29.685

to the biodiversity impacts that are lost at the site

497

00:22:30.145 --> 00:22:32.205

and specifically to those species

498

00:22:32.235 --> 00:22:35.885

that are relying on existing biodiversity provision?

499

00:22:35.885 --> 00:22:37.525

So what I'm trying to say there is a couple things I I,

500

00:22:37.525 --> 00:22:40.405

I'd really would like to know what's the true

501

00:22:40.405 --> 00:22:42.165

biodiversity net gain at this site?

502

00:22:42.425 --> 00:22:45.165

How much of it is new habitat?

503

00:22:45.585 --> 00:22:47.645

How much of it is the potential grassland that's going

504

00:22:47.645 --> 00:22:51.085

to be under the panels, if any, how much of the old is lost?

505

00:22:51.215 --> 00:22:55.445

Appreciate. And then finally, are we replacing like

506

00:22:55.445 --> 00:22:57.085

for like, or are we creating a habitat?

507

00:22:57.085 --> 00:22:58.965

Are we losing a habitat for potentially something like a

508

00:22:58.985 --> 00:23:01.245

Skylar and gaining it for something like a golden eagle?

509

00:23:01.385 --> 00:23:04.165

You know, what, what's, what's happening in reality

510

00:23:04.165 --> 00:23:07.925

with the biodiversity habitat units at this site?

511

00:23:13.335 --> 00:23:16.595

Um, Alexis come the applicant perhaps if I pick up at the

512

00:23:16.595 --> 00:23:19.635

end on the legal bit, but, um, Mr. Gates can answer in part,

513

00:23:19.635 --> 00:23:21.035

but we've also got our specific B

514

00:23:21.035 --> 00:23:23.075
and g expert, Dr. Lewis Deacon, um,

515

00:23:23.075 --> 00:23:25.395
who's a technical director at ACOM online as well.

516

00:23:25.415 --> 00:23:28.075
So it may be a bit of a okay, three-way effort.

517

00:23:28.385 --> 00:23:32.455
Okay, thank you. Uh, so Neil Gates on behalf

518

00:23:32.455 --> 00:23:34.535
of the applicant, so maybe if I pick up some of the sort

519

00:23:34.535 --> 00:23:36.375
of broader points and then I'll pass over

520

00:23:36.395 --> 00:23:37.895
to my colleague, um, Dr.

521

00:23:37.995 --> 00:23:39.615
Deacon who's on online for us.

522

00:23:40.195 --> 00:23:43.615
Um, so in terms of the, the overall approach

523

00:23:43.635 --> 00:23:48.405
to biodiversity net gain, um, it, it is a separate process

524

00:23:48.505 --> 00:23:50.285
and we've considered it as a separate process

525

00:23:50.505 --> 00:23:53.325
to identify an appropriate mitigation for impacts

526

00:23:53.325 --> 00:23:54.565
that we may have on the scheme.

527

00:23:55.265 --> 00:24:00.205

So, um, for example, where we may have, um, we may want

528

00:24:00.205 --> 00:24:02.885

to put, put a buffer in place, uh, for example,

529

00:24:03.065 --> 00:24:06.205

to avoid an impact on an existing retained habitat feature,

530

00:24:06.325 --> 00:24:09.485

a hedge or woodland, for example, uh, that buffer is there.

531

00:24:09.945 --> 00:24:12.085

Um, but actually through the,

532

00:24:12.105 --> 00:24:13.565

the measures in biodiversity net gain,

533

00:24:13.565 --> 00:24:15.205

we can actually create a better quality

534

00:24:15.355 --> 00:24:16.685

habitat within that buffer.

535

00:24:17.105 --> 00:24:19.605

Uh, so the mitigation may be the buffer, uh,

536

00:24:19.605 --> 00:24:21.605

the additional benefits that may come out of it

537

00:24:22.115 --> 00:24:24.085

that may be delivered through the biodiversity net game.

538

00:24:24.425 --> 00:24:29.085

Um, but in terms of, uh, making sure that it all aligns

539

00:24:29.085 --> 00:24:30.365

with the priorities locally.

540

00:24:30.985 --> 00:24:34.525

So, uh, again, the strategy for that, uh, we, we,

541

00:24:34.525 --> 00:24:36.325

we have considered sort of all of the,

542

00:24:36.385 --> 00:24:38.925

the local priority species and habitats as well

543

00:24:38.925 --> 00:24:42.205

and how they line up strategically within the, uh,

544

00:24:42.305 --> 00:24:43.485

within the local area.

545

00:24:43.985 --> 00:24:45.085

Can I just come back on that point?

546

00:24:45.085 --> 00:24:47.205

Sorry, I'm not quite clear if,

547

00:24:47.225 --> 00:24:48.925

if you create a buffer from say, woodland.

548

00:24:48.985 --> 00:24:50.165

Let, let's go back to the subject

549

00:24:50.165 --> 00:24:51.205

we were talking about earlier bats.

550

00:24:51.205 --> 00:24:53.165

So we don't know if there's bats in woodland or not.

551

00:24:53.475 --> 00:24:56.125

What you're proposing to do is create a buffer to ensure

552

00:24:56.125 --> 00:24:58.325

that you don't come into conflict with those bats.

553

00:24:58.865 --> 00:25:03.085

If you then decide that that buffer is gonna be a site

554

00:25:03.085 --> 00:25:04.365
of biodiversity net gain,

555

00:25:04.365 --> 00:25:06.725
and you're gonna improve the habitat and that buffer,

556

00:25:07.145 --> 00:25:09.605
and then that becomes a site for bats

557

00:25:10.155 --> 00:25:11.525
because trees grow there

558

00:25:11.525 --> 00:25:14.885
or some other species, you've lost your buffer.

559

00:25:15.075 --> 00:25:17.565
It's now up against your operational site, isn't it?

560

00:25:20.055 --> 00:25:21.925
Sorry, Neil Gates for the applicant.

561

00:25:22.265 --> 00:25:26.405
Um, I, I think I'm just trying to set out that the,

562

00:25:26.405 --> 00:25:30.125
the mitigation measures are essentially separate to the, uh,

563

00:25:30.315 --> 00:25:32.485
what, what we're providing as biodiversity net gain,

564

00:25:32.665 --> 00:25:35.285
but I'm, I can pass over to my colleague, Dr.

565

00:25:35.305 --> 00:25:37.405
Deacon to discuss in further detail.

566

00:25:37.575 --> 00:25:40.005
Thank you. Uh, Dr.

567

00:25:40.005 --> 00:25:42.245

Deacon, would you like to come in now, if that's okay?

568

00:25:42.755 --> 00:25:45.565

Yeah. Lewis Deacon for the applicant just regarding that,

569

00:25:45.625 --> 00:25:50.045

um, point that you raised in response to Mr. Gates question.

570

00:25:50.265 --> 00:25:51.765

Uh, or, or response, sorry.

571

00:25:52.265 --> 00:25:57.125

The habitats that are in provision in the buffer zone are,

572

00:25:57.305 --> 00:26:00.525

are not habitats that would support roosting bats.

573

00:26:00.525 --> 00:26:03.525

They're habitats that would potentially support, um,

574

00:26:03.755 --> 00:26:07.005

more commuting and foraging style habitats.

575

00:26:07.005 --> 00:26:09.725

So linking in with the biodiversity net gain report,

576

00:26:09.725 --> 00:26:12.805

these are woodland and, and tree in grass

577

00:26:12.825 --> 00:26:16.045

and edge habitats, so they would be maintained

578

00:26:16.505 --> 00:26:17.725

and not allow trees

579

00:26:17.725 --> 00:26:19.605

to grow within those, those buffer zones.

580

00:26:19.605 --> 00:26:21.125

So they're protecting broker feature

581

00:26:21.705 --> 00:26:23.965

and the associated biodiversity points

582

00:26:24.835 --> 00:26:28.445

regarding your first question, um, around

583

00:26:28.755 --> 00:26:31.205

what are the true gains on the site?

584

00:26:31.985 --> 00:26:36.055

Um, the site in terms of, of area is retaining

585

00:26:36.355 --> 00:26:39.935

around 50 hectares of, of habitat on site.

586

00:26:40.525 --> 00:26:45.445

It's then looking to create, um, over a thousand hectares

587

00:26:45.445 --> 00:26:46.925

of, of new habitat.

588

00:26:46.985 --> 00:26:49.925

And then also some in small level enhancements of

589

00:26:50.565 --> 00:26:52.045

retained habitat.

590

00:26:52.345 --> 00:26:56.685

Um, that links into your point around replacement

591

00:26:56.685 --> 00:26:59.605

of habitats that may be able to support other species.

592

00:26:59.985 --> 00:27:01.205

And we have

593

00:27:02.445 --> 00:27:05.205

provided protection around some habitats that are marked

594

00:27:05.225 --> 00:27:07.245

as irreplaceable in the metric.

595

00:27:07.625 --> 00:27:09.285

So those are the veteran trees on site

596

00:27:09.285 --> 00:27:12.085

that have been discussed previously, as well as

597

00:27:12.675 --> 00:27:15.445

enhancing the planting around the boundaries of the site,

598

00:27:15.985 --> 00:27:19.445

um, both in terms of areas of woodland, um,

599

00:27:19.625 --> 00:27:22.405

and areas of neutral grassland.

600

00:27:22.465 --> 00:27:25.925

And this is try and replicate the, um, the loss

601

00:27:26.105 --> 00:27:28.525

of the arable field margins across the site.

602

00:27:30.395 --> 00:27:32.165

Okay, thank you. Just to come back on that point

603

00:27:32.235 --> 00:27:34.605

that you just raised, uh, two things I, one is

604

00:27:35.545 --> 00:27:36.565

we were describing the buffer

605

00:27:36.745 --> 00:27:38.525

and that you, I alluded to bats

606

00:27:38.525 --> 00:27:39.725

because we were talking about bats earlier,

607

00:27:39.725 --> 00:27:40.845

but it doesn't have to be bats.

608

00:27:40.845 --> 00:27:43.525

What, what I'm conscious of, if we designate a buffer

609

00:27:43.705 --> 00:27:46.805

for any wildlife species, so whatever you are going

610

00:27:46.805 --> 00:27:49.925

to create in your habitat, in your buffer strip

611

00:27:49.945 --> 00:27:53.685

as your new habitat, how are you gonna ensure

612

00:27:54.675 --> 00:27:57.485

that, whether that's, as you say, not bats?

613

00:27:57.565 --> 00:27:59.165

'cause you're gonna ensure trees don't grow there,

614

00:27:59.225 --> 00:28:01.605

but whether that's otters or water bowls

615

00:28:01.605 --> 00:28:04.725

or whatever, whatever, um, protected species it may take

616

00:28:04.785 --> 00:28:08.885

to occupy your buffer, if that species requires a buffer,

617

00:28:09.825 --> 00:28:12.085

I'm conscious that it's now up against your operational

618

00:28:12.085 --> 00:28:14.645

plant and it no longer is separated

619

00:28:14.745 --> 00:28:16.685

and might get caught up in your operational

620

00:28:18.765 --> 00:28:19.765

Maintenance. So

621

00:28:19.765 --> 00:28:22.255

I, I think, um, Mr. Gates may come in for part

622

00:28:22.255 --> 00:28:25.415

of this response, but from a BNG perspective,

623

00:28:26.235 --> 00:28:28.575

the edge habitats around the site,

624

00:28:28.575 --> 00:28:31.735

which are the slightly more naturalized ones, as well

625

00:28:31.735 --> 00:28:35.775

as those in the proposed biodiversity zones are

626

00:28:36.475 --> 00:28:38.695

trying to replicate the current

627

00:28:39.335 --> 00:28:40.775

albu field margins around the site.

628

00:28:40.795 --> 00:28:44.215

So it should not cause any change to, um, species

629

00:28:44.775 --> 00:28:46.295

directly using that area.

630

00:28:46.475 --> 00:28:49.295

Um, Mr. Gates may rule to come into another point on that,

631

00:28:51.475 --> 00:28:52.855

Uh, Neil Gates on behalf of the applicant.

632

00:28:52.995 --> 00:28:57.055

Um, yes, that, that's, that's essentially it.

633

00:28:57.215 --> 00:29:00.495

I mean we, um, when we're looking at the design parameters

634

00:29:00.675 --> 00:29:05.375

for the scheme, um, we set out as ecologists, um, all

635

00:29:05.375 --> 00:29:08.815

of the sort of protective distances, buffers from features

636

00:29:08.815 --> 00:29:13.495

that we feel are necessary, um, that that is just there so

637

00:29:13.495 --> 00:29:16.815

that there isn't, um, disturbance during construction

638

00:29:16.835 --> 00:29:19.295

or impacts during just construction, for example.

639

00:29:19.835 --> 00:29:23.055

Um, but that buffer can also be used

640

00:29:23.115 --> 00:29:25.335

for other benefits for biodiversity.

641

00:29:25.715 --> 00:29:30.295

So if we create grassland in there, um, yes, it may be used

642

00:29:30.295 --> 00:29:32.495

by otters, it may be used by foraging bats,

643

00:29:32.495 --> 00:29:33.895

and it may mean that they come closer

644

00:29:33.915 --> 00:29:35.295

to the operational bits of the scheme.

645

00:29:35.635 --> 00:29:39.975

But, um, those buffers are generally there for protection

646

00:29:39.975 --> 00:29:42.565

during construction sort of purposes so

647

00:29:42.565 --> 00:29:45.685

that there's no disturbance incursion into sort

648

00:29:45.685 --> 00:29:46.845

of existing habitats.

649

00:29:47.065 --> 00:29:49.205

So you've got your security fence,

650

00:29:49.205 --> 00:29:50.205

you've got your nice buffer,

651

00:29:50.265 --> 00:29:54.005

you've got your retained hedge row, um, that means that, uh,

652

00:29:54.005 --> 00:29:55.765

that retained hedge row is protected.

653

00:29:56.185 --> 00:29:59.205

Um, and we can also sort of provide benefits in terms of,

654

00:29:59.745 --> 00:30:02.445

um, sort of allowing that hedge to become bigger

655

00:30:02.465 --> 00:30:05.805

and better, which has benefits for wider biodiversity, um,

656

00:30:06.225 --> 00:30:10.165

but uh, it, it won't, um, influence

657

00:30:10.425 --> 00:30:12.965

or affect any other buffers that we need

658

00:30:13.025 --> 00:30:14.725

for protected species, if that makes sense.

659

00:30:15.375 --> 00:30:18.285

Thank you. Um, just to come on to the point that, that Dr.

660

00:30:18.285 --> 00:30:21.205

Deacon, I think you raised during your, uh, feedback was

661

00:30:21.825 --> 00:30:24.125

you were alluding to the scheme providing over a thousand

662

00:30:24.125 --> 00:30:25.965

hectares of new habitat.

663

00:30:26.805 --> 00:30:29.765

I was trying to understand from your, uh, appraisal of

664

00:30:29.765 --> 00:30:33.405

that is how much of that is principally the land under any

665

00:30:33.405 --> 00:30:35.045

of the solar panels at the site?

666

00:30:35.825 --> 00:30:38.085

And therefore, going back to my original question was

667

00:30:38.105 --> 00:30:41.805

how will this biodiversity provision if it is that compared

668

00:30:41.805 --> 00:30:45.325

to the biodiversity that's lost from your existing arable

669

00:30:45.325 --> 00:30:48.045

fields site currently is.

670

00:30:50.695 --> 00:30:52.805

Thank you. Um, Lewis Deacon for the applicant.

671

00:30:53.145 --> 00:30:57.165

So under the panels themselves following standard guidance

672

00:30:57.425 --> 00:31:01.765

and also, um, guidance linked to, um, from the RSPB,

673

00:31:02.265 --> 00:31:07.085

we have proposed modified brass land to, to allow, um,

674

00:31:07.635 --> 00:31:12.165

co-location of both habitat and, um, solar panels.

675

00:31:12.345 --> 00:31:15.845

And this is, uh, pro vided at, uh, poor condition

676

00:31:16.145 --> 00:31:17.645

and that's to reflect the impacts of,

677

00:31:17.825 --> 00:31:21.275

of shading on the habitat around the edges.

678

00:31:21.495 --> 00:31:22.795

Um, as I discussed

679

00:31:22.795 --> 00:31:26.075

before, we've got, uh, neutral grassland, which is, um,

680

00:31:26.385 --> 00:31:30.235

also under the, um, tower root where the,

681

00:31:30.235 --> 00:31:31.915

where there is allowed to be slightly

682

00:31:32.465 --> 00:31:34.755

more diverse grassland growing

683

00:31:35.635 --> 00:31:39.495

and our trading rule balance, um, as part of the assessment

684

00:31:40.455 --> 00:31:43.175

demonstrates from a biodiversity net gain point of view

685

00:31:43.645 --> 00:31:48.575

that the provisions for arable land, um, have been covered

686

00:31:48.595 --> 00:31:52.575

and offset by the provision of the grassland, um,

687

00:31:52.755 --> 00:31:53.775

across the site.

688

00:31:54.315 --> 00:31:57.775

Um, there is a small, um, difference in that

689

00:31:57.775 --> 00:32:00.215

and that's linked to the arable field margins.

690

00:32:00.315 --> 00:32:04.855

Um, but as I previously discussed, this is, um, uh,

691

00:32:05.005 --> 00:32:06.615

discrepancy in this sort of function of

692

00:32:06.615 --> 00:32:09.975

that habitat is replicated by both the, the woodland,

693

00:32:10.115 --> 00:32:13.015

the wooden edge and the grass, the longer neutral grass

694

00:32:13.035 --> 00:32:14.935

and around the edge of the site.

695

00:32:15.315 --> 00:32:18.015

Um, and that's been, um, accepted by LCC

696

00:32:18.115 --> 00:32:20.575

and um, that provision is

697

00:32:21.175 --> 00:32:24.535

detailed within paragraph 3.3 0.2 of our BNG report

698

00:32:24.535 --> 00:32:26.175

where it talks about that, those trading rules

699

00:32:26.265 --> 00:32:27.815

associated with that habitat type.

700

00:32:30.545 --> 00:32:33.875

Okay, thank you. Um, finally, my last part

701

00:32:33.875 --> 00:32:34.875

of the question, and I'll come to the room

702

00:32:34.875 --> 00:32:36.915

after that on biodiversity, not

703

00:32:36.945 --> 00:32:38.435
that gain is moving to yourself.

704

00:32:38.635 --> 00:32:41.525
I think Mrs. Coleman now, uh, understanding

705

00:32:41.525 --> 00:32:45.965
how the provision is secured within the DCO for this BNG.

706

00:32:46.385 --> 00:32:47.485
Uh, and my,

707

00:32:47.585 --> 00:32:50.245
my understanding is the mechanism is the ongoing maintenance

708

00:32:50.435 --> 00:32:51.845
through the framework LAMP

709

00:32:52.425 --> 00:32:54.685
and secured by DDCO requirements seven.

710

00:32:54.705 --> 00:32:56.245
But can you just clarify if that's,

711

00:32:56.305 --> 00:32:57.445
if I understand that correctly?

712

00:32:57.815 --> 00:33:00.205
Thank you, sir. Alexis Cole, the applicant, um,

713

00:33:00.515 --> 00:33:02.845
it's in effect a combination of requirements seven

714

00:33:02.945 --> 00:33:07.765
and eight, um, because I suppose in effect, um, the planting

715

00:33:07.765 --> 00:33:09.045
that will deliver the biodiversity

716

00:33:09.065 --> 00:33:11.685
and gain is included in the lamp.

717

00:33:11.785 --> 00:33:14.645
So that's secured and required to be implemented

718

00:33:14.645 --> 00:33:16.245
and maintained under requirement seven.

719

00:33:16.665 --> 00:33:20.485
We then have a specific biodiversity net gain requirement,

720

00:33:20.485 --> 00:33:21.485
which is requirement eight,

721

00:33:21.865 --> 00:33:26.045
and that requires us to, um, assess, uh, sorry, submit, um,

722

00:33:26.045 --> 00:33:27.805
the biodiversity net gain strategy

723

00:33:27.905 --> 00:33:30.325
and that must be, um, substantially in accordance

724

00:33:30.325 --> 00:33:33.805
with the outline landscape and ecological measure plan.

725

00:33:33.805 --> 00:33:34.965
So it's sort of linking to that.

726

00:33:35.345 --> 00:33:38.205
And then if you look in the, um, uh, uh, framework,

727

00:33:39.195 --> 00:33:43.445
framework out, um, outlier framework, um,

728

00:33:44.555 --> 00:33:48.765
landscape ecology management plan, um, paragraph 4.6 0.2,

729

00:33:48.985 --> 00:33:52.685

so it's page 12 of the document that then has, um,

730

00:33:53.465 --> 00:33:54.925

the commitment in there which says,

731

00:33:55.085 --> 00:33:57.725

although the requirement for a minimum 10% gain in

732

00:33:57.725 --> 00:34:00.725

biodiversity for NIPS will not become mandatory until 2025,

733

00:34:00.745 --> 00:34:03.285

the applicant is committed to achieving at least this level

734

00:34:03.285 --> 00:34:06.165

of net gain in biodiversity in accordance with the terms

735

00:34:06.305 --> 00:34:08.405

of the biodiversity net gain report

736

00:34:08.405 --> 00:34:09.605

submitted with the application.

737

00:34:09.985 --> 00:34:13.285

So it's via that way that, that the planting, so

738

00:34:13.805 --> 00:34:15.805

I suppose they all look together in that the divided,

739

00:34:16.665 --> 00:34:19.205

the BNG assessment we've done is obviously based on the

740

00:34:19.365 --> 00:34:21.885

planting that we've secured via the LE

741

00:34:22.105 --> 00:34:24.365

and the those two requirements secure that.

742

00:34:24.425 --> 00:34:26.965

And eight, I suppose is specifically just confirming the

743

00:34:26.965 --> 00:34:29.965

actual, um, percentage and assessment around that.

744

00:34:30.505 --> 00:34:33.765

And the approach mirrors the approach taken in the gate

745

00:34:33.825 --> 00:34:37.485

Burton, um, order and the lamp in that one as well. Okay,

746

00:34:37.485 --> 00:34:38.485

Thank you. Um,

747

00:34:38.485 --> 00:34:40.445

would any parties in the room like

748

00:34:40.445 --> 00:34:43.285

to make any comments on the issue we've just raised?

749

00:34:43.745 --> 00:34:46.165

Uh, oh, I can go to, uh, linker first please.

750

00:34:46.495 --> 00:34:48.565

Thank you, sir. Stephanie Hall link to county council.

751

00:34:48.585 --> 00:34:51.165

So we'd picked up the same point, uh, in terms of

752

00:34:51.165 --> 00:34:53.165

what is secured and what is not secured.

753

00:34:53.545 --> 00:34:56.445

Our reading of the DCA was it is at present

754

00:34:56.705 --> 00:34:59.885

and requirement eight is that the length is secured

755

00:35:00.425 --> 00:35:03.085

and in the length there is a reference to achieving

756

00:35:03.665 --> 00:35:04.885

at least 10%.

757

00:35:05.585 --> 00:35:07.005

And then there's a reference to

758

00:35:07.035 --> 00:35:08.685

that being done in accordance

759

00:35:08.685 --> 00:35:11.565

with the biodiversity net gain, uh, report.

760

00:35:12.105 --> 00:35:14.765

The biodiversity net gain report then does have some

761

00:35:14.925 --> 00:35:17.525

references to higher percentages, but it's the lemp

762

00:35:17.585 --> 00:35:21.205

and the lower 10% that we say at the moment would be

763

00:35:21.275 --> 00:35:22.405

what is secured.

764

00:35:22.825 --> 00:35:25.525

And it is that that should feed into the planning balance.

765

00:35:26.265 --> 00:35:28.645

And if, and I've made this submission as a number

766

00:35:28.665 --> 00:35:32.245

of other DCO hearings, if the applicant wishes

767

00:35:32.305 --> 00:35:34.525

to have the benefit of the higher percentage in the

768

00:35:34.525 --> 00:35:37.605

biodiversity net gain report, then that report either needs

769

00:35:37.605 --> 00:35:39.445

to be secured or the percentage needs

770

00:35:39.445 --> 00:35:41.685

to be drawn down within the requirements itself.

771

00:35:42.025 --> 00:35:44.725

And it was the latter that the applicant OP offered,

772

00:35:44.905 --> 00:35:45.925

um, at cotton.

773

00:35:46.305 --> 00:35:49.765

So yes, a different option was taken by other applicants

774

00:35:49.765 --> 00:35:53.125

and other dcas, but if the applicant wants the benefit in

775

00:35:53.125 --> 00:35:55.045

the planning balance, it needs to be secured.

776

00:35:55.335 --> 00:35:56.605

There are two routes to that

777

00:35:57.265 --> 00:35:59.045

and um, it's up to the applicant,

778

00:35:59.065 --> 00:36:01.805

but obviously it's, um, what flows from

779

00:36:01.805 --> 00:36:03.645

that is the input into the planning balance

780

00:36:03.665 --> 00:36:05.565

as far as we are concerned. Thank you, sir.

781

00:36:05.695 --> 00:36:07.605

Thank you for that. Uh, seek

782

00:36:07.605 --> 00:36:09.085

to reaffirm what my thoughts were.

783

00:36:09.145 --> 00:36:10.845

Uh, are there any other parties in the room

784

00:36:10.845 --> 00:36:12.485

before we go back to the applicant comment,

785

00:36:15.355 --> 00:36:16.355

7,000 acres? Yes.

786

00:36:16.355 --> 00:36:19.795

Our, uh, reflection on, on this was that in terms of,

787

00:36:21.015 --> 00:36:25.555

um, a time lag that might occur in, in practice, um,

788

00:36:26.225 --> 00:36:30.715

obviously, um, hedge rows and trees will be removed

789

00:36:31.295 --> 00:36:33.115

and therefore there's a potential

790

00:36:33.275 --> 00:36:37.715

and loss of land potential loss there of habitats

791

00:36:37.815 --> 00:36:42.635

and biodiversity and then, um, construction

792

00:36:42.695 --> 00:36:44.755

and time and what have you and disturbance

793

00:36:45.335 --> 00:36:47.955

and then new planting placed in.

794

00:36:47.955 --> 00:36:49.595

And that takes a time to establish.

795

00:36:49.735 --> 00:36:53.795

So in that time period that we have between the old

796

00:36:53.795 --> 00:36:54.875

and the new, if you like,

797

00:36:54.975 --> 00:36:57.835

and the change in that landscape, there seems

798

00:36:57.835 --> 00:37:01.075

to be there could be a potentially a, a loss

799

00:37:01.895 --> 00:37:02.955

of biodiversity

800

00:37:03.575 --> 00:37:05.715

and that could then equate to a permanent loss.

801

00:37:06.335 --> 00:37:07.755

One doesn't know.

802

00:37:08.375 --> 00:37:10.955

So what, how, how does the applicant address

803

00:37:10.985 --> 00:37:12.595

that issue? Thank you.

804

00:37:12.885 --> 00:37:14.915

Thank you. Um, would the applicant like

805

00:37:14.915 --> 00:37:18.275

to come back on the first point of, um, the, the securing

806

00:37:18.275 --> 00:37:19.515

of the, uh, biodiversity

807

00:37:19.955 --> 00:37:22.075

and the second point of the transient loss

808

00:37:22.075 --> 00:37:23.355

during the construction process?

809

00:37:23.965 --> 00:37:26.075

Thank you, sir. Alexis Coleman for the applicant.

810

00:37:26.455 --> 00:37:29.835

Um, so the current position is, is as, um,

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00:37:29.895 --> 00:37:32.395

Ms. Hall sets out, and we agree with that analysis.

812

00:37:32.555 --> 00:37:35.195

I, there's a slight, some slight nuances in that the, um,

813

00:37:35.575 --> 00:37:38.035

OEM references, um, the applicant is committed

814

00:37:38.035 --> 00:37:39.515

to achieving at least this level.

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00:37:39.975 --> 00:37:42.235

Um, but there are, um,

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00:37:43.145 --> 00:37:45.875

there's some uncertainty in terms of just the nuances

817

00:37:45.875 --> 00:37:49.035

around detail design also, um, each time the metric changes

818

00:37:49.185 --> 00:37:51.595

that that has an impact on the percentages,

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00:37:51.655 --> 00:37:53.075

the trading rules, that sort of thing.

820

00:37:53.335 --> 00:37:56.675

So it's, we don't want to commit to something

821

00:37:56.675 --> 00:37:57.995

that we then can't deliver on.

822

00:37:58.255 --> 00:38:00.675

Um, so that's why the requirement is drafted in that way.

823

00:38:00.675 --> 00:38:03.155

And that also comes from experience on dcos

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00:38:03.155 --> 00:38:06.155

where we have put a high percentage in the order

825

00:38:06.215 --> 00:38:08.915

and then the state has amended it slightly to link it

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00:38:08.915 --> 00:38:10.075

to different, a different metric

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00:38:10.075 --> 00:38:11.635

and which has actually caused some issues.

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00:38:11.735 --> 00:38:15.435

So, um, there is some, um, careful thinking behind it, um,

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00:38:15.495 --> 00:38:17.715

as to whether we can, um, commit

830

00:38:17.715 --> 00:38:19.275

to anything further conservatively,

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00:38:19.335 --> 00:38:20.515

um, we'll take that point away.

832

00:38:20.535 --> 00:38:24.075

But I mean, I would know to on the gate burden decision,

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00:38:24.455 --> 00:38:28.595

the, um, the conclusion was there that, um, I think

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00:38:28.595 --> 00:38:30.355

that they say it wasn't guaranteed in terms

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00:38:30.355 --> 00:38:31.835

of the higher figures, um,

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00:38:32.055 --> 00:38:34.675

and it was given moderate positive weight, um,

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00:38:35.485 --> 00:38:38.165

moderate positive benefit, um, in terms of the balancing.

838

00:38:38.345 --> 00:38:41.405

Um, and I, I suspect, um, picking up on the point

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00:38:41.405 --> 00:38:42.605

that Ms. Hall has raised,

840

00:38:42.665 --> 00:38:46.485

but, um, yeah, we appreciate the point when and, and,

841

00:38:47.105 --> 00:38:48.805

and aligned in principle.

842

00:38:49.425 --> 00:38:51.565

Um, the second point I might need to turn

843

00:38:51.585 --> 00:38:53.445

to one of my colleagues.

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00:38:55.215 --> 00:38:58.065

Yeah, I I can pick that up. Um, Ms. Coleman.

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00:38:58.525 --> 00:39:02.225

So Lewis taking for the applicant, um, just coming back to,

846

00:39:02.285 --> 00:39:03.425

to that first point and,

847

00:39:03.445 --> 00:39:05.065

and adding further weight to that,

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00:39:05.065 --> 00:39:08.425

there are areas within the site, um, as Ms. Coleman states

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00:39:08.425 --> 00:39:10.145

that are through detailed design

850

00:39:10.165 --> 00:39:11.865

and are still being finalized.

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00:39:11.925 --> 00:39:15.105

And obviously if those there are minor changes to some

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00:39:15.105 --> 00:39:17.345

of those areas, then that will cause changes

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00:39:17.445 --> 00:39:18.785

to the BNG metric.

854

00:39:19.005 --> 00:39:21.425

And this includes the, the biodiversity zones

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00:39:21.425 --> 00:39:25.545

where we've made, um, some assumptions in section 2.8 0.1.

856

00:39:25.635 --> 00:39:29.425

We've detailed the percentage split of those areas, um,

857

00:39:29.515 --> 00:39:33.425

which we've used for the biodiversity calculation coming,

858

00:39:33.805 --> 00:39:36.305

um, to the second point, um, which was raised

859

00:39:36.365 --> 00:39:37.985

by 7,000 trees.

860

00:39:38.325 --> 00:39:42.545

The BNG calculations are based on the forward projected

861

00:39:42.545 --> 00:39:46.865

units, um, for the biodiversity period, which is 30 years.

862

00:39:47.255 --> 00:39:50.785

Obviously, some of those habitats will meet reach maturity

863

00:39:50.965 --> 00:39:53.065

before others as they grow.

864

00:39:53.135 --> 00:39:56.145

They are managed and matured and during that process,

865

00:39:56.405 --> 00:40:00.705

and, um, as the discussions this morning related to, um,

866

00:40:00.705 --> 00:40:03.345

monitoring as part of the lemp, there will also be

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00:40:04.385 --> 00:40:07.905

included on that monitoring for projected condition

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00:40:07.965 --> 00:40:08.985

for those habitats,

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00:40:09.325 --> 00:40:12.385

and that will be dynamically adjusted as, um,

870

00:40:12.445 --> 00:40:13.505

if any habitats fail

871

00:40:13.525 --> 00:40:16.265

or if there's any changes required, um, to make sure

872

00:40:16.265 --> 00:40:19.225

that those habitats reach their target condition.

873

00:40:19.645 --> 00:40:23.945

Um, but the biodiversity assessment in its core is based on

874

00:40:23.945 --> 00:40:27.145

the forward projected, um, values of habitats

875

00:40:27.145 --> 00:40:30.185

that are created, um, at the end of that period.

876

00:40:31.055 --> 00:40:33.835

So there's a, there's a measure called time to time

877

00:40:33.855 --> 00:40:37.195

to condition within the metric that, um, gives it a year

878

00:40:37.215 --> 00:40:39.715

by a yearly breakdown for certain habitat types.

879

00:40:41.585 --> 00:40:45.035

Okay, thank you. Um, yes, Mr. Court,

880

00:40:46.645 --> 00:40:49.675

Court, so 7,000 acres, just picking up on that, is

881

00:40:49.675 --> 00:40:53.395

that the first time I've heard that the BNG 10% is

882

00:40:53.395 --> 00:40:54.875

after 30 years?

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00:40:55.855 --> 00:40:57.155

Is that what you just said, sir?

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00:40:58.935 --> 00:41:00.195

In the Applicant Lewis wife?

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00:41:00.745 --> 00:41:02.405

Yeah, Lewis Deacon for the applicant.

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00:41:02.465 --> 00:41:04.245

Um, just responding to Mr.

887

00:41:04.315 --> 00:41:07.485

Court's question, so the, the values that are projected

888

00:41:07.485 --> 00:41:11.065

for created habitats are when those habitats have

889

00:41:11.065 --> 00:41:12.265

reached maturity.

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00:41:12.615 --> 00:41:14.705

Obviously things habitats such

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00:41:14.705 --> 00:41:18.065

as grassland will reach maturity a lot quicker than those,

892

00:41:18.565 --> 00:41:20.545

uh, such as, um, woodland for example.

893

00:41:20.885 --> 00:41:22.905

So the values

894

00:41:23.085 --> 00:41:25.865

and associated with delivery of units

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00:41:26.005 --> 00:41:28.665

for each habitat type are based on the time

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00:41:28.685 --> 00:41:30.705

to condition factor within the metric

897

00:41:31.125 --> 00:41:32.665

for each habitat to reach its

898

00:41:32.665 --> 00:41:33.665

Projected condition.

899

00:41:37.105 --> 00:41:40.895

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Um hmm.

900

00:41:43.885 --> 00:41:47.095

Okay. Um, I'm gonna move on now to, uh, item three E

901

00:41:47.095 --> 00:41:49.135

of the agenda, which is the development consent order.

902

00:41:49.275 --> 00:41:51.695

Uh, looking at some of the status of the articles

903

00:41:51.695 --> 00:41:52.975

that were remaining

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00:41:52.975 --> 00:41:55.495

and have been removed from the draft development consent

905

00:41:55.495 --> 00:41:57.975

order status of the protective provisions

906

00:41:57.975 --> 00:42:00.375

and views of relevant, uh, statutory undertakers

907

00:42:00.375 --> 00:42:03.455

and authorities, and the status of the requirements

908

00:42:03.555 --> 00:42:05.215

and views of the local authorities.

909

00:42:05.995 --> 00:42:07.775

So the first, uh, item relates

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00:42:07.775 --> 00:42:10.295

to a question we asked everything questions, which is,

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00:42:10.995 --> 00:42:13.295

excuse me, with regards to the duration

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00:42:13.395 --> 00:42:14.455

of the proposed development.

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00:42:14.915 --> 00:42:17.935

Um, I understand that the national policy statement, Ian,

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00:42:18.085 --> 00:42:21.935

free notes at paragraph two point 10.149,

915

00:42:22.485 --> 00:42:25.255

that while an upper limit of 40 years is typical,

916

00:42:26.025 --> 00:42:29.295

applicants may seek consent without a time period IE

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00:42:29.415 --> 00:42:31.775

indefinite or permanent operation for differing time

918

00:42:31.835 --> 00:42:34.735

or for differing time periods for the operation of the site.

919

00:42:35.615 --> 00:42:37.975

I appreciate the applicant as an undertaken assessment

920

00:42:38.075 --> 00:42:40.335

of the 60 year life of the development,

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00:42:40.795 --> 00:42:43.615

but what my written question was seeking to understand was

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00:42:43.615 --> 00:42:45.855

how the applicant had come to that choice of 60 years

923

00:42:45.955 --> 00:42:49.375

as the potential lifespan of the development as opposed

924

00:42:49.375 --> 00:42:51.695

to say a shorter or perhaps even a longer period.

925

00:42:51.755 --> 00:42:53.695

For instance, the applicant notes

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00:42:53.765 --> 00:42:55.895

that the anticipated design life

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00:42:55.895 --> 00:42:58.655

of their panels at the site is approximately 40 years.

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00:42:58.995 --> 00:43:02.055

So I was curious as to why 60 is the chosen figure

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00:43:02.055 --> 00:43:05.175

and why it would perhaps not align to when they, uh, uh,

930

00:43:05.395 --> 00:43:07.495

an element of the site is being renewed.

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00:43:09.355 --> 00:43:11.375

Yes, thank you Taylor Powell for the applicant.

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00:43:12.075 --> 00:43:13.655

Uh, so the applicant

933

00:43:13.935 --> 00:43:18.455

provided a initial response to this at, uh, XQ 1.6 0.3,

934

00:43:18.595 --> 00:43:20.895

and the position is essentially the same as in nat,

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00:43:20.895 --> 00:43:23.935

which is, uh, a large majority

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00:43:24.035 --> 00:43:26.335

of the perhaps adverse impacts

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00:43:26.555 --> 00:43:28.935

of the development arise from construction

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00:43:28.955 --> 00:43:31.415

of the development, not necessarily once it's

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00:43:31.415 --> 00:43:32.735

established and operative.

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00:43:33.355 --> 00:43:37.255

So the position from the applicant's position is that

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00:43:37.595 --> 00:43:40.895

to gain the most benefit out of the site in line

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00:43:40.895 --> 00:43:43.335

with the critical national priority,

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00:43:43.335 --> 00:43:46.215

which is set out in EN one, um,

944

00:43:46.915 --> 00:43:49.335

the applicant considers they'll remain demand

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00:43:49.335 --> 00:43:51.935

for renewable energy generated from the site for the,

946

00:43:51.995 --> 00:43:55.655

the full operational period sort ak the full 60 years.

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00:43:56.355 --> 00:43:59.535

And so providing for the 60 year operational period

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00:43:59.605 --> 00:44:03.255

that is another 20 years of renewable energy beyond the

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00:44:03.855 --> 00:44:05.215

a standard 40 year period,

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00:44:05.985 --> 00:44:09.895

given those adverse effects have already been accepted, um,

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00:44:10.065 --> 00:44:11.335

would provide, you know,

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00:44:11.335 --> 00:44:13.815

significant additional benefit when it comes to meeting

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00:44:13.815 --> 00:44:15.375

that critical national priority.

954

00:44:15.955 --> 00:44:20.255

Um, the 60 year period also enables flexibility when it

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00:44:20.255 --> 00:44:23.975

comes to improvements in renewable energy generation.

956

00:44:24.035 --> 00:44:28.055

So while current design standards for solar panels indicate

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00:44:28.055 --> 00:44:31.760

that their typical design life may be approximately 40

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00:44:31.760 --> 00:44:34.045

years, uh, by the time of construction,

959

00:44:34.045 --> 00:44:35.965
that design life may have improved.

960

00:44:36.025 --> 00:44:39.325
And also, uh, when we talk about design life,

961

00:44:39.545 --> 00:44:42.245
the understanding the applicant has is that, uh,

962

00:44:42.625 --> 00:44:44.005
that's an approximate figure.

963

00:44:44.065 --> 00:44:48.045
And in fact, those solar panels may continue to, uh,

964

00:44:48.515 --> 00:44:50.525
operate at a functional period

965

00:44:50.625 --> 00:44:53.325
beyond a estimated design life of 40 years.

966

00:44:53.345 --> 00:44:55.725
So it may be that they could continue to provide benefit

967

00:44:56.305 --> 00:44:58.445
and not need to be decommissioned by that point.

968

00:44:59.105 --> 00:45:02.485
Um, and then in terms of within the, the period

969

00:45:02.515 --> 00:45:05.845
between when, you know, panels may come to the end

970

00:45:05.845 --> 00:45:08.965
of their design life and there being a remaining period

971

00:45:09.185 --> 00:45:11.685
before decommissioning, so say, you know,

972

00:45:11.825 --> 00:45:13.685

say they they do last for 40 years

973

00:45:13.705 --> 00:45:16.085

and then there's 20 years remaining in the operation

974

00:45:16.385 --> 00:45:18.925

for the scheme, uh, at

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00:45:18.925 --> 00:45:22.205

that point it would be a commercial decision as to whether

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00:45:22.205 --> 00:45:26.685

that that benefit of installing new panels would be borne

977

00:45:26.685 --> 00:45:30.085

out by the cost of those panels, um, both environmentally

978

00:45:30.225 --> 00:45:32.725

and in terms of, um, financial cost.

979

00:45:33.385 --> 00:45:38.125

So the, I suppose the controls around having

980

00:45:38.125 --> 00:45:40.925

to bring decommissioning earlier, if, if that isn't, if

981

00:45:40.925 --> 00:45:42.765

that decision to proceed isn't undertaken,

982

00:45:43.395 --> 00:45:47.365

that has been amended into the draft DCO, um,

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00:45:47.705 --> 00:45:48.965

per the request.

984

00:45:49.085 --> 00:45:52.165

I think it was from we z district council, um,

985

00:45:52.225 --> 00:45:54.205

for an amendment to the date of decommissioning,

986

00:45:54.205 --> 00:45:56.565

which would trigger that decommissioning earlier if

987

00:45:56.565 --> 00:45:58.125

that decision was made. I'll,

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00:45:58.125 --> 00:45:59.845

I'll come onto that and then got separate question about

989

00:45:59.845 --> 00:46:00.845

That. Yeah, course. Yeah, of course.

990

00:46:00.845 --> 00:46:02.165

Um, so essentially it, it's,

991

00:46:02.165 --> 00:46:05.285

it's just to make the most of that benefit to acknowledge

992

00:46:05.285 --> 00:46:07.285

that by constructing the scheme there,

993

00:46:07.285 --> 00:46:09.885

there are adverse impacts at the time of construction

994

00:46:09.905 --> 00:46:13.485

and to, you know, anticipating that there is a,

995

00:46:13.645 --> 00:46:16.365

a long period of time, uh, for,

996

00:46:17.665 --> 00:46:18.925

for the benefits to be realized.

997

00:46:19.145 --> 00:46:20.145

Um,

998

00:46:20.785 --> 00:46:21.785

So thank you. Uh,

999

00:46:21.785 --> 00:46:24.965

what I'm hearing, please correct me if I'm wrong here,

1000

00:46:24.965 --> 00:46:28.725

is the, the life of the development is very

1001

00:46:29.435 --> 00:46:33.205

intrinsically linked to the anticipated life of the panels

1002

00:46:33.305 --> 00:46:36.045

and the fact that panels may improve, you know,

1003

00:46:36.045 --> 00:46:37.845

constantly in their production by the time you come

1004

00:46:37.845 --> 00:46:40.365

to construction, that you may get some longevity outta the

1005

00:46:40.365 --> 00:46:42.965

panel, but there'll be a, there'll be a point when you,

1006

00:46:43.165 --> 00:46:44.405

a commercial decision is reached,

1007

00:46:44.725 --> 00:46:46.805

albeit at the life at the 60 year period

1008

00:46:46.865 --> 00:46:50.925

or perhaps prior to that when, uh, a decision will have

1009

00:46:50.925 --> 00:46:52.845

to be made by the operator of what they're going to do next.

1010

00:46:54.305 --> 00:46:56.685

Yes, in part why I think the primary point is the first

1011

00:46:56.685 --> 00:46:59.325

point I made about maximizing that cri

1012

00:46:59.395 --> 00:47:01.725

that benefit is in meeting that I

1013

00:47:01.725 --> 00:47:02.845

Would challenge that if, if

1014

00:47:02.845 --> 00:47:04.605

that if you're genuinely saying that, then you would,

1015

00:47:04.605 --> 00:47:06.685

you would apply for an indefinite permission.

1016

00:47:08.005 --> 00:47:10.335

Well, I, I think, I think the difference in terms

1017

00:47:10.335 --> 00:47:12.535

of applying for a indefinite position is

1018

00:47:12.535 --> 00:47:15.095

that there is some certainty from the applicant

1019

00:47:15.095 --> 00:47:19.375

that at least for 60 years there'll be in this need

1020

00:47:19.595 --> 00:47:20.815

for renewable energy

1021

00:47:20.955 --> 00:47:24.415

and in this location, I think that the intention

1022

00:47:25.155 --> 00:47:28.255

around a six year period is also to align with, you know,

1023

00:47:28.255 --> 00:47:30.885

other solar projects in the area, acknowledging

1024

00:47:30.885 --> 00:47:32.285

how they interact with each other.

1025

00:47:32.745 --> 00:47:35.685

Um, and then I think it does also bring into account that

1026

00:47:36.345 --> 00:47:38.325

the anticipated life of the panel.

1027

00:47:38.465 --> 00:47:40.645

So I, I think it is those things that work in

1028

00:47:41.195 --> 00:47:42.325

combination with each other.

1029

00:47:48.415 --> 00:47:50.265

Okay. Thank you. I'm, I, I will, uh,

1030

00:47:50.575 --> 00:47:53.585

with any questions in the room on, uh, that and,

1031

00:47:53.645 --> 00:47:56.745

and specifically the life of the development,

1032

00:48:00.985 --> 00:48:02.325

uh, Ms. Gar,

1033

00:48:03.065 --> 00:48:04.065

Ms. Gar at 7,000

1034

00:48:04.065 --> 00:48:04.325

acres.

1035

00:48:04.325 --> 00:48:08.965

So it seems though that if the panels then not are, um,

1036

00:48:09.275 --> 00:48:13.125

have a lifespan of 40 years, then we will have,

1037

00:48:13.305 --> 00:48:17.965

and the construction phase is the most destructive phase.

1038

00:48:18.865 --> 00:48:23.365

Um, we will have potentially another construction phase at

1039

00:48:23.365 --> 00:48:25.205

40 years, um,

1040

00:48:25.455 --> 00:48:29.725

which will create a further significant impact to, um,

1041

00:48:30.805 --> 00:48:33.685

residents, um, in, in the area.

1042

00:48:34.425 --> 00:48:38.125

Um, and potentially that could be an ongoing

1043

00:48:39.805 --> 00:48:43.085

construction repair period for 20 years.

1044

00:48:43.865 --> 00:48:45.285

Um, so

1045

00:48:45.555 --> 00:48:49.605

therefore the effects of that, um,

1046

00:48:50.165 --> 00:48:55.085

increase the overall impact of, of on, on, on,

1047

00:48:55.105 --> 00:48:58.285

uh, residents and, uh, receptors in the area.

1048

00:48:59.105 --> 00:49:01.085

Um, and then why would,

1049

00:49:01.385 --> 00:49:04.685

and then obviously then those then new panels then have

1050

00:49:05.295 --> 00:49:06.605

40 years potentially.

1051

00:49:06.745 --> 00:49:10.005

So is there another application coming again for another 40

1052

00:49:10.065 --> 00:49:12.445

to 60 years and are we on a gravy train

1053

00:49:12.465 --> 00:49:14.525

of more and more and more?

1054

00:49:14.525 --> 00:49:17.085

And so it's then establishing an, as you say, an indefinite

1055

00:49:17.905 --> 00:49:19.765

period in effect. Thank

1056

00:49:19.765 --> 00:49:20.765

You. Um, just going back to the

1057

00:49:20.765 --> 00:49:21.165

applicant now,

1058

00:49:21.165 --> 00:49:23.365

if you could just address the point raised about, um,

1059

00:49:23.465 --> 00:49:26.245

the capital renewal of the site, how that compares to

1060

00:49:26.985 --> 00:49:29.245

the construction of the site, uh,

1061

00:49:29.305 --> 00:49:34.155

and then similarly address the issue about the anticipated

1062

00:49:35.145 --> 00:49:36.315

life of the development

1063

00:49:37.215 --> 00:49:38.675

Taylor power for the applicant.

1064

00:49:38.855 --> 00:49:41.795

Um, yes. So in respect to the first question about

1065

00:49:42.455 --> 00:49:45.995

at a 40 year period, would you see a, a construction period

1066

00:49:46.215 --> 00:49:48.075

of the same scale, um,

1067

00:49:48.255 --> 00:49:50.435

as occurred at the beginning of the development?

1068

00:49:50.495 --> 00:49:54.435

Um, the applicant has worked several controls within both

1069

00:49:54.435 --> 00:49:56.755

the DCO and the management plan, um,

1070

00:49:56.755 --> 00:49:58.635

the operational management plan to make sure

1071

00:49:58.635 --> 00:49:59.715

that that is not the case.

1072

00:50:00.015 --> 00:50:01.115

So, uh,

1073

00:50:01.335 --> 00:50:04.515

the applicant can only maintain the authorized development

1074

00:50:04.515 --> 00:50:08.275

in accordance with Article five, um, of the DCO, um,

1075

00:50:08.275 --> 00:50:09.715

which sets out clearly there.

1076

00:50:09.775 --> 00:50:13.315

The, um, uh, subsection three

1077

00:50:13.315 --> 00:50:15.355

that the article does not authorized carrying out

1078

00:50:15.355 --> 00:50:16.955

of any works, which are likely to give rise

1079

00:50:16.955 --> 00:50:18.435

to any material new

1080

00:50:18.495 --> 00:50:19.915

or materially different effects

1081

00:50:20.075 --> 00:50:22.995

that have not been assessed in the environmental statement.

1082

00:50:23.575 --> 00:50:26.955

Um, what the environmental statement makes clear is that,

1083

00:50:27.305 --> 00:50:30.605

uh, any effects, uh, in terms of construction traffic

1084

00:50:30.985 --> 00:50:34.045

or noise or associated construction effects

1085

00:50:34.045 --> 00:50:37.725

that might arise from the replacement of panels, uh,

1086

00:50:37.875 --> 00:50:41.125

must align with those assessed in the, in the es,

1087

00:50:41.385 --> 00:50:42.885

and those are significantly lower

1088

00:50:42.905 --> 00:50:46.365

for operation than they are for, um, construction.

1089

00:50:47.065 --> 00:50:51.245

And then in respect of the, I suppose, more detailed

1090

00:50:52.055 --> 00:50:55.645

monitoring and management approach for that replacement

1091

00:50:55.645 --> 00:50:58.165

of panels as they come to the end of their design life.

1092

00:50:58.625 --> 00:51:02.365

Um, section 2.3 of the operation, um,

1093

00:51:02.595 --> 00:51:04.965

operational environmental management plan

1094
00:51:05.475 --> 00:51:07.165
sets out a replacement schedule

1095
00:51:07.305 --> 00:51:08.765
and process, um,

1096
00:51:08.935 --> 00:51:13.525
where every 12 months the undertaken will have to, um,

1097
00:51:14.525 --> 00:51:16.605
liaise with the planning authority in terms

1098
00:51:16.605 --> 00:51:18.005
of any upcoming maintenance,

1099
00:51:18.005 --> 00:51:21.005
and that includes panel replacements, so that, um,

1100
00:51:21.025 --> 00:51:23.365
panels would only be slowly replaced over time

1101
00:51:23.865 --> 00:51:28.605
and wouldn't be re replaced in one large go, um, as,

1102
00:51:29.065 --> 00:51:31.165
uh, was perhaps the concern.

1103
00:51:31.705 --> 00:51:33.325
So we can provide comfort that

1104
00:51:33.325 --> 00:51:34.605
that scenario will not happen.

1105
00:51:35.195 --> 00:51:36.195
Okay.

1106
00:51:36.505 --> 00:51:38.565
We could just move on to the point that you, you alluded

1107
00:51:38.585 --> 00:51:40.405

to earlier, sorry.

1108

00:51:40.625 --> 00:51:43.485

Uh, the additional definition, uh, added for the date

1109

00:51:43.485 --> 00:51:46.605

of commissioning that West Lindsay District Council asked

1110

00:51:46.665 --> 00:51:48.365

for deadline one in DCO

1111

00:51:48.625 --> 00:51:51.405

and then this provides that the decommissioning is triggered

1112

00:51:52.025 --> 00:51:54.445

for those parts of the authorized development when they

1113

00:51:54.445 --> 00:51:56.445

permanently cease to generate electricity.

1114

00:51:57.265 --> 00:52:00.205

Um, and then this would require the undertake yourselves

1115

00:52:00.265 --> 00:52:02.245

to remove scheme components once they

1116

00:52:02.245 --> 00:52:03.325

cease to be operational.

1117

00:52:04.825 --> 00:52:06.925

Can I ask the applicant how will it be known

1118

00:52:06.995 --> 00:52:09.245

that the development has ceased operation?

1119

00:52:09.265 --> 00:52:10.285

Is, is it a very clear

1120

00:52:10.285 --> 00:52:11.885

and easy thing that there is no power

1121

00:52:12.405 --> 00:52:14.005

emitting from the site anymore, or is it more subtle

1122

00:52:14.005 --> 00:52:17.645

with panel y panel and as efficiency grows with these panels

1123

00:52:17.645 --> 00:52:20.085

and, uh, the, uh, need

1124

00:52:20.085 --> 00:52:21.885

for panels becomes perhaps less in the future

1125

00:52:21.955 --> 00:52:23.445

that the site may shrink

1126

00:52:26.575 --> 00:52:28.915

Taylor Powell for that, uh, for the applicant?

1127

00:52:29.455 --> 00:52:32.475

Um, sorry. If you just gimme one moment, I'll navigate

1128

00:52:32.615 --> 00:52:33.955

to that section.

1129

00:52:35.095 --> 00:52:39.675

Um, in terms of the date of decommissioning, so, uh,

1130

00:52:41.295 --> 00:52:45.155

my understanding is that would be communicated between the

1131

00:52:45.705 --> 00:52:49.115

applicant and the relevant planning authority in terms of

1132

00:52:49.735 --> 00:52:53.195

its decommissioning requirements to provide notice as

1133

00:52:53.195 --> 00:52:54.835

to when decommissioning is to occur.

1134

00:52:55.495 --> 00:52:57.075

So there's requirement,

1135

00:52:57.235 --> 00:53:01.755

I think it is requirement 20 in the draft DCO, which relates

1136

00:53:01.855 --> 00:53:04.915

to providing, I think it's 12 months notice

1137

00:53:05.135 --> 00:53:07.915

before decommissioning, um, of all

1138

00:53:07.935 --> 00:53:10.155

or part of the authorized development needs to occur.

1139

00:53:10.295 --> 00:53:14.435

So the essentially, once the undertaker is aware

1140

00:53:14.515 --> 00:53:17.275

that it's no longer going to be using a part

1141

00:53:17.275 --> 00:53:21.115

of the development, then the obligation is on the undertaker

1142

00:53:21.255 --> 00:53:23.315

to notify the relevant planning authority.

1143

00:53:23.695 --> 00:53:26.405

If it failed to notify the relevant planning authority,

1144

00:53:26.715 --> 00:53:27.965

then it would be, wouldn't be in

1145

00:53:27.965 --> 00:53:29.005

accordance with that requirement.

1146

00:53:29.865 --> 00:53:32.325

Can I, can I come to West Lindsay now if that's okay,

1147

00:53:32.325 --> 00:53:35.525

and ask about the, the, uh, how that, uh,

1148

00:53:37.135 --> 00:53:38.735

revision sits with you, but also the fact that

1149

00:53:39.715 --> 00:53:42.695

how confident are you that when the undertaker ceases

1150

00:53:42.835 --> 00:53:45.495

to operate and provide electricity at the site,

1151

00:53:45.495 --> 00:53:47.295

that you would be aware of that in advance?

1152

00:53:47.515 --> 00:53:49.495

Uh, or are we reliant on the

1153

00:53:49.495 --> 00:53:50.735

undertaking making that commitment?

1154

00:53:52.125 --> 00:53:55.775

Okay. West Limbs District Council, uh, yes.

1155

00:53:55.775 --> 00:53:57.535

So in response to your first question, we're contempt

1156

00:53:57.535 --> 00:53:59.255

with the definition of data

1157

00:53:59.255 --> 00:54:00.455

of decommissioning that's been added.

1158

00:54:01.035 --> 00:54:02.255

Uh, we're grateful for that.

1159

00:54:02.515 --> 00:54:03.895

In response to your second question,

1160

00:54:03.975 --> 00:54:06.255

I think the answer would be it's reli on the

1161

00:54:06.255 --> 00:54:07.295

undertaker to inform us.

1162

00:54:07.315 --> 00:54:08.775

We probably wouldn't know about it,

1163

00:54:08.795 --> 00:54:10.415

but for the notification requirement.

1164

00:54:18.895 --> 00:54:20.595

So, sorry, just moving back to my original question,

1165

00:54:20.935 --> 00:54:22.235

how would it be known that the

1166

00:54:22.235 --> 00:54:23.355

development has ceased to operate?

1167

00:54:23.355 --> 00:54:25.875

We, we are entirely reliant on the undertaker saying,

1168

00:54:25.995 --> 00:54:27.875

I am no longer producing electricity

1169

00:54:27.875 --> 00:54:28.995

to this site. Is that what's happening?

1170

00:54:29.775 --> 00:54:31.235

Taylor Powell for the applicant?

1171

00:54:31.495 --> 00:54:34.235

Um, I just discussed with my colleagues in, uh,

1172

00:54:34.235 --> 00:54:39.155

another element where the, there would be the, the check

1173

00:54:39.375 --> 00:54:43.595

and balance with the, uh, with the council is within

1174

00:54:43.665 --> 00:54:48.315

that replacement schedule that sits within the, um, outline

1175
00:54:48.825 --> 00:54:50.475
environmental management plan

1176
00:54:50.585 --> 00:54:52.995
because the undertaker is going to be

1177
00:54:53.995 --> 00:54:55.235
engaging every 12 months.

1178
00:54:55.735 --> 00:54:58.395
Um, as to any replacement of, you know,

1179
00:54:59.015 --> 00:55:02.075
of components which are no longer in use, at that point,

1180
00:55:03.005 --> 00:55:04.275
there would be a check-in point

1181
00:55:04.335 --> 00:55:07.275
for the relevant planning authority to check in, say, well,

1182
00:55:07.275 --> 00:55:09.795
if these are not in use, then why aren't you replacing them?

1183
00:55:09.855 --> 00:55:11.635
And at that point then, um,

1184
00:55:12.745 --> 00:55:16.555
they perhaps could challenge the undertaker as to why, um,

1185
00:55:16.735 --> 00:55:19.315
that's not being decommissioned or not.

1186
00:55:19.815 --> 00:55:24.355
So go, going back to West Lindsay, sorry, is, uh, the,

1187
00:55:24.355 --> 00:55:27.955
the authority, you know, sounds like the challenge is on you

1188
00:55:27.955 --> 00:55:30.075

to every 12 months ask, undertake it.

1189

00:55:30.075 --> 00:55:31.355

Are you still producing electricity

1190

00:55:31.735 --> 00:55:33.515

Should say for West Lindsay Digital Council?

1191

00:55:34.015 --> 00:55:35.475

Uh, yes. That, that's understood,

1192

00:55:35.795 --> 00:55:39.275

albeit the data B commission definition is in relation

1193

00:55:39.295 --> 00:55:41.955

to the permanent cessation of yes

1194

00:55:42.135 --> 00:55:43.875

and electricity being generated.

1195

00:55:43.935 --> 00:55:46.875

So if there were some panels that had stopped generating

1196

00:55:47.345 --> 00:55:49.915

that wouldn't necessarily require us to consider

1197

00:55:50.495 --> 00:55:52.075

to ask this question basically.

1198

00:55:52.655 --> 00:55:56.475

Um, because insofar as there might be partial, um,

1199

00:55:57.065 --> 00:56:00.275

cessation of the generation of electricity from some

1200

00:56:00.275 --> 00:56:02.315

of the panels that wouldn't meet this definition.

1201

00:56:02.575 --> 00:56:05.435

So although there would be that check-in every 12 months,

1202
00:56:05.465 --> 00:56:07.675
that that wouldn't necessarily re uh,

1203
00:56:07.675 --> 00:56:08.875
result in us asking the question.

1204
00:56:09.535 --> 00:56:11.435
Uh, so we would still be reliant on the

1205
00:56:11.435 --> 00:56:12.555
undertaker to inform us.

1206
00:56:13.405 --> 00:56:14.475
Thank you. Um,

1207
00:56:14.845 --> 00:56:16.635
would you like write a reply to come back to that

1208
00:56:17.175 --> 00:56:18.635
Taylor Powell for the applicant?

1209
00:56:18.855 --> 00:56:22.235
Um, if it would provide comfort to West Lindsay,

1210
00:56:22.495 --> 00:56:24.125
we could work into that schedule.

1211
00:56:24.385 --> 00:56:26.685
Um, a requirement to indicate

1212
00:56:26.685 --> 00:56:29.005
where we consider there will be permanent decommissioning

1213
00:56:29.005 --> 00:56:30.885
of particular commo components.

1214
00:56:31.715 --> 00:56:34.965
West Lindsay, do you wanna say West Lindsay Council?

1215
00:56:35.145 --> 00:56:38.565

Yes, we, we welcome and consider that. Thank you all.

1216

00:56:38.825 --> 00:56:40.205

Are there any other parties that would like

1217

00:56:40.205 --> 00:56:42.725

to comment on the, uh, date of decommissioning

1218

00:56:42.785 --> 00:56:44.645

and, uh, the permanent cessation

1219

00:56:44.645 --> 00:56:48.225

of electricity at the site? Uh, Lincoln Chair.

1220

00:56:48.235 --> 00:56:50.145

Thank you sir. Stephanie Hall Linker county council.

1221

00:56:50.245 --> 00:56:52.065

So just an aligned point about waste.

1222

00:56:52.405 --> 00:56:55.705

So you'll be, um, aware the scenario LIR we raised a,

1223

00:56:55.705 --> 00:56:59.705

an issue about the waste arising from, uh, decommissioning

1224

00:56:59.965 --> 00:57:02.065

and, um, replacement of, of panels

1225

00:57:02.065 --> 00:57:04.145

and equipment plant at the, at the site.

1226

00:57:04.485 --> 00:57:08.225

We just note that, um, the, the framework, uh,

1227

00:57:08.225 --> 00:57:10.905

operational environmental management plan, uh,

1228

00:57:11.175 --> 00:57:14.425

indicates an indicative design life for sailor PV panels

1229
00:57:14.425 --> 00:57:16.185
of 25 to 40 years.

1230
00:57:16.325 --> 00:57:19.145
So 40 years is an upper estimate.

1231
00:57:19.645 --> 00:57:20.785
Um, so an improvement

1232
00:57:20.785 --> 00:57:24.025
to 60 would be quite some improvements, um,

1233
00:57:24.025 --> 00:57:25.825
before commencement of the development.

1234
00:57:26.245 --> 00:57:29.105
Uh, whereas batteries sit right down at five to 15 years.

1235
00:57:29.405 --> 00:57:31.825
So we are looking at a considerable generation

1236
00:57:31.925 --> 00:57:35.305
of waste planned during the lifetime of, of the project

1237
00:57:35.365 --> 00:57:36.865
as well as right at the end.

1238
00:57:37.445 --> 00:57:40.425
Um, and this project in line

1239
00:57:40.425 --> 00:57:44.625
with others is reliant upon a growth in a recycling

1240
00:57:44.805 --> 00:57:48.305
and, um, other industries to assist with not sending all

1241
00:57:48.305 --> 00:57:49.465
of these things to landfill.

1242
00:57:49.775 --> 00:57:52.585

That industry is yet, uh, to have sprung up.

1243

00:57:53.045 --> 00:57:54.545

It may well have done in 60 years,

1244

00:57:54.545 --> 00:57:55.865

but it's very unlikely to

1245

00:57:55.925 --> 00:57:58.545

to be greater in in five to 25 years.

1246

00:57:58.545 --> 00:58:00.905

We, we don't know. So, so that, that's just our,

1247

00:58:00.965 --> 00:58:03.065

our point is around, uh, waste capacity

1248

00:58:03.065 --> 00:58:04.425

because we have concerns about

1249

00:58:04.745 --> 00:58:06.145

landfill capacity in Lincoln share.

1250

00:58:06.315 --> 00:58:08.985

Thank you. Uh, would the applicant like

1251

00:58:08.985 --> 00:58:10.025

to come back on the, uh, proposal

1252

00:58:11.325 --> 00:58:12.865

Taylor Powell for the applicant?

1253

00:58:13.125 --> 00:58:15.465

Um, we understand those concerns

1254

00:58:15.685 --> 00:58:18.465

and responded to them when, uh,

1255

00:58:18.485 --> 00:58:22.025

the applicant originally responded to the LAR raised

1256

00:58:22.125 --> 00:58:23.705
by rere County Council.

1257

00:58:24.325 --> 00:58:26.865
Um, and as part of, and,

1258

00:58:26.965 --> 00:58:29.025
and in fact to the relevant representation made

1259

00:58:29.025 --> 00:58:30.225
by Linker County Council

1260

00:58:30.885 --> 00:58:35.465
and prepared an additional appendix which assist in greater

1261

00:58:35.525 --> 00:58:39.505
detail the waste impacts of the scheme, um, the capacity

1262

00:58:39.645 --> 00:58:42.265
for waste to be recycled at the end of life.

1263

00:58:42.805 --> 00:58:45.425
Um, that's a very technical appendix

1264

00:58:45.485 --> 00:58:47.625
and it's not one that I presume to be able to speak

1265

00:58:47.625 --> 00:58:48.625
to the details of.

1266

00:58:48.645 --> 00:58:53.305
But um, in the first instance would probably direct the

1267

00:58:53.325 --> 00:58:54.945
county council to that appendix

1268

00:58:54.945 --> 00:58:57.305
and would be very happy to discuss the details of that

1269

00:58:57.305 --> 00:58:59.305

between technical experts if that would assist.

1270

00:59:00.825 --> 00:59:02.555

Lincoln, you like to come back to that

1271

00:59:03.275 --> 00:59:04.275

Stephanie Hall link to county council.

1272

00:59:04.295 --> 00:59:05.675

So yes, we, we've read that, um,

1273

00:59:05.975 --> 00:59:10.355

we still have some outstanding issues with that information

1274

00:59:10.355 --> 00:59:11.275

and we are progressive

1275

00:59:11.275 --> 00:59:12.275

through the statement to common ground.

1276

00:59:12.395 --> 00:59:14.635

I think the applicant's aware of our concerns

1277

00:59:14.755 --> 00:59:16.315

'cause they're set out, I think in our most recent

1278

00:59:16.955 --> 00:59:18.315

comments on the statement to common ground.

1279

00:59:18.895 --> 00:59:20.835

If they're not aware, we'll certainly carry on

1280

00:59:20.835 --> 00:59:22.590

That, that discussion. We'll see where we get to.

1281

00:59:22.855 --> 00:59:26.125

Thank you. Okay, I'm going to move on now to, uh,

1282

00:59:26.125 --> 00:59:27.885

some other components of the draft development

1283

00:59:27.885 --> 00:59:29.005
consent order if that's okay.

1284

00:59:29.065 --> 00:59:30.165
Please, from the applicant,

1285

00:59:30.165 --> 00:59:32.325
can we have an update on progress towards agreement

1286

00:59:32.385 --> 00:59:35.125
of protective provisions with statutory undertakers

1287

00:59:35.545 --> 00:59:38.245
and especially those agreements that remain outstanding

1288

00:59:38.545 --> 00:59:41.565
and when and what the applicant anticipates their status.

1289

00:59:41.985 --> 00:59:44.845
Status will be by the close of the examination. Thank you

1290

00:59:45.905 --> 00:59:47.325
Taylor Powell for the applicant.

1291

00:59:47.585 --> 00:59:50.525
Um, yes, of course and I will try my best to rattle

1292

00:59:50.525 --> 00:59:51.805
through this quickly for you.

1293

00:59:52.265 --> 00:59:55.565
Um, so I suppose just very briefly to cover off those

1294

00:59:55.565 --> 00:59:58.165
that are agreed, um, canal

1295

00:59:58.205 --> 01:00:01.245
and River Trust, which was as agreed in August, 2023,

1296

01:00:01.475 --> 01:00:04.725

Lincoln should fire and rescue March, 2024.

1297

01:00:04.945 --> 01:00:07.405

Um, the Scunthorpe and Gainsborough drainage board

1298

01:00:07.405 --> 01:00:09.725

and upper ham drainage board, um, both

1299

01:00:09.725 --> 01:00:12.925

of whom confirmed in 20, um, August last year,

1300

01:00:12.925 --> 01:00:15.365

that the standard protective provisions within the draft

1301

01:00:15.485 --> 01:00:16.725

DCO are acceptable.

1302

01:00:17.265 --> 01:00:20.405

Um, and then since issue specific hearing one, uh,

1303

01:00:20.435 --> 01:00:21.765

gate Burton Cotton

1304

01:00:21.985 --> 01:00:25.205

and West Burton Solar Projects have all agreed that their,

1305

01:00:25.625 --> 01:00:28.685

um, protective provisions which now sit within the most

1306

01:00:28.865 --> 01:00:31.965

within the DCO as of October, 2024.

1307

01:00:32.505 --> 01:00:36.405

Um, subsequently we've also agreed protective provisions

1308

01:00:36.405 --> 01:00:38.165

with Caden Gas, um,

1309

01:00:38.465 --> 01:00:41.925

and as the, uh, examining authority would be aware,

1310

01:00:42.095 --> 01:00:44.685

Caden Gas has also formally withdrawn their objection.

1311

01:00:45.185 --> 01:00:48.205

Um, and Ang and water protective provisions have also been

1312

01:00:48.205 --> 01:00:50.045

agreed and in December, 2024.

1313

01:00:50.625 --> 01:00:53.845

Um, I also note that Ministry of Defense National Gas

1314

01:00:53.925 --> 01:00:56.005

and voted phone have all confirmed they, um,

1315

01:00:56.455 --> 01:00:59.085

don't require protected provisions so

1316

01:00:59.085 --> 01:01:03.405

of the remaining statutory undertakers network rail, um,

1317

01:01:03.405 --> 01:01:06.085

protected provisions have been agreed with network rail.

1318

01:01:06.275 --> 01:01:08.765

However, uh, the parties remain in discussion

1319

01:01:08.765 --> 01:01:11.445

regarding separate agreements that sit alongside those.

1320

01:01:11.945 --> 01:01:14.365

Um, those agreements have progressed since the update

1321

01:01:14.605 --> 01:01:16.365

provided at the first issue specific hearing

1322

01:01:16.425 --> 01:01:17.885

and the applicant is confident.

1323

01:01:17.985 --> 01:01:19.965

Um, these will still be resolved within the

1324

01:01:19.965 --> 01:01:21.405
timescales of the examination.

1325

01:01:21.905 --> 01:01:23.965
Um, as there are MI minor points

1326

01:01:23.965 --> 01:01:25.005
remaining between the parties.

1327

01:01:25.785 --> 01:01:28.485
Uh, in respect of EDF, uh, the applicant

1328

01:01:28.485 --> 01:01:31.725
and EDF have progressed EDS protective provisions

1329

01:01:31.725 --> 01:01:32.885
since the update provided.

1330

01:01:32.905 --> 01:01:35.245
At the first issue, specific hearing, uh,

1331

01:01:35.345 --> 01:01:37.445
the applicant considers the bulk of provisions

1332

01:01:37.465 --> 01:01:40.645
and now agreed, um, at this stage

1333

01:01:41.185 --> 01:01:43.725
the applicant's hopeful these will be agreed, um,

1334

01:01:43.785 --> 01:01:46.485
and included for deadline for, um,

1335

01:01:46.545 --> 01:01:50.045
but in any cases confident that they'll be resolved uh,

1336

01:01:50.045 --> 01:01:51.925
within the timescales of the examination.

1337

01:01:53.865 --> 01:01:55.765

In respect to the Environment Agency.

1338

01:01:56.145 --> 01:02:00.045

Um, discussions as we updated it issue specific, uh,

1339

01:02:00.045 --> 01:02:02.445

the first issue specific hearing, um,

1340

01:02:02.865 --> 01:02:04.725

had been on hold while the EA updated

1341

01:02:04.725 --> 01:02:05.925

their standard provisions.

1342

01:02:06.385 --> 01:02:07.485

Uh, these were provided

1343

01:02:07.485 --> 01:02:10.005

to the applicant on the 7th of January this year.

1344

01:02:10.465 --> 01:02:13.445

Uh, the applicant's returned and, uh, reviewed

1345

01:02:13.445 --> 01:02:16.085

and returned comments of on those provisions

1346

01:02:16.385 --> 01:02:17.525

at the beginning of this week.

1347

01:02:17.905 --> 01:02:19.765

So they're back with the EA

1348

01:02:20.345 --> 01:02:24.085

and applicant will continue to, um, put, uh,

1349

01:02:24.185 --> 01:02:26.565

energy into concluding these um,

1350

01:02:26.565 --> 01:02:28.605

and is confident that they'll be resolved within the

1351

01:02:28.605 --> 01:02:29.845

timescales of examination.

1352

01:02:30.785 --> 01:02:34.645

Um, in respect of Exum, uh, the applicant

1353

01:02:34.645 --> 01:02:37.525

and Exum have progressed a further round, uh,

1354

01:02:37.585 --> 01:02:40.405

of discussions on EXOS protective provisions.

1355

01:02:41.065 --> 01:02:44.485

Um, the applicant's comments, uh, with Exum for review

1356

01:02:44.485 --> 01:02:47.005

and response as of the beginning of this week, um,

1357

01:02:47.145 --> 01:02:50.485

and we received further comment back from Exum this morning.

1358

01:02:50.705 --> 01:02:52.925

So we, we will progress those um,

1359

01:02:53.025 --> 01:02:55.445

and is hopeful that those will be resolved for submission

1360

01:02:55.685 --> 01:02:57.965

by deadline for, um,

1361

01:02:59.245 --> 01:03:01.005

national Grid electricity transmission.

1362

01:03:01.985 --> 01:03:04.725

Uh, national Grid provided the applicant with a comment,

1363

01:03:05.125 --> 01:03:07.165

a copy of their protective provisions

1364
01:03:07.345 --> 01:03:08.925
and the applicant returned its comments

1365
01:03:09.145 --> 01:03:11.565
to National Grid in mid-November last year.

1366
01:03:12.065 --> 01:03:14.645
Um, those comments are still with National Grid,

1367
01:03:14.785 --> 01:03:16.005
but we've had updates

1368
01:03:16.035 --> 01:03:18.205
that we should receive comments within the next week

1369
01:03:18.205 --> 01:03:19.565
or two and we'll progress those.

1370
01:03:20.185 --> 01:03:23.245
Um, and as such, the applicant considers they can also be

1371
01:03:23.245 --> 01:03:25.805
reached within the timescales of examination.

1372
01:03:27.325 --> 01:03:30.605
Northern Power Grid, um, again,

1373
01:03:30.755 --> 01:03:32.725
have dis have progressed a further round

1374
01:03:32.725 --> 01:03:35.605
of discussions on the protected provision since update.

1375
01:03:35.605 --> 01:03:37.245
At the first issue, specific hearing

1376
01:03:37.785 --> 01:03:40.005
and the applicant's comments are with Northern Power Grid

1377
01:03:40.005 --> 01:03:41.805

for review and response as of the beginning

1378

01:03:41.805 --> 01:03:42.965
of November last year.

1379

01:03:43.785 --> 01:03:46.285
Um, there's just one substantive matter remaining in

1380

01:03:46.285 --> 01:03:47.485
discussion between the parties and

1381

01:03:47.485 --> 01:03:50.165
so the applicant is hopeful that these will be resolved

1382

01:03:50.185 --> 01:03:51.885
for a deadline for, um,

1383

01:03:51.965 --> 01:03:53.525
but in any cases confident

1384

01:03:53.675 --> 01:03:56.085
that they can be resolved within the examination.

1385

01:03:57.065 --> 01:04:00.285
Um, in respect of Juniper, uh, the applicant

1386

01:04:00.285 --> 01:04:02.285
and Juniper have again progressed a further round

1387

01:04:02.285 --> 01:04:03.965
of discussion since the first issue.

1388

01:04:04.205 --> 01:04:06.525
Specific hearing, uh, the applicant's comments are

1389

01:04:06.525 --> 01:04:08.125
with Juniper for review

1390

01:04:08.125 --> 01:04:10.565
and response as of mid-December last year.

1391

01:04:11.145 --> 01:04:13.925

Um, that can consider there are only a few minor matters

1392

01:04:13.925 --> 01:04:15.525

remaining in discussion between the parties

1393

01:04:15.625 --> 01:04:19.285

and so as confident a agreement can be reached, um,

1394

01:04:19.785 --> 01:04:22.285

in respect of the Trent Valley Drainage Board.

1395

01:04:22.585 --> 01:04:24.525

So since the first issue specific hearing,

1396

01:04:25.095 --> 01:04:27.965

Trent Valley Drainage Board has engaged an external

1397

01:04:27.965 --> 01:04:31.085

solicitor to assist them with review of the provisions.

1398

01:04:31.865 --> 01:04:35.445

Uh, the applicant has engaged with that solicitor as

1399

01:04:35.445 --> 01:04:37.525

of the start of December, um, and

1400

01:04:37.925 --> 01:04:41.285

provided the protective provisions to them for their review.

1401

01:04:41.625 --> 01:04:43.205

Uh, we haven't received comments back yet,

1402

01:04:43.205 --> 01:04:45.485

but we continue to follow up with the drainage board

1403

01:04:45.625 --> 01:04:48.605

and their solicitor and while we can't provide exact

1404

01:04:48.605 --> 01:04:52.045

timescales again, are hopeful, um, that we'll see progress,

1405

01:04:52.265 --> 01:04:55.285

uh, and we'll reach uh,

1406

01:04:55.285 --> 01:04:57.445

agreement within the timescales of examination.

1407

01:04:59.425 --> 01:05:01.245

In respect of Eon, um,

1408

01:05:01.665 --> 01:05:04.725

the applicant has had some correspondence with Eon today,

1409

01:05:04.795 --> 01:05:07.925

most recently in June, 2024, um,

1410

01:05:08.015 --> 01:05:11.165

where Eon confirmed it was no longer a statutory undertaker.

1411

01:05:11.585 --> 01:05:15.165

Um, the applicant is in the process of just confirming

1412

01:05:15.165 --> 01:05:17.485

with eon the nature of its rights, uh,

1413

01:05:17.815 --> 01:05:19.885

which have been identified in land referencing

1414

01:05:19.885 --> 01:05:22.165

and whether these relate to assets which will

1415

01:05:22.165 --> 01:05:23.405

require protective provisions.

1416

01:05:23.465 --> 01:05:26.645

And while again, we're, we're still coming to terms with,

1417

01:05:26.865 --> 01:05:28.685

uh, the nature of those rights

1418

01:05:28.685 --> 01:05:32.285

and we'll progress protective provisions as necessary, uh,

1419

01:05:32.915 --> 01:05:37.445

once we confirm those rights in respect of Openreach

1420

01:05:37.665 --> 01:05:39.605

and IGA energy, uh,

1421

01:05:39.705 --> 01:05:41.805

the applicant received its first response

1422

01:05:41.805 --> 01:05:43.925

to engagement on protective provisions

1423

01:05:44.025 --> 01:05:46.805

for those undertakers in early January this year.

1424

01:05:47.505 --> 01:05:50.125

So the parties are currently still, again, liaising

1425

01:05:50.125 --> 01:05:54.605

to confirm whether the nature of impacts, um, will re,

1426

01:05:54.715 --> 01:05:57.445

will mean that either the standard protective provisions

1427

01:05:57.465 --> 01:05:59.085

for telecommunications providers

1428

01:05:59.085 --> 01:06:00.205

and gas undertakers

1429

01:06:00.665 --> 01:06:03.885

as already included within the draft TCO is sufficient, um,

1430

01:06:04.385 --> 01:06:06.645

or if bespoke protective provisions are agreed

1431

01:06:06.645 --> 01:06:09.005

and if they are, that can look to, um,

1432

01:06:09.365 --> 01:06:10.485

progress them as soon as possible.

1433

01:06:11.705 --> 01:06:15.685

Um, finally I note there are a few, um,

1434

01:06:16.075 --> 01:06:20.405

undertakers which we still have not received comment from

1435

01:06:20.505 --> 01:06:24.645

having written to them originally in September, 2023, um,

1436

01:06:24.665 --> 01:06:27.085

and followed up mid last year.

1437

01:06:27.225 --> 01:06:29.885

And again, since the commencement of examination

1438

01:06:30.625 --> 01:06:33.925

that's pro wind, cotton, wind Farm seven, Trent Water,

1439

01:06:33.985 --> 01:06:36.685

Virgin Media, and Western Power Distribution.

1440

01:06:37.145 --> 01:06:39.245

The applicant continues to follow up

1441

01:06:39.245 --> 01:06:40.445

with these statue undertakers

1442

01:06:40.465 --> 01:06:43.165

and we'll update as we hear further

1443

01:06:43.425 --> 01:06:45.645

but have not yet heard.

1444

01:06:45.905 --> 01:06:47.685

So, and that's my list,

1445

01:06:47.945 --> 01:06:50.765

but I'm happy to answer any questions on any, any of those.

1446

01:06:51.775 --> 01:06:53.645

Thank you for that. Thank you. Very comprehensive list.

1447

01:06:53.705 --> 01:06:58.645

Um, just going back, apologies to the Anglia water, uh,

1448

01:06:58.705 --> 01:07:00.965

and I note that they lodged an objection obviously.

1449

01:07:01.065 --> 01:07:02.405

Uh, sounds like since

1450

01:07:02.595 --> 01:07:04.445

that objection you have now come to an agreement with them.

1451

01:07:04.945 --> 01:07:06.165

Uh, so I just wanted

1452

01:07:06.165 --> 01:07:07.565

to clarify that because I haven't seen that.

1453

01:07:07.985 --> 01:07:11.165

Uh, so yeah, so we've agreed with Anglia Water,

1454

01:07:11.615 --> 01:07:14.765

their protective provisions, there are still a few matters,

1455

01:07:14.985 --> 01:07:16.285

uh, technical matters in terms

1456

01:07:16.285 --> 01:07:18.645

of comments on the DCO generally,

1457

01:07:19.095 --> 01:07:21.685

which are recorded in the statement of common ground.

1458

01:07:21.765 --> 01:07:25.285

I understand, um, those are being dealt with directly

1459

01:07:25.285 --> 01:07:26.485
between technical experts,

1460

01:07:26.545 --> 01:07:28.125
but in, in respect to the protective

1461

01:07:28.125 --> 01:07:29.285
provisions, those are agreed.

1462

01:07:29.585 --> 01:07:33.045
Um, it's just those remaining comments on the, the order

1463

01:07:33.045 --> 01:07:35.285
that I understand are still under discussion.

1464

01:07:36.295 --> 01:07:37.605
Thank you very much for that.

1465

01:07:37.865 --> 01:07:42.405
Um, I'm now going to pass back to Mr. Simpson

1466

01:07:42.545 --> 01:07:44.525
who will take us through agenda item for,

1467

01:07:44.575 --> 01:07:46.005
which is the other matters item.

1468

01:07:47.985 --> 01:07:49.805
So sorry St.

1469

01:07:50.045 --> 01:07:51.325
Stephanie Holding because I dunno whether

1470

01:07:51.865 --> 01:07:53.885
you were planning on taking interested parties views

1471

01:07:53.885 --> 01:07:54.965
on on drafting points.

1472
01:07:54.965 --> 01:07:56.365
We've, we've got, um, a couple

1473
01:07:56.365 --> 01:07:57.485
of points we can make them in writing.

1474
01:07:57.825 --> 01:07:58.965
Um, but just, oh, apologies.

1475
01:07:58.965 --> 01:08:00.245
Please go ahead. Sorry.

1476
01:08:00.245 --> 01:08:01.365
Thanks. I can make them very briefly.

1477
01:08:01.825 --> 01:08:06.085
Um, firstly say on requirements eight, in addition to, to

1478
01:08:06.085 --> 01:08:09.325
what we'd raised earlier on, on BNG in terms

1479
01:08:09.325 --> 01:08:12.485
of securing percentages linkage account council would like

1480
01:08:12.485 --> 01:08:15.285
to be a consultee in the discharge of that requirement.

1481
01:08:15.425 --> 01:08:18.205
We understand West Lindsay don't object to that

1482
01:08:18.705 --> 01:08:22.405
and that's something that we've asked for, uh, on other DCO

1483
01:08:22.625 --> 01:08:25.525
so that we can take a, a countywide approach on

1484
01:08:25.585 --> 01:08:27.405
how mitigation is working.

1485
01:08:27.865 --> 01:08:29.365

And there's a lot of cross-cutting

1486

01:08:29.365 --> 01:08:30.605
particular to cable corridors.

1487

01:08:30.605 --> 01:08:31.725
It cuts across district and,

1488

01:08:31.725 --> 01:08:34.885
and we feel like we'd be a good authority to do that.

1489

01:08:34.895 --> 01:08:36.845
We've also got the resource on board

1490

01:08:36.845 --> 01:08:40.125
and we haven't, um, had, Mr. Clark hasn't had to feed in,

1491

01:08:40.145 --> 01:08:42.085
but he's sat here throughout.

1492

01:08:42.545 --> 01:08:44.685
Um, so we, so we have expertise and,

1493

01:08:44.745 --> 01:08:47.605
and feel we'd be well placed to, to, to feed into that.

1494

01:08:48.265 --> 01:08:49.325
Uh, that's 0.1.

1495

01:08:50.705 --> 01:08:53.005
Um, so obviously that goes for, for requirement seven

1496

01:08:53.025 --> 01:08:54.525
as well 'cause they're, they're aligned.

1497

01:08:55.345 --> 01:08:58.725
Um, so on our, our archeology, I think

1498

01:08:58.725 --> 01:08:59.845
that's requirement 11.

1499

01:09:00.625 --> 01:09:02.885

Uh, so we would like

1500

01:09:02.885 --> 01:09:05.005

to propose some alternative wording for that.

1501

01:09:05.125 --> 01:09:07.125

I don't think that's made its way to the applicant yet,

1502

01:09:07.125 --> 01:09:08.565

but we'll raise that via the state

1503

01:09:08.565 --> 01:09:09.645

to common ground discussions

1504

01:09:09.665 --> 01:09:11.045

and we'll probably take that offline,

1505

01:09:11.185 --> 01:09:13.925

but just to, to notify them that we'd like

1506

01:09:13.925 --> 01:09:16.485

to prepare some different wording for requirement 11.

1507

01:09:17.225 --> 01:09:21.645

Um, in terms of fees, there's a very small point in Schedule

1508

01:09:22.245 --> 01:09:23.845

17, paragraph five

1509

01:09:23.955 --> 01:09:26.365

that we think archeology should be on the list

1510

01:09:26.365 --> 01:09:27.645

of at the higher fees,

1511

01:09:27.745 --> 01:09:30.005

but we, again, we can take that topic in writing.

1512

01:09:30.705 --> 01:09:34.325

Um, and um, still on Schedule 17.

1513

01:09:34.505 --> 01:09:37.845

So in terms of the procedure for discharge, we note

1514

01:09:37.845 --> 01:09:40.645

that the applicant has, uh, gone for a kind of eight week,

1515

01:09:41.265 --> 01:09:44.725

uh, period for, for local authorities having an ability

1516

01:09:44.745 --> 01:09:49.285

to discharge requirements that, um, we say under exit and,

1517

01:09:49.305 --> 01:09:50.485

and it's not consistent

1518

01:09:50.485 --> 01:09:53.565

with what's been approved in other solar dcos in this area.

1519

01:09:53.705 --> 01:09:56.365

Cotton is a slight outlier at 13 weeks.

1520

01:09:56.865 --> 01:09:59.925

Uh, we've been consistently asking for 10, um,

1521

01:10:00.225 --> 01:10:01.565

and we know the applicant here

1522

01:10:01.565 --> 01:10:02.685

is at eight, so you've got a spectrum.

1523

01:10:03.185 --> 01:10:05.805

Um, but we'd, we'd, we'd consider

1524

01:10:05.805 --> 01:10:07.805

that somewhere in the middle at 10 weeks would be

1525

01:10:07.805 --> 01:10:11.445

appropriate to allow us sufficient time to consider.

1526

01:10:11.485 --> 01:10:14.805

Particularly some of the, the requirements are are going

1527

01:10:14.825 --> 01:10:17.525

to be, you know, very, uh,

1528

01:10:17.555 --> 01:10:19.685

weighty documents to, to discharge.

1529

01:10:20.105 --> 01:10:21.685

Um, so we'd like to give it proper time.

1530

01:10:22.305 --> 01:10:25.085

And um, so obviously you'll be aware that we've got a number

1531

01:10:25.085 --> 01:10:27.245

of other DCO discharge requirements coming

1532

01:10:27.245 --> 01:10:28.405

across our desk at the moment.

1533

01:10:28.585 --> 01:10:30.765

So, um, 10 weeks is a,

1534

01:10:30.765 --> 01:10:32.525

is an appropriate period we would say.

1535

01:10:32.865 --> 01:10:34.405

Uh, so that's the end of my points.

1536

01:10:34.405 --> 01:10:36.645

Excuse me for rattling through. No, no, thank you c of

1537

01:10:36.645 --> 01:10:38.165

Time for not asking for any other points

1538

01:10:38.165 --> 01:10:39.805

that people might want to bring up in the DCO.

1539

01:10:40.185 --> 01:10:41.525

Uh, are there any other parties, you know,

1540

01:10:41.525 --> 01:10:42.805

sorry West Lindsay, you'd like to

1541

01:10:42.845 --> 01:10:43.845

Add some Thanks sir. Chairmanship

1542

01:10:43.845 --> 01:10:45.565

for West Lindsay District Council.

1543

01:10:45.945 --> 01:10:47.485

We also have a few drafting points,

1544

01:10:47.505 --> 01:10:49.605

but perhaps we'll include those in writing.

1545

01:10:50.205 --> 01:10:51.965

I just thought it'd be sensible to, um,

1546

01:10:51.995 --> 01:10:54.165

jump in at this stage because we also,

1547

01:10:54.185 --> 01:10:55.365

our primary point in relation

1548

01:10:55.365 --> 01:10:57.445

to schedule 17 is one to two timings.

1549

01:10:57.785 --> 01:11:00.805

So one is in reference to the further information

1550

01:11:00.805 --> 01:11:05.525

and consultation period, um, timings

1551

01:11:05.525 --> 01:11:06.565

that are currently set out.

1552

01:11:06.625 --> 01:11:09.325

We made this, um, representation previously

1553

01:11:09.325 --> 01:11:11.005

that we would like to see

1554

01:11:11.005 --> 01:11:14.245

that those timings reflect the cotton DCA Okay,

1555

01:11:14.245 --> 01:11:16.805

which has slightly increased number of working days

1556

01:11:16.825 --> 01:11:18.885

for further information to be requested, et cetera.

1557

01:11:19.265 --> 01:11:21.925

Um, the second, but perhaps the most important is the

1558

01:11:22.275 --> 01:11:23.365

discharge period.

1559

01:11:23.665 --> 01:11:27.205

So it akin to linkage county council's submission.

1560

01:11:27.305 --> 01:11:30.525

We agree, uh, that eight weeks is, is

1561

01:11:31.225 --> 01:11:32.405

to short.

1562

01:11:33.105 --> 01:11:36.325

Um, our position as we stated previously is that it should

1563

01:11:37.155 --> 01:11:40.485

reflect and mirror the cotton DCA, which is 13 weeks.

1564

01:11:40.945 --> 01:11:43.125

And that's on the basis that this would be number three.

1565

01:11:43.545 --> 01:11:45.365

If West Burton were consented,

1566

01:11:45.475 --> 01:11:48.405

we'd obviously have already three uh,

1567

01:11:48.635 --> 01:11:50.525
consented DCA, this would be the fourth.

1568

01:11:50.905 --> 01:11:52.645
And in that instance we may need longer,

1569

01:11:52.785 --> 01:11:55.325
but at least the time being our submission is quite squarely

1570

01:11:55.325 --> 01:11:56.525
that should follow the most recent

1571

01:11:56.525 --> 01:11:57.605
precedent, which is cotton.

1572

01:11:58.065 --> 01:11:59.885
Uh, and there's good reason in the Secretary of State

1573

01:11:59.885 --> 01:12:02.885
and the inspectors, the examining authorities recommendation

1574

01:12:02.885 --> 01:12:07.605
as to why 13 weeks was, um, was granted in in that DCA.

1575

01:12:08.055 --> 01:12:09.285
Thank you. Okay, thank you.

1576

01:12:09.285 --> 01:12:11.205
And I have noted those points you raised previously,

1577

01:12:11.205 --> 01:12:13.925
so apologies hadn't picked up on the, the lack of, uh,

1578

01:12:14.285 --> 01:12:15.725
revision on the behalf of the applicant.

1579

01:12:15.935 --> 01:12:17.125
Would the applicant like a right

1580

01:12:17.125 --> 01:12:19.885

of reply on those points raised by the local authorities,

1581

01:12:21.425 --> 01:12:22.805

Taylor Power for the applicant?

1582

01:12:22.865 --> 01:12:26.925

Um, I think in terms of the detailed drafting points, uh,

1583

01:12:27.435 --> 01:12:30.925

I'll probably take the councils up on the offer that we deal

1584

01:12:30.925 --> 01:12:32.605

with those through the SOGs.

1585

01:12:32.725 --> 01:12:35.405

I do note that at least in respective requirement seven,

1586

01:12:35.405 --> 01:12:38.125

which I think is the limp requirement, um,

1587

01:12:38.125 --> 01:12:41.005

the applicant has now added LC as a consultee for that.

1588

01:12:41.065 --> 01:12:42.805

So we can confirm that and we'll um,

1589

01:12:43.115 --> 01:12:45.725

discuss further in respective requirement eight.

1590

01:12:46.425 --> 01:12:50.365

Um, in respect to the discharge of requirements, the

1591

01:12:50.915 --> 01:12:53.805

applicant, I, I think has responded several times on this

1592

01:12:53.805 --> 01:12:55.965

point, including at the last issue, specific hearing

1593

01:12:56.065 --> 01:13:00.165

and um, still takes a position that, uh,

1594

01:13:00.195 --> 01:13:03.245

urgency is required when it comes to proceeding

1595

01:13:03.635 --> 01:13:04.685

with the application.

1596

01:13:04.825 --> 01:13:05.845

Um, noting of course

1597

01:13:05.875 --> 01:13:09.725

that this scheme has an earlier connection date than the

1598

01:13:09.725 --> 01:13:10.805

other schemes in the area.

1599

01:13:10.985 --> 01:13:13.965

And so, um, faces that urgency even more so.

1600

01:13:14.545 --> 01:13:18.285

Um, but as with the other detail points, we can take

1601

01:13:18.285 --> 01:13:20.925

that away to discuss it directly with the local authorities

1602

01:13:20.925 --> 01:13:22.165

through the So cgs,

1603

01:13:22.375 --> 01:13:23.375

Thank you. I noticed, uh,

1604

01:13:23.375 --> 01:13:23.965

sorry, Ms.

1605

01:13:23.965 --> 01:13:25.325

Broadhead has got her hand up

1606

01:13:25.425 --> 01:13:26.645

at Bassett Law District Council.

1607

01:13:27.395 --> 01:13:28.965

Yeah, sorry, I just wanted to add

1608

01:13:28.965 --> 01:13:31.565

that Bassett Law District Council would also like the

1609

01:13:31.565 --> 01:13:33.805

discharge period extend into,

1610

01:13:34.295 --> 01:13:36.525

taken into consideration the DCOS

1611

01:13:36.525 --> 01:13:37.725

that we are dealing with as well.

1612

01:13:38.305 --> 01:13:42.125

So we would request that it's extended

1613

01:13:42.185 --> 01:13:43.645

to 13 weeks, please.

1614

01:13:45.385 --> 01:13:47.195

Okay, thank you. Noted. Thank you Mr. Boyer.

1615

01:13:49.835 --> 01:13:51.175

Taylor power for the applicant.

1616

01:13:51.175 --> 01:13:52.615

If, if that's okay, um,

1617

01:13:52.885 --> 01:13:55.535

just the other point I would note is, uh,

1618

01:13:55.875 --> 01:13:57.975

the applicant has also acknowledged that the

1619

01:13:58.535 --> 01:14:02.295

existing drafting within Schedule 17 does allow for

1620

01:14:02.295 --> 01:14:04.775

that period to be extended on request

1621

01:14:04.795 --> 01:14:07.015

and through agreement between the local

1622

01:14:07.015 --> 01:14:08.215

authority and the applicant.

1623

01:14:08.315 --> 01:14:10.735

And you know, as we've previously outlined,

1624

01:14:10.755 --> 01:14:12.765

we would consider that in a lot

1625

01:14:12.765 --> 01:14:15.285

of cases the applicant would, would likely agree to that,

1626

01:14:15.285 --> 01:14:17.605

particularly where this is a reasonable request.

1627

01:14:17.715 --> 01:14:20.765

It's just that the applicant doesn't wanna create a standard

1628

01:14:20.765 --> 01:14:23.205

where you have a much longer period, um,

1629

01:14:23.905 --> 01:14:28.445

and perhaps local authorities aim towards a a longer period

1630

01:14:28.505 --> 01:14:29.845

in terms of responses.

1631

01:14:31.015 --> 01:14:34.325

Thank you. Um, if no one's got any objection,

1632

01:14:34.325 --> 01:14:36.605

if we can now move on to item four other

1633

01:14:36.605 --> 01:14:38.005

matters, uh, Mr. Simpson.

1634

01:14:39.435 --> 01:14:41.445

Okay, thank you Mr. Eley.

1635

01:14:42.395 --> 01:14:45.525

Okay, firstly I'd like to wrap up the issues, uh,

1636

01:14:45.525 --> 01:14:50.445

which I had wanted to deal with during ISH two yesterday.

1637

01:14:51.635 --> 01:14:55.405

We'd actually just completed agenda item three C.

1638

01:14:55.785 --> 01:14:58.285

Um, and there were a couple

1639

01:14:58.305 --> 01:15:00.805

of other matters which i, I wanted to raise.

1640

01:15:01.625 --> 01:15:02.725

Uh, the first related

1641

01:15:02.785 --> 01:15:05.365

to the National Planning Policy Framework,

1642

01:15:05.615 --> 01:15:09.805

which you may well be aware was revised, um,

1643

01:15:09.805 --> 01:15:13.165

published in December of last year.

1644

01:15:13.385 --> 01:15:17.645

Uh, this is just a simple request for the, uh, the councils,

1645

01:15:17.645 --> 01:15:19.925

the applicant and any other interest

1646

01:15:19.985 --> 01:15:21.765

or statutory parties who wish to do so

1647

01:15:21.785 --> 01:15:25.285

to make representations on the implications if any

1648

01:15:25.785 --> 01:15:30.005

of these revisions to the determination of this application.

1649

01:15:31.355 --> 01:15:34.895

Uh, such representation should be made by deadline four

1650

01:15:36.275 --> 01:15:39.805

in relation to statements of common ground, uh,

1651

01:15:40.165 --> 01:15:42.565

deadline three updates to various statements

1652

01:15:42.585 --> 01:15:45.165

of common ground were provided by the applicant.

1653

01:15:45.765 --> 01:15:47.325

Albeit the applicant noted that

1654

01:15:47.835 --> 01:15:49.725

some had not progressed sufficiently

1655

01:15:49.725 --> 01:15:51.525

to warrant an update at Deadline three.

1656

01:15:52.145 --> 01:15:54.045

We spoke briefly about that earlier.

1657

01:15:54.505 --> 01:15:57.605

Uh, I'd be very grateful if all parties could work, uh,

1658

01:15:57.945 --> 01:16:00.085

as proactively as possible to seek

1659

01:16:00.085 --> 01:16:02.205

to update their statements of common ground,

1660

01:16:02.965 --> 01:16:07.165

particularly in light of, uh, matters arising

1661

01:16:07.165 --> 01:16:09.725

during issue specific hearings two and three.

1662

01:16:10.225 --> 01:16:12.405

Um, so if you could try

1663

01:16:12.405 --> 01:16:14.965

and incorporate, uh, any of the points raised

1664

01:16:15.265 --> 01:16:17.285

during these hearings, that would be appreciated

1665

01:16:18.225 --> 01:16:22.405

and those updates should be provided by deadline four

1666

01:16:22.665 --> 01:16:23.925

and we'd be grateful for that

1667

01:16:23.925 --> 01:16:28.845

because I think that, uh, would help inform our,

1668

01:16:29.345 --> 01:16:32.445

um, second round of written questions, uh,

1669

01:16:32.445 --> 01:16:36.205

which I believe are due to be issued in February,

1670

01:16:38.075 --> 01:16:39.895

uh, or at least I hope so.

1671

01:16:40.635 --> 01:16:42.455

Um, okay.

1672

01:16:42.645 --> 01:16:45.375

Does anyone have any other matters they would like to raise?

1673

01:16:45.835 --> 01:16:48.455

Um, yes. Uh, Ms. Garber?

1674

01:16:49.265 --> 01:16:51.455

Thank you sir. Ms. Garber, 7,000 acres?

1675

01:16:51.455 --> 01:16:53.815

Yes, it's just going back to the very beginning of today

1676

01:16:53.815 --> 01:16:57.375

where obviously unfortunately the gentleman representing the

1677

01:16:57.375 --> 01:17:01.015

applicant, um, for health, um, their expert was unable

1678

01:17:01.235 --> 01:17:04.015

to attend and obviously nobody else, um,

1679

01:17:04.165 --> 01:17:06.135

from their team could also attend.

1680

01:17:06.135 --> 01:17:09.165

So therefore it meant that those issues haven't been

1681

01:17:09.165 --> 01:17:10.205

fully addressed today.

1682

01:17:10.515 --> 01:17:12.325

Obviously your questions are outstanding,

1683

01:17:12.505 --> 01:17:14.685

so obviously would like to maybe request

1684

01:17:15.445 --> 01:17:17.205

a further hearing in this respect

1685

01:17:17.385 --> 01:17:21.415

or something that where we can address our queries

1686

01:17:21.475 --> 01:17:24.335

and raise our points and also the XA can do the same as well

1687

01:17:24.875 --> 01:17:27.575

and have a, some sort of hearing

1688

01:17:27.675 --> 01:17:29.535
or something along those lines to, to do

1689

01:17:29.535 --> 01:17:30.575
that if possible because

1690

01:17:30.575 --> 01:17:31.735
that hasn't happened today. Thank you.

1691

01:17:32.365 --> 01:17:35.935
Okay. And that request is noted and we'll take that away

1692

01:17:35.935 --> 01:17:38.095
and discuss it, uh, in due course.

1693

01:17:39.235 --> 01:17:41.495
Um, I do earlier on you mentioned you might

1694

01:17:41.495 --> 01:17:42.975
wanna pick something up.

1695

01:17:43.355 --> 01:17:46.535
Um, in terms of health during this agenda item,

1696

01:17:46.635 --> 01:17:48.975
is there anything you'd like to say at, at this point?

1697

01:17:54.075 --> 01:17:57.215
Um, our expert is, is, is, is left as well earlier. Okay.

1698

01:17:57.215 --> 01:17:58.575
Because obviously he, he was aware

1699

01:17:58.575 --> 01:17:59.815
that this hadn't occurred.

1700

01:18:00.355 --> 01:18:02.415
Um, just obviously that we reserve the right

1701

01:18:02.415 --> 01:18:05.415

that we require, um, a health impact assessment,

1702

01:18:05.635 --> 01:18:07.895

we obviously understand that's isn't been carried out.

1703

01:18:07.955 --> 01:18:11.375

So that's one of our major bushes on this.

1704

01:18:11.685 --> 01:18:13.095

Alright. Okay, thank you.

1705

01:18:13.245 --> 01:18:15.975

Well I think we've established the, the points

1706

01:18:15.995 --> 01:18:18.295

of difference in, in that regard between the applicant

1707

01:18:18.315 --> 01:18:19.655

and 7,000 acres.

1708

01:18:20.205 --> 01:18:24.095

Does anyone else have anything they wish to raise today?

1709

01:18:24.595 --> 01:18:26.335

Yes, Ms. Coleman. Thanks

1710

01:18:26.335 --> 01:18:28.335

Alexis Coleman, the applicant just at the end

1711

01:18:28.335 --> 01:18:30.895

of yesterday, Ms. Hall raised a point, um, just

1712

01:18:30.895 --> 01:18:33.735

with a bit more explanation around the over planting ratio,

1713

01:18:33.735 --> 01:18:35.375

which we did take away overnight,

1714

01:18:35.375 --> 01:18:36.975

but I think, um, we'll come back in writing

1715

01:18:37.295 --> 01:18:38.975

'cause we went back to a note

1716

01:18:38.975 --> 01:18:41.095

and agree that we can give a little bit more detail around

1717

01:18:41.155 --> 01:18:42.495

how we've arrived at that ratio.

1718

01:18:42.555 --> 01:18:43.555

So we'll do that.

1719

01:18:45.405 --> 01:18:47.455

Okay. Yeah, that would be very useful.

1720

01:18:47.755 --> 01:18:52.335

Um, particularly in terms of the comparison with the,

1721

01:18:52.335 --> 01:18:55.205

with the other schemes, um,

1722

01:18:56.795 --> 01:18:59.125

because I think there was an assertion that um,

1723

01:19:00.025 --> 01:19:02.325

the ratio was similar if, you know, similar

1724

01:19:02.325 --> 01:19:05.605

to those other schemes, but I'm not certain about that

1725

01:19:05.625 --> 01:19:07.285

and I wasn't at the time but, um,

1726

01:19:07.285 --> 01:19:09.485

didn't have the information in front of me unfortunately.

1727

01:19:09.665 --> 01:19:11.925

So yeah, I'd be grateful for that.

1728

01:19:12.705 --> 01:19:15.925

Um, is there anything else that anyone else wants to raise?

1729

01:19:16.025 --> 01:19:18.005

Yes sir. Mr. Court,

1730

01:19:18.515 --> 01:19:19.805

Tony Court, 7,000 acres.

1731

01:19:19.905 --> 01:19:23.805

Um, I just wanted to make everybody aware

1732

01:19:23.985 --> 01:19:26.685

of the timing issues with regard to this project.

1733

01:19:27.785 --> 01:19:32.565

Um, this is the fourth one, which is going to be submitted

1734

01:19:32.565 --> 01:19:35.735

for approval, but unfortunately

1735

01:19:35.835 --> 01:19:37.535

for some people this is the first one

1736

01:19:37.535 --> 01:19:38.575

that has a grid connection.

1737

01:19:39.995 --> 01:19:44.775

So is the applicant aware that the cable corridor,

1738

01:19:46.115 --> 01:19:49.495

all the work approvals, acs

1739

01:19:49.755 --> 01:19:51.935

and all that conditional work is going

1740

01:19:51.935 --> 01:19:55.695

to fall upon themselves and also the county councils

1741

01:19:55.695 --> 01:19:56.775

and the district councils

1742
01:19:56.775 --> 01:19:59.295
to approve those documents in the first instance?

1743
01:20:01.115 --> 01:20:03.495
Um, it's up to the applicant whether they want

1744
01:20:03.495 --> 01:20:04.735
to respond to that point.

1745
01:20:04.735 --> 01:20:08.165
Obviously it relates partly to alternative

1746
01:20:08.305 --> 01:20:11.005
or different pod projects, but would you like to come, um,

1747
01:20:11.005 --> 01:20:12.085
Alexis Comp the applicant?

1748
01:20:12.265 --> 01:20:14.765
Um, I'm not sure I fully understand, but yes.

1749
01:20:14.825 --> 01:20:17.885
But we obviously understand that we'll be re responsible

1750
01:20:17.885 --> 01:20:19.685
for discharging requirements for our own scheme,

1751
01:20:19.685 --> 01:20:22.525
for our own cable route and for delivering that.

1752
01:20:24.265 --> 01:20:25.395
Okay. Is that

1753
01:20:30.215 --> 01:20:30.505
Okay?

1754
01:20:30.605 --> 01:20:35.465
Is there anything anyone else would like to raise? No.

1755
01:20:36.175 --> 01:20:40.285

Okay. So we will, well in terms

1756

01:20:40.285 --> 01:20:43.645

of agenda item five, I think we've decided to issue the, um,

1757

01:20:43.945 --> 01:20:45.005

review of actions

1758

01:20:45.105 --> 01:20:48.515

and issues in writing, um,

1759

01:20:50.155 --> 01:20:52.525

such that it is complete, uh, complete as possible

1760

01:20:52.545 --> 01:20:53.605

and we don't rush it.

1761

01:20:53.785 --> 01:20:56.195

Um, so

1762

01:20:56.575 --> 01:20:59.915

unless anyone has anything to raise on agenda item five,

1763

01:21:01.155 --> 01:21:04.965

I will move on to, to close the hearing, which is item six.

1764

01:21:06.345 --> 01:21:11.325

So you should be aware that deadline four is 28th of January

1765

01:21:12.185 --> 01:21:13.765

and this provides an opportunity

1766

01:21:14.065 --> 01:21:17.925

for post-hearing submissions, including written summaries

1767

01:21:18.265 --> 01:21:19.805

of oral submissions.

1768

01:21:20.705 --> 01:21:24.565

Um, there will be a compulsory acquisition hearing tomorrow.

1769

01:21:25.545 --> 01:21:27.285

Um, as mentioned earlier,

1770

01:21:27.575 --> 01:21:31.405

we'll also be issuing our second written questions no later

1771

01:21:31.405 --> 01:21:35.765

than Tuesday, uh, 4th of February, 2025.

1772

01:21:36.675 --> 01:21:40.605

Okay. Um, so thank you all again

1773

01:21:40.605 --> 01:21:41.845

for attending today's hearing.

1774

01:21:42.185 --> 01:21:45.645

Uh, the time is now three minutes past five

1775

01:21:45.945 --> 01:21:47.725

and the hearing is now closed.

1776

01:21:49.615 --> 01:21:50.085

Thank you.