Springwell Solar Farm

Consultation Report
Appendices J-1 to J-2

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

EN010149/APP/5.2
November 2024
Springwell Energyfarm Ltd

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Appendix J-1 – Consideration of Section 42(1)(a)(b) and (d) responses and consideration by topic

Application Document Ref: EN010149/APP/5.2
Planning Inspectorate Scheme Ref: EN010149

Appendix J-1: Summary of Section 42(1)(a)(b) and (d) responses and consideration by topic[1]

Table J-1: Summary of Section 42(1)(a)(b) and (d) responses and consideration by topic

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Air quality				
Construction	Comments stating that construction would cause air pollution which would likely be threatening to health. Specific comments referenced the impact of construction compounds on nearby residential properties as well as construction traffic [2]	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Air quality impacts on human receptors during the construction phase have been assessed in full and are detailed in **ES, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Air Quality [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This assesses potential significant effects during the construction phase on human receptors from the Proposed Development. The assessment has identified that the Proposed Development could have the potential to affect human receptors during the construction phase. Therefore, site-specific mitigation measures have been proposed to minimise construction dust and exhaust emission impacts. Examples of mitigation measures include using suppression or containment around sites/specific	N

[1]Abbreviations and defined terms are included within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 00: Glossary [EN010149/APP/6.1]**
[2]Note: Comments shaded blue were also made by s47 respondents.

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			operations, implementing a wheel washing system and enforcing a speed limit on unsurfaced haul roads and work areas. Proposed mitigation measures are detailed within **ES, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Air Quality [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and would be secured by the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP) [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (oCTMP) [EN010149/APP/7.8].** Any effects on air quality and human receptors during construction of the Proposed Development can be suitably controlled by the mitigation measures listed within the **oCEMP [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **oCTMP [EN010149/APP/7.8].** Therefore, the residual effects of the Proposed Development on air quality and human receptors during construction phase following the implementation of additional mitigation measures is considered to be not significant.	
Cumulative effects	Comment that the Applicant should take into account cumulative air quality effects from the construction of the	North Kesteven District Council	The assessment of cumulative air quality effects includes committed developments and planned, permitted or operational solar farms within 250m of the Order Limits. This includes the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. The assessment shows that no residual inter-project cumulative effects are anticipated	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	proposed National Grid Navenby Substation.		during either construction or operation of the projects. The cumulative effects assessment is detailed in **ES Volume 1**, **Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Decommissioning	Comment that the ES should address measures for early decommissioning, including baseline traffic flows and air quality effects which may not be based solely at year 40.	North Kesteven District Council	The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation. In response to feedback from NKDC, the Applicant has assessed whether there could be any significant effects should the Proposed Development be decommissioned before this date (e.g. due to a force majeure event, or as a result of operational issues), different to those identified at year 40. The representative year (year 20) that has been assessed has been discussed and agreed with NKDC. A screening level air quality traffic assessment (year 20 and year 40 from commissioning) has been undertaken and is presented in **ES Volume 1**, **Chapter 6: Air Quality [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Records of correspondence on this topic are included in **ES Volume 3**, **Appendix 6.1: Air Quality Stakeholder Engagement Activities [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. More detail can be found in **ES Volume 1**, **Chapter 6: Air**	Y

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			Quality, **Table 6.1: Summary of stakeholder engagement [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Notwithstanding the above, the DCO (see **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**) provides that no later than 12 months prior to the date the undertaker intends to decommission any part of the authorised development, the undertaker must notify the relevant planning authority of the intended date of decommissioning for that part of the authorised development, which would trigger the need for approval of the Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan and decommissioning.	
Embedded mitigation measures	Comment that the Applicant should justify the embedded mitigation measures for air quality.	North Kesteven District Council	Embedded mitigation measures for air quality have been detailed in **ES Volume 1**, **Chapter 6: Air Quality [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This includes the function for each embedded mitigation measure together with the securing mechanism. Relevant embedded mitigation measures include: • Offsetting built development at least 20m from Local Wildlife Sites (except for highways improvement works) • Offsetting perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development at least 15m from existing woodlands.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• Offsetting larger elements of the Proposed Development (e.g. Springwell Substation, BESS, Collector Compounds) at least 250m from residential properties. These embedded mitigation measures have been established based on the Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM) Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction v2.2 (2024) to reduce potential dust and exhaust emission impacts from the Proposed Development.	
Receptors	Comment with reference to section 5.5.4 of the PEIR that the Applicant should confirm no properties outside of the three named villages need to be assessed for air quality impacts.	North Kesteven District Council	In accordance with the IAQM Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction v2.2 (2024), human receptors within 250m of the Order Limits have been considered in the air quality assessment. This includes human receptors outside of the three named villages., which have been assessed in the air quality assessment. **ES Volume 2**, **Figure 6.4: Location of Sensitive Air Quality Receptors [EN010149/APP/6.2]** shows the location of all human receptors considered in the assessment.	N
Scope of assessment	Agreement with scope of assessment and schedule of further works outline in	North Kesteven District Council	This comment is noted. The Applicant is grateful for engagement with NKDC on air quality matters throughout the pre-application stage and welcomes further engagement as required.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	section 5.10 of the PEIR.			
Alternatives				
Alternatives - scales of solar	Comment that there are more suitable locations for and scales of solar development, including rooftops, smaller ground-mounted solar farms, brownfield land and poorer quality land.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	National Policy Statement (NPS) EN-1 (2024) states that decentralised and community energy systems, which by definition include rooftop solar installations, could lead to some reduction in demand on the main transmission system, but "*the government does not believe they will replace the need for new large-scale electricity infrastructure to meet our energy objectives.*" NPS EN-1 goes on to explain that the connection of large-scale generation facilities via high-voltage transmission systems enables the pooling of generation and demand and enables the efficient bulk transfer of power between areas with surplus and areas in deficit [1, Para 3.3.12]. This is a critical benefit of large-scale systems and supports energy security and system operability. Powering Up Britain's Energy Security Plan confirms that the government's view is that: "*We need to maximise deployment of both types of solar to achieve our overall [net zero and energy security] target*." The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence that, on its own, smaller scale solar, including rooftop solar, is not likely to deliver a sufficient total	No

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)

installed capacity at the required pace and at an affordable cost to meet the government's net zero and energy security targets. Therefore, smaller scale solar, including rooftop solar, must be considered as additional to, as opposed to instead of, large-scale solar.

The Applicant considered whether sufficient previously developed land would be available to develop a utility scale solar development, however, as the North Kesteven District Council brownfield register illustrates, there are currently only five available sites, none of which would have the capability of meeting the project objectives. Four of these sites have either full planning permission or outline planning permission for housing development. The list of these sites, their size and status are set out below:

Site Name	Size (ha)	Status
The Hoplands Depot, Boston Road, Sleaford	1.84	No planning permission
Land off Moor Lane, Swinderby	8.29	Outline permission for residential development
Land off West Street, Billinghay	1.4	Outline planning permission for residential development

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Land at Former Lafford School	0.98	No planning permission
Land at former Orchard House, Rauceby Hospital, Greylees	1.95	Full planning permission for residential development

None of the above sites were pursued given the inability to meet any of the project objectives.

Of the landholdings identified by the Applicant with sufficient acreage to deliver project the objectives, all were predominantly rural and agricultural in nature, with no differing land types available that had a lesser agricultural grade than Springwell. That is to say, no alternatives sites were identified by the Applicant that presented non-agricultural (e.g., contaminated or industrial) characteristics. All sites identified by the Applicant were identified on the provisional ALC (DEFRA) mapping as Grade 2 or 3.

At a local level, according to the provisional and predictive ALC mapping (DEFRA and Natural England), this area (i.e. in proximity to the Order Limits) of Lincolnshire has a mixture of largely Grade 2 and Grade 3 land. The Applicant has taken into account the quality of agricultural land when identifying the Solar PV Site, based on publicly available information. This approach to considering ALC grade, in terms of the use of provisional and predictive mapping, has been considered as both

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			satisfactory and proportionate by the Examining Authorities in relation to the Gate Burton Energy Park Order 2024 and Mallard Pass Solar Farm Order 2024. Notwithstanding the predictive mapping experience elsewhere in developing/ identifying sites for ground based solar, it is important to carry out detailed site-specific assessment work to inform design development. The wider Lincolnshire area is not mapped, therefore for an indication of the distribution the Applicant also considered the 1970s 'provisional' maps. The Applicant undertook a systematic process to determine suitable sites. A range of technical, environmental, and economic factors are considered when investigating and assessing any potential site for large-scale solar developments. A Site Selection Report has been prepared and forms **Appendix 1** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**, which provides an overview of the site selection process undertaken by the Applicant to identify the location of the Proposed Development. The Site was selected because it presents the characteristics which are highly supportive in terms of the ability to deliver a NSIP scale solar development. The Site:	

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			• has a grid connection offer which would see energy transported to the national transmission network by 2030 • lies within an area of suitable irradiance and favourable topography • includes a proportion of BMV land which is characteristic of the predominating mix in the general locality and less than the Lincolnshire average • has sufficient land to enable the grid connection offer to be maximised while maintaining sufficient offsets to sensitive residential receptors • is located away from key environmental and cultural heritage related designations • is on land which is available and may be voluntarily acquired with a single landowner enabling efficiencies in delivery • is accessible from the road network and has suitable access to land not immediately adjacent the strategic road network. On the basis of the analysis presented in these documents, the Applicant does not consider that its proposals are in breach of Government policy; and in fact, as discussed in the **Statement of Need**	

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			[EN010149/APP/7.1], support the Government's wider policy proposals.	
Alternatives – site selection	Comments about how the location of the grid connection has been considered in the site selection process, including: • That only sites around the grid connection point have been considered, and others should be considered e.g., offshore locations, rest of the country. • That the area immediately around the collection point (along the A15) should be used rather than being	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council North Kesteven District Council	At the outset the Applicant's aim was to deliver a NSIP scale solar farm to meet the critical national need for low carbon and renewable energy generation. Site selection is driven primarily by: • The availability of a suitable grid connection • Suitable topography and irradiance • The availability of land **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives Considered [EN010149/APP/6.1]** sets out the Applicant's approach to alternatives, including locations and technologies. The Chapter concludes that there were no reasonable alternatives that could deliver the Applicant's objectives within the same timeframe which accords with the intent of NPS EN-1 para. 4.3.22. The Applicant considers it reasonable for the site selection process to focus on land in close proximity to a potential connection point as this represents one of the three core attributes required to deliver a NSIP scale solar farm (as set out in the **Site Selection Report** at **Appendix 1** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**). Without a point of connection, the electricity generated would effectively have nowhere to	N

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	distributed over a larger area. • That alternatives within a minimum 10km distance either side of the Cottam Socon network should be considered, rather than site selection being based on the need to minimise the length of the cable connection.		go. This approach is supported in NPS EN-3 and helps reduce energy loss, potential environmental impacts in comparison to shorter cable routes and deliverability based on the potential additional number of land interests. The Site is based on land available to the Applicant. While the landowner may have wider interests and holdings, that does not translate into availability for solar development. The layout of the Proposed Development has been environmentally led and proposes a mixture of solar PV development, wider infrastructure and mitigation which responds to the context of the Site and is laid out in a coherent fashion. The Applicant's **Site Selection Report** is included within **Appendix 1** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2].**	
Alternatives – site selection	Comments that the Applicant has been offered additional land adjacent to the current site boundary that is less sensitive.		The Proposed Development makes use of the land over which the Applicant has negotiated voluntary rights and has certainty that it would be available to deliver the Proposed Development by the connection date. While additional land may have been suggested at various junctures it does not go hand in hand that it would be appropriate in terms of the wider project or deliverable within the same timeframes. This is consistent with NPS EN01, paragraph 4.3.23 which advises that the SoS decision making should be guided	N

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			in considering alternative proposals as to whether there is a realistic prospect of them delivering the same capacity in the same timeframe. The Proposed Development is considered to present a well thought out and policy compliant proposal based on the land available to the Applicant.	
Alternative sites analysis	Comments that the following should not form the basis of the alternative sites analysis: • Ruling out sites below a notional capacity threshold • Specific landholding arrangements e.g., a single landowner • The abundance of BMV land in Lincolnshire	North Kesteven District Council Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	Consecutive governments have made it clear that the delivery of low carbon and renewable energy is a priority. Indeed, NPS EN-1 defines renewable energy generation as Critical National Priority. There is nothing within the suite of energy NPSs that suggests there should be a restriction on the capacity of solar developments therefore the Applicant considers it appropriate to seek to maximise the grid connection offer. In terms of the 'notional threshold', NPS EN-1 at para. 4.3.23 advises that the SoS decision making should be guided in considering alternative proposals as to whether there is realistic prospect of them delivering the same capacity in the same timeframe. The Applicant therefore considers it reasonable to reject alternative proposals that would result in lower capacity. The Proposed Development equates to an output of 1MW per 2.4 acres which represents an efficient use of the land for solar PV and associated infrastructure within the range identified at paragraph 2.10.17 of NPS EN-3.	N

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			One of the objectives at the outset of the project was to identify a low number of or ideally a single, landowner(s) to deliver the Proposed Development. This provides the Applicant with a greater degree of flexibility and certainty in delivery. Multiple landowners generally increase complexity with the potential need to rely on the use of Compulsory Acquisition powers and increase the risk of a project not being delivered within the same timescales. Therefore, the Applicant considers its approach to be well reasoned and compliant with the NPS. BMV in Lincolnshire is significantly higher (71.2%) than the national average (42%). However, BMV, while important, is one of several factors that play a part in site selection. NPS EN-3 sets out a preference for the use of non-agricultural and then lower grade agricultural land but equally is clear that land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of a site. NPS EN-3 further advises that the development of ground mounted solar arrays is not prohibited on BMV. The Applicant considers its approach to BMV at a site selection and site design level is appropriate and responds to the wider context of land quality locally. The Applicant's **Site Selection Report** is included within **Appendix 1** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2].**	

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Alternatives - technology	Comments stating that other methods of renewable energy generation should be considered, such as offshore wind, wave energy, bioenergy, nuclear energy and interconnectors.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives Considered [EN010149/APP/6.1]** sets out alternatives considered by the Applicant and concludes that there are no suitable alternative technologies to deliver the project objectives within the same timescales at this location.	N
Grid connection	Comment that the site selection analysis should demonstrate how the Applicant ruled out other points of connection, resulting in the need for a new substation. This includes: • All existing substations and 400kv across Lincolnshire and East Midlands	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant started engagement with the National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) in November 2020 to discuss potential opportunities for a new connection offer within the target region identified above. Existing grid connection points / National Grid substations with spare capacity, are finite. No grid connection offer was available to the Applicant at existing substations due to capacity restrictions in the target East Midlands region. The East Midlands has for decades been at the hub of energy production for the UK. As methods of carbon intensive power production, such as coal and gas, have been turned off, the capacity in the National Grid infrastructure to collect and transfer the power remains. The Applicant initially looked at opportunities to deliver a project of similar scale as the Proposed Development at	N

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	• Existing 33kv network through planning permission (14/0937/FUL), even if for a partial export.		substations where capacity existed, however, no such capacity was available with a connection date prior to 2033. As Section 7 of the **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** sets out, the lack of viable alternative connections extends to a 50km radius from the Order Limits. This approach to site selection follows the same principles as, for example, the recently granted Mallard Pass Solar Farm Order 2024, Gate Burton Energy Park Order 2024 and Sunnica Energy Farm Order 2024. As set out, above, such connections are finite and there are no existing pieces of infrastructure within a 50km radius of the Order Limits which could offer the same connection within the same timeframes.	
Grid connection	Comments expressing concern about the ability to evidence a grid connection within the anticipated operational timeframe of the Proposed Development. Suggestion that the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation	North Kesteven District Council	NPS EN-1 acknowledges that it may not be possible to coordinate different elements of a project, and that different applications may be submitted for each element of a project (see paragraphs 4.11.5 – 4.11.9). NPS EN-1 makes clear that in the circumstance where elements are consented separately, the Applicant: • should include information on the other elements and explain the reasons for the separate application, confirming that there are no obvious reasons for why other elements are likely to be refused (4.11.8); and	N

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	should not be decoupled from the Proposed Development and that it constitutes related infrastructure under EN-1, or it should be demonstrated that both proposals can be progressed in an integrated way/ include the other within its environmental assessments. If this is not possible, the DCO should include a legal mechanism to prohibit development until grid connection agreements are in place/ delivery timeframes are aligned.		• must ensure sufficient information is provided to comply with the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("EIA Regulations") including cumulative effects which will encompass information on grid connections (4.11.9). The Applicant has included information in relation to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation in its Application, in particular within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, and the **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6]**. In **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1],** the Applicant has undertaken a cumulative effects assessment, including a specific section which addresses the cumulative effect of the Proposed Development with the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation, and has complied with the EIA Regulations requirements in this respect. The proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is not required solely in connection with the Proposed Development (with multiple connections agreed on the TEC register), and National Grid's preference has been to obtain planning permission for its own substation. These are the reasons why the Application for the	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Proposed Development does not seek consent for the National Grid Navenby Substation. As recorded in the **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6]**, the Applicant has a grid connection offer at the proposed Navenby Substation, and the Applicant is aware that National Grid intends to seek planning permission for the substation by way of a Town and Country Planning Act (1990) Application to NKDC. The Applicant is not aware of any obvious reason why the proposed Navenby Substation would not receive planning permission. In terms of the suggestion that the commencement of the Proposed Development should be in some way be restricted based on milestones achieved for the Navenby Substation, there is no justification for this approach. Firstly, the Applicant already has its grid connection offer. Further, the Applicant considers that such a requirement could prevent the Proposed Development from being carried out in a timely and efficient manner, which is not appropriate having regard to the urgent need to deliver renewable energy. Finally, the Applicant's decision to commence construction of the Proposed Development would also be driven by commercial considerations, and it is highly unlikely that the Applicant would construct the Proposed Development without sufficient confidence that a grid	

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			connection would be in place for the export of the energy generated. The Applicant has therefore satisfied the requirements of NPS EN-1 and there is no justification for a restriction of the type suggested.	
Site selection	Comments requesting more information about the site selection process, including: • Whether any alternative sites had been considered and why they were discounted. • Justification for why the current site has been selected. • Justification for why the Proposed Development cannot be delivered on non-BMV land or previously	North Kesteven District Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives Considered [EN010149/APP/6.1]** sets out the Applicant's approach to alternatives, including locations and technologies. Four alternative locations were identified that met the Applicant's initial site search criteria (as set out in section 3 of **Appendix 1: Site Selection Report** to the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**). However, Blankney Estate land performed strongly against the Applicant's search criteria and discussions with the Estate advanced sufficiently for the Applicant to have confidence that the project objectives could be delivered and, once agreement with the landowner was in place, the Applicant received its grid connection offer. It is worthy of note that the Applicant is required to justify its choice of site and the robustness of the site selection process and decision making but is not required to "*establish whether the proposed project represents the best option from a policy perspective*" (para. 4.3.9 of NPS EN-1).	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	developed land within the suggested search area. Other comments felt that detailed information was important due to there being no existing grid connection and in relation to justifying the use of BMV land.		The **Appendix 1: Site Selection Report** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** sets out the site selection process, including which criteria was used in site selection and how the site selection process performs against the key requirements of NPS EN-3. On the matter of land type, the report also concludes that there was no available land of a lower agricultural or non-agricultural grade available in this location which would meet the project objectives. NPS EN-3 sets a preference for the use of non-agricultural or lower grade agricultural land but accepts that the use of some agricultural land is likely, that the development of solar PV on Grades 1 and 2 land is not prohibited and that land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of the site location (see para. 2.10.29 of NPS EN-3).	
Approach to EIA				
Approach to assessment	Request for justification of why some areas have been de-scoped, against the advice of the EIA Scoping Report. If the areas are not affected,	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The scope of the EIA has been determined by the EIA Scoping Opinion received from PINS**. ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.3: Scoping Opinion Response Matrix [EN010149/APP/6.3]** presents the responses received via the Scoping Opinion and the Applicant's responses to each matter raised.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	this should be proven through assessment.		The EIA Regulations require the Environmental Statement to be based on the Scoping Opinion. In instances where the assessment has not been based on the scoping opinion, this has been agreed with the relevant statutory consultee and is detailed, along with the associated justification, within Section 4: Approach to the assessment of **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6–15 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Approach to assessment	Comments stating that due to the scale of the Proposed Development, no parameter should be scoped out of assessment.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The scope of the EIA has been determined by the EIA Scoping Opinion received from PINS**. ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.3: Scoping Opinion Response Matrix [EN010149/APP/6.3]** presents the responses received via the Scoping Opinion and the Applicant's responses to each matter raised. The Scoping Opinion from PINS was informed by consultation with all relevant statutory consultation bodies. The EIA Regulations require the Environmental Statement to be based on the Scoping Opinion.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that regard should be had to Public Health England's advice note *Advice on the content of Environmental Statements*	UK Health Security Agency	This has been noted by the Applicant and considered within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health can be scoped out of the assessment, on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human	N

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	accompanying an application under the NSIP Regime.		health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-reference where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Any relevant mitigation measures would be secured within the **Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** which is submitted in support of the Application. Potential health impacts during construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning - and references where these impacts are assessed within the ES - are detailed in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that where further assessments or impacts relating to health are proposed to be scoped out, this should be fully explained and justified.	UK Health Security Agency	The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health could be scoped out of the assessment, on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-reference where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Any relevant mitigation measures would be secured within the **Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** which is submitted in support of the Application.	N

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			Potential health impacts during construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning and references where these impacts are assessed within the ES are detailed in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Approach to EIA	Comments that further assessment work and information about the Proposed Development is yet to be presented and this will need to be completed and form part of the Environmental Statement.	Lincolnshire County Council	Further detailed information about the Proposed Development is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1].** A full assessment of each environmental factor has been undertaken and forms part of the ES which is presented in **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and supported by figures and appendices provided in **ES Volume 2 [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and **ES Volume 3 [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
Approach to EIA	Comment that the final ES should clearly set out the parameters of the Proposed Development, and where these cannot be reasonably fixed, assessment should be	North Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire County Council	The parameters that have been assessed within the ES and would be secured as part of the Proposed Development are detailed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 3.1: Project Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.3].** If there is optionality retained in the design, a worst-case scenario has been assessed for each environmental factor. Further detail on the approach to flexibility is provided in	N

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	based on a worst-case scenario.		**ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The reasonable worst case assessed for each environmental factor is provided in Section 4 in each topic chapter of the **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-15 [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Embedded mitigation measures	Comment that the Applicant should justify the choice of buffer zone distances applied and whether these are a product of the technical assessments carried out, best practice, or both.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has incorporated minimum offsets to specific elements of the Proposed Development based on a combination of guidance, good practice, precedence set by other NSIP solar schemes and professional judgement from technical specialists of the project team. For example, there would be a minimum 15m offset from proposed built development to any existing woodland in accordance with guidance published by Natural England and the British Standards Institution for tree root protection areas. The study area for each environmental factor alongside the reasoning of why distances have been applied and used for the assessment is included within Section 4 in each topic chapter of the **ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-5 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Embedded mitigation measures	Comment that the embedded mitigation measures in relation to	North Kesteven	NPS EN-3 sets out a preference for the use of non-agricultural land in the first instance and subsequently lower grades of agricultural land, should this be required.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	agricultural land impacts cannot be accepted as national policy requires justification for, and avoidance of the use of any BMV land.	District Council	However, NPS EN-3 asserts that land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of a site location and that the development of ground mounted solar arrays is not prohibited on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land. NPS EN-3 further recognises that, at scale, it is likely that developments would use some agricultural land subject to the Applicant explaining their choice of site. As set out in the **Appendix 1: Site Selection Report** to the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** there is no brownfield land within the administrative area of North Kesteven District Council that has the capability of delivering the project objectives. It should also be noted that within Lincolnshire there is a significantly higher proportion of BMV (71.2%) in comparison to the national average (42%). While this does not simply give justification to propose solar development on BMV land, it sets the context that non-BMV land is less abundant. It is also important to recognise that land type is one of many factors that influence site selection and needs to be considered in a proportionate way. Nevertheless, the Applicant sought to avoid higher grades of agricultural land (see **Appendix 1: Site Selection Report** to the **Planning Statement**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			[EN010149/APP/7.2] and the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**) and took appropriate mitigation measures to limit use of most productive land during the lifetime of the Proposed Development. The Applicant considers its approach to be reasoned and in accordance with the requirements of policy set out in NPSs EN-1 and EN-3.	
EIA process	Comments stating that the EIA process is not a genuine exercise, including that assessments are not independent and should be subject to independent validation. Other comments felt that the environmental effects of the Proposed Development have been understated.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Applicant instructed EIA specialists (RSK) to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment and prepare the Environmental Statement **[EN010149/APP/6.1- 6.4]**. RSK is held to the same high standards of professionalism as all EIA consultants, including through its registration with the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) EIA Quality Mark. The scheme includes independent review of RSKs EIA work as well as its delivery against seven 'EIA commitments'. The ES identifies a range of possible impacts of the Proposed Development, including both beneficial and adverse, together with mitigation measures to prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset adverse effects. Given the approach to assuming a reasonable worst case, rather than understating the likely effects of the Proposed Development, if anything, the adverse effects may be slightly over-stated given the precautionary approach	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			taken to ensure that the effects can be properly considered. As part of Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant published a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (**Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2**) which set out the results of preliminary environmental assessments as well as further work required to inform the contents of the ES. Feedback from Phase Two Consultation on the PEIR led to several changes being made to the approach to EIA which are summarised in the Consultation Report **[EN010149/APP/5.1]** and within this Appendix. The Applicant has set out how it has approached the EIA in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Should the Application be accepted for examination, the ES would be published and be subject to examination as part of the Application. This process is led by the Planning Inspectorate. As part of the examination, anyone who has registered as an 'Interested Party' is able to make representations on the Proposed Development. These representations are also made publicly available. This includes members of the public, as well as statutory bodies such as Natural England, Historic England and the host authorities.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Information	Questions about where the Environmental Statement and Construction Environmental Management Plan are and when these would be made available.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** form part of the Application. Interested parties will have the opportunity to review and comment on these as part of the examination of the Application.	N
Lifespan	Comment that assessments of the Proposed Development have assumed an operational lifespan of 40 years however the following considerations should be factored in: • Cumulative assessments should consider the likely permanence of the NGNS	North Kesteven District Council	It is noted that the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation does not form part of the Application. However, in line with the EIA Regulations and case law, an assessment of the cumulative effects of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is detailed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation. In terms of repowering, the Applicant has set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]** the assumptions for the Proposed Development in relation to ongoing maintenance and replacement of parts during the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Presumption of repowering under NPSs/NPPF		lifetime of the Proposed Development. These have been fully assessed in the ES. The Applicant is only authorised to "maintain" the Proposed Development pursuant to the DCO and that power does not authorise works which are likely to give rise to any materially new or different effects to those assessed in the Environmental Statement. There are therefore controls in place with respect to actions during operation, and this has no impact on the 40-year operational lifetime of each phase of the Proposed Development.	
National Grid Navenby Substation	Recommendation that all relevant chapters must assess cumulative construction and operational effects of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation as it is indivisible from the Proposed Development.	North Kesteven District Council	It is noted that the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation does not form part of the Application. However, in line with the EIA Regulations and case law, an assessment of the cumulative effects of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is detailed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].** NPS EN-1 acknowledges that it may not be possible to coordinate different elements of a project, and that different applications may be submitted for each element of a project (see paragraphs 4.11.5 – 4.11.9). NPS EN-1 sets out the requirements of the Applicant in the circumstance where elements are consented separately.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Mitigation	Concern that some land currently labelled as mitigation could be returned to the landowner and therefore would not actually provide mitigation for the Proposed Development.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The land that is required for mitigation (Green Infrastructure) and the land is retained for arable use has been refined since Phase Two Consultation. The area within the Order Limits that is required for the installation of the cable routes would be temporarily used during the construction phase and returned to arable use thereafter. The land that is required for mitigation is shown on the **Green Infrastructure Parameters** outlined in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2]**, which are secured via the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. The detailed Landscape and Ecology Management Plan(s) would set out mitigation measures, including ongoing maintenance and monitoring. The DCO would require ongoing compliance with the LEMP(s).	N
PEIR	Comments stating that the PEIR offers very little granular concrete answers.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The PEIR provided a preliminary assessment accounting for the information available at the time of assessment. The detail of the Proposed Development and assessment is detailed in full within the **Environment Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]** which forms part of the Application. Should the Application be accepted for examination, interested parties would have the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			opportunity to consider and make comments on this as part of the examination process.	
Battery storage				
Battery safety commitments document	Comment that the Applicant should ensure that the battery safety commitments document includes a fire risk assessment to demonstrate that the BESS would not pose significant risk to nearby human health receptors in the event of fire from associated smoke, toxic gases and combustion products. Comment that a risk assessment of the impact of accidental fires from other areas of the Proposed Development on any	UK Health Security Agency	The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS (Battery Energy Storage System), including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS" and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 "Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems". The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	nearby receptors is also expected.		receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk. The **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **Flood Risk Assessment: Appendix - Outline Drainage Strategy [EN010149/APP/7.16]** set out methods to collect, contain and manage any firefighting water runoff during a thermal runaway event. It also sets out drainage strategy for normal operation. This helps to avoid, control and mitigate the risk of contamination to nearby receptors.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			With regard to other areas of the Proposed Development, elements would be set out as per industry best practice and guidance, including NFCC Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS". Offsets of non-BESS related equipment from receptors has also been considered and incorporated into the design, as per the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This would minimise the impact on any nearby receptors. Further fire risk assessments would be conducted as appropriate throughout the detailed design and construction phases. The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Design	Suggestions that the Applicant could mitigate the impact of the battery storage by having these below ground level.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Putting the battery storage below ground would have significant practical and safety issues such as: drainage of rainwater and any firefighting water; emergency access and ability to safely deal with a thermal runaway event; potential exposure to fire plumes in a thermal runaway event; excavation of large amounts of soil. Instead, the Applicant proposes to mitigate potential impacts of the BESS through refinements that have been made to the design such as location and scale of the BESS and mitigation measures such as acoustic fencing. Since Phase Two Consultation, the BESS siting areas have been refined to mitigate potential impacts. This includes removing the proposed siting area near Heath Road in Fields Bcd139/Bcd140 and reducing the size of the proposed siting area to increase the distance from the BESS to residential properties and businesses at Toll Bar Cottages, Thompson's Bottom and Gorse Hill Farm.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The Applicant has investigated impacts with respect to battery safety and fire risk, which is detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19].**	
Fire risk	Comments that there would be a high fire safety risk from the BESS and more assurances should be given about the likelihood of an incident and more information about proposed mitigation measures to mitigate this risk. Other comments felt that the proposed fire suppression systems and safety measures are inadequate for the BESS and the risk could not be mitigated.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS" and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 "Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems". The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk. Compliance with internationally accepted tests (e.g. UL9540A) would be mandatory on any BESS that could be used for the Proposed Development. The Applicant would set strict standards around safety, reliability and quality throughout procurement that must be satisfied for any BESS product or supplier to be considered. Trained staff would be used throughout the installation, operation and maintenance phases to ensure a high-quality BESS	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			installation and that the facility continues to function as expected. On-site staff would maintain the BESS and would be able to respond swiftly and appropriately to any indications from the in-built monitoring equipment within the BESS enclosures as well as carrying out regular maintenance activities. The monitoring system would be able to pre-emptively shut down the BESS enclosure automatically if it detected early indications of a likely thermal event, even without human intervention. The Applicant is applying measures in multiple areas of the BESS to ensure high levels of system safety and integrity using a layer fire system philosophy. Some examples of mitigation that may be used are monitoring CO and H2 gas levels; heat detection; minimum 60 minutes fire rated walls; deflagration panels and sufficient physical space. The **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **Flood Risk Assessment: Appendix - Outline Drainage Strategy [EN010149/APP/7.16]** set out methods to collect, contain and manage any firefighting water runoff during a thermal runaway event. It also sets out drainage strategy for normal operation. This helps to avoid, control and mitigate the risk of contamination to nearby receptors. The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (**see Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Fire risk	Concern that any fire from the BESS could spread to nearby residential properties. Specific reference to Toll Bar Cottages		The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance “Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS” and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 “Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems”.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (e.g. Toll Bar Cottages which is approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk. The **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **Flood Risk Assessment: Appendix - Outline Drainage Strategy [EN010149/APP/7.16]** set out methods to collect, contain and manage any firefighting water runoff during a thermal runaway event. It also sets out drainage strategy for normal operation. This helps to avoid, control and mitigate the risk of contamination to nearby receptors. With regard to other areas of the Proposed Development, elements would be set out as per industry best practice and guidance, including NFCC Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS". Offsets of non-BESS related equipment from receptors has also been considered and incorporated into the design, as per the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This would minimise the impact on any nearby receptors. Further fire risk assessments would be conducted as appropriate throughout the detailed design and construction phases.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Guidance	Comment that the Applicant should continue to engage with Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue, which has provided planning	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven	The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS" and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association)	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	guidance for Grid Scale BESS.	District Council	855 “Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems”.	
	Other comments requested the Applicant engage on regarding required configuration of fire safety equipment, water storage tanks and shut off valve/s etc.		The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**). The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **oBSMP**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			[EN010149/APP/7.14] and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur.	
Location of BESS	Comment that alternative locations and configurations of the BESS (i.e., distributed) have been discounted due to landscape and visual effects in Springwell East and Central, however Springwell West is arguably the most open and exposed part of the site and that this decision should be justified.	North Kesteven District Council	Springwell West is identified as the preferred location for the BESS for a variety of reasons including: • Close proximity to the existing National Grid overhead transmission line. • Close proximity to the Springwell Substation. • Close proximity to the A15 to facilitate access and avoid impact on the local road network. • The scale of the landscape, which is larger and less intimate than Springwell Central and Springwell East, was considered to be better suited to large scale infrastructure. • The presence of existing infrastructure in Springwell West including prominent pylons. • Relatively few sensitive visual receptors compared to Springwell Central and Springwell East.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• Notably less PRoW compared to Springwell Central and Springwell East. • Potential impacts on the setting of Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Areas in Springwell East. • Potential impacts on the setting of Grade II listed Scopwick Mill in Springwell Central. • The presence of Flood Zone 2 or 3 in Springwell East. Distributed BESS were discounted as there were limited locations deemed suitable for distributed BESS in Springwell East and Springwell Central, particularly due to landscape and visual impacts and proximity to the residential settlements of Blankney and Scopwick. Following Phase Two Consultation (where two potential locations for the BESS within Springwell West were presented), the location of the BESS was reviewed and revised as part of the design process to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. The location to the south of Springwell West, adjacent to Bloxholm Woods, was discounted due to the likely noise effects at residential receptors located to the north,	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			potential visual effects on users of the nature reserve and following feedback from statutory consultees. The proposed siting area for the BESS (to the north of Springwell West) has also been refined, discounting Fields Tb1 and Bcd082 and the northern and eastern sections of Field Tb2 based on the outcome of further survey work, including landscape assessments and noise modelling to reduce effects on properties at Toll Bar Cottage, Gorse Hill Farm and Thompson's Bottom Cottages. Overall, this resulted in the proposed siting area for the BESS (and Springwell Substation) being refined from five fields at Phase Two to a single field within the final design. The siting zone for the BESS is shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and is located entirely within Field Tb2 to the north of Springwell West. Siting of the Springwell Substation and BESS within Field Tb2 allows for landscape and visual mitigation of the Proposed Development from the A15 and surrounding residential receptors. The Springwell Substation and BESS compound would be offset by 250m from the A15. Earth bunding is proposed to partially screen the lower lying elements of the compound from the road.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			New structure planting, in the form of tree belts and hedgerows, would support with screening and integration of the Springwell Substation and BESS compound. This would include tree belt planting to the west, south and east of the compound, while existing woodland (Gorse Hill Covert) would provide screening to the north. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** It is acknowledged in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that some adverse effects on landscape and visual amenity would remain even with mitigation in place but this would be the case wherever this infrastructure was located within Order Limits or the wider landscape.	
Location of BESS	Suggestion that the BESS, main collector compound and Springwell Substation are focussed in Springwell East due to lesser landscape sensitivity. Other	North Kesteven District Council	The starting point for the size of the BESS is to make the best use of the National Grid connection agreement. There is an urgent need to decarbonise the grid and BESS plays an important role balancing the grid (see **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]**). In any event, the size of the BESS is limited due to environmental considerations e.g. noise, and that it is Associated Development to the principal development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	comments request justification for why the BESS cannot be provided on a smaller scale which could open up alternatives in Springwell East.		The proposed BESS would primarily support the solar development by storing generated electricity and exporting it to the National Grid at times of demand. It is intrinsically linked to the principal development in that it provides support to increase operational efficiency in a way that the principal development cannot achieve on its own. The BESS's primary function cannot exist without the principal development, however, the grid connection agreement does also allow for import, storage and redistribution of electricity from and to the National Grid. The capacity of the BESS is less than the potential peak generation of the Solar PV development. The Applicant considers the Associated Development tests set out above are met in terms of the inclusion of the BESS within the Proposed Development, (see the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**). The BESS facility has been sized to reflect the scale of the solar installation, as well as reflect the requirements for safe operation of the site, such as those in the NFCC Guidance. Distributed BESS were discounted as there were limited locations deemed suitable for distributed BESS in Springwell East and Springwell Central, particularly due to landscape and visual impacts and the proximity to the residential settlements of Blankney and Scopwick.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Springwell West is identified as the preferred location for the BESS for a variety of reasons including: • Close proximity to the existing National Grid overhead transmission line. • Close proximity to the Springwell Substation. • Close proximity to the A15 to facilitate access and avoid impact on the local road network. • The scale of the landscape, which is larger and less intimate than Springwell Central and Springwell East, was considered to be better suited to large scale infrastructure. • The presence of existing infrastructure in Springwell West including prominent pylons. • Relatively few sensitive visual receptors compared to Springwell Central and Springwell East. • Notably less PRoW compared to Springwell Central and Springwell East. • Potential impacts on the setting of Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Areas in Springwell East. • Potential impacts on the setting of Grade II listed Scopwick Mill in Springwell Central.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• The presence of Flood Zone 2 or 3 in Springwell East. Following Phase Two Consultation (where two potential locations for the BESS within Springwell West were presented), the location of the BESS was reviewed and revised as part of the design process to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. The location to the south of Springwell West, adjacent to Bloxholm Woods, was discounted due to the likely noise effects at residential receptors located to the north, potential visual effects on users of the nature reserve and following feedback from statutory consultees. The proposed siting area for the BESS (to the north of Springwell West) has also been refined, discounting Fields Tb1 and Bcd082 and the northern and eastern sections of Field Tb2 based on the outcome of further survey work, including landscape assessments and noise modelling to reduce effects on properties at Toll Bar Cottage, Gorse Hill Farm and Thompson's Bottom Cottages. Overall, this resulted in the proposed siting area for the BESS (and Springwell Substation) being refined from five fields at Phase Two to a single field within the final design. The siting zone for the BESS is shown on the	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3] and is located entirely within Field Tb2 to the north of Springwell West. Siting of the Springwell Substation and BESS within Field Tb2 allows for landscape and visual mitigation of the Proposed Development from the A15 and surrounding residential receptors. The Springwell Substation and BESS compound would be offset by 250m from the A15. Earth bunding is proposed to partially screen the lower lying elements of the compound from the road. New structure planting, in the form of tree belts and hedgerows, would support with screening and integration of the Springwell Substation and BESS compound. This would include tree belt planting to the west, south and east of the compound, while existing woodland (Gorse Hill Covert) would provide screening to the north. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** It is acknowledged in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that some adverse effects on landscape and visual amenity would remain even with mitigation in place but this would be	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			the case wherever this infrastructure was located within Order Limits or the wider landscape.	
Monitoring	Queries if the battery storage facility would be remotely monitored.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The battery storage facility would be monitored both by on-site staff and remotely to ensure safe and optimal operation of the facility.	N
Scale	Comments stating that the proposed BESS is too large. Other comments requested more justification for the size of the BESS.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council North Kesteven District Council	Paragraph 2.10.10 within NPS EN-3 sets out that government is supportive of solar development that is "co-located with other functions (including storage) to maximise the efficiency of land use". The starting point for the size of the BESS is to make the best use of the National Grid connection agreement. There is an urgent need to decarbonise the grid, and the BESS plays an important role balancing the grid. In any event, the size of the BESS is limited due to environmental considerations e.g. from environmental impact assessments like noise, and it is Associated Development to the principal development. The BESS facility has been sized to reflect the scale of the solar installation, as well as reflect the requirements for safe operation of the site, such as those in the NFCC Guidance.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Historically, electricity peak demand has tended to occur on winter weekday evenings, when industrial and commercial demand overlaps with residential. However, NGESO state that "as the share of renewable electricity supply increases, electricity peaks could occur at other times" [Future Energy Scenarios (2024), p101]. This is an important point which is further evidenced in the **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** in relation to UK solar generation contributing to delivering secure electricity supplies at all times of the year. BESS facilities support the energy generation by dispatching energy when it is most needed. The Applicant considers the size of the BESS to be appropriate to the need identified.	
Biodiversity				
Approach to assessment	Comments stating that more work should be undertaken by the Applicant to assess the impact on fauna and demonstrate how it will implement a zero-harm plan to protect habitats in its Environmental Statement.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Ecology surveys were ongoing at Phase Two Consultation but have now been completed. It is considered that sufficient surveys have been carried out to inform the baseline and support a robust assessment of impacts on flora and fauna. Details of the surveys carried out are presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 7.1-7.13 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The assessment of effects and mitigation are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].** No significant adverse effects are	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			anticipated due to embedded design and mitigation measures. The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** These measures are anticipated to have a significant beneficial effect on hedgerows, notable arable flora and birds. Details of proposals are provided in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	
Approach to assessment	Comment stating that the PEIR, Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity has been reviewed in respect of issues within the Environment Agency's remit and it is pleased to see that further work is proposed to inform the	Environment Agency	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with the Environment Agency throughout the pre-application stage and welcomes further engagement as required. Following Phase Two Consultation, further work has involved further ecology surveys to determine the baseline and to inform the design of the Proposed Development. The biodiversity design has evolved to avoid impact to species and habitats, where possible, and to create and enhance new and existing habitats. For example, planting of approximately 15,563m of new hedgerows and 16ha of new tree belts, 100ha of new	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Environmental Statement (ES).		grassland creation and enhancement of field margins which is anticipated to reduce run-off and reduce pesticide and herbicide use for the benefit of watercourses. Details of habitat creation and enhancement proposals are in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Details of the biodiversity impact assessment are in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Approach to assessment	Comment that a number of receptors are proposed to be scoped out of assessment despite the Scoping Opinion requesting these to be scoped in.	Lincolnshire County Council	Since Phase Two Consultation, there have been changes to which receptors have been scoped out of the assessment due to design updates and further consultation. Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant agreed the list of receptors to be scoped in and out for the ES with LCC and NKDC. Receptors scoped in and out are discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	Y
Approach to assessment	Comment that at this stage no substantive concerns are raised in relation to the information and assessment provided in the PEIR, as well as	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with the NKDC on ecology matters throughout the pre-application stage and welcomes further engagement as required Following Phase Two Consultation, further engagement has included meetings to discuss the scope of ecology surveys and the biodiversity design. Details of further	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	programme of future surveys provided.		engagement is shown in **Table 7.1** of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. As a result, further survey work for wintering birds and notable arable flora were undertaken. The ecology surveys undertaken were agreed and have been considered sufficient to inform the baseline and the design. Details of ecology surveys undertaken are in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 7.1-7.13 [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The biodiversity design has evolved, following the mitigation hierarchy, to avoid impact to species and habitats, where possible, and to create and enhance habitats. Details of habitat creation and enhancement proposals are in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. Details of the biodiversity impact assessment are in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that conclusions on likely significant effects where surveys are incomplete are premature and comment is deferred until the ES is available.	North Kesteven District Council	An assessment of effects and mitigation is detailed in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Information relating to surveys has been provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 7.1 - 7.14 [EN010149/APP/6.3].** No significant adverse effects are anticipated due to embedded design and mitigation measures.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** These measures are anticipated to have a significant beneficial effect on hedgerows, notable arable flora and birds. Details of proposals are provided in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	
Approach to assessment	Request that all habitat losses should be quantified in the ES, even if the habitat is scoped out of detailed impact assessment, with information about how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied. Habitat compensation and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) should not be	North Kesteven District Council	Habitat loss (for all habitats) is quantified in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14 – Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The biodiversity design has evolved, following the mitigation hierarchy, to avoid impact to species and habitats, where possible, and to create and enhance habitats. Measures to avoid impact on habitats have been embedded in the design of the Proposed Development (see the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**). Embedded mitigation measures relevant to biodiversity, as well as additional mitigation measures are included in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	relied upon to justify habitat loss.		the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are detailed within the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Approach to assessment	Comment that where habitats are relevant to the BNG baseline, the Applicant is responsible for demonstrating which habitats are priority habitats with reference to current definitions and suitable baseline data. MAGIC shouldn't be relied on a definitive reference.	North Kesteven District Council	All habitats within the Order Limits have been field surveyed using UK habitat survey methodology and assessed in accordance with Biodiversity Net Gain methodology and for priority habitat status with reference to current definitions and suitable baseline data. Survey details are shown in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Habitat is also quantified in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14 - BNG Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and within the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that further hedgerow surveys should meet relevant guidance for assessment and evidence how the Proposed	North Kesteven District Council	As well as the UK habitat survey and condition assessment of hedgerows, surveys of hedgerows were also carried out to assess their 'importance' under the wildlife and landscape criteria of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997, with survey data then used to inform the design of the Proposed Development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Development has been designed to avoid impacts to high-value hedgerows. Other comments highlight a cross-discipline approach is needed to identify hedgerows of importance on wildlife, landscape and heritage grounds.		A desk study was also carried out to determine the historical importance of hedgerows as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Hedgerows and trees which had bat roost potential have been avoided in the design of the Proposed Development, which is shown in **ES Volume 2 Figure 7.2: Bat Ground Level Tree Assessment and Areas Proposed for Vegetation Removal [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. The Applicant has sought to avoid hedgerows assessed as important where possible. However, ten important hedgerows (for wildlife and landscape reasons) and two historically important hedgerows (which represent pre-enclosure systems) would be affected by vegetation removal proposals for cable installation and/or access. A plan showing important hedgerows which would be affected by works is included in: **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.11: Important Hedgerow Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The historical assessment is provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Approach to assessment	Comment that habitat definitions and relevant qualifying woody species diverge depending on the method being used so understanding of this should be demonstrated within the methods described (including survey timings), the survey team used (competence), and the results obtained.	North Kesteven District Council	There is a variation in how hedgerows and woody species are assessed, for example between UK habitat and hedgerow regulations survey. To avoid any confusion, the methods for habitat assessment (including survey timings), the survey team used (competence), and the results obtained are clearly detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Details of the hedgerows survey with regard to the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 is shown in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.11: Important Hedgerows Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. It has been ensured that different survey methodologies and the assessment conclusions from these different methodologies are clearly separated. Assessments have followed relevant guidance, such as UK Habitat survey guidance, and where practicable have utilised optimal survey timings where this is possible. Where timing of surveys has been outside of the optimal period this has been accounted for in assessment of the results and the precautionary principle used. There are no known limitations of significance that are considered would affect the validity of the survey findings. Specific assumptions and limitations relevant to each survey, including how any limitations have been overcome, are included within the relevant technical reports presented	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 7.1 - 7.13 [EN010149/APP6.3].**	
Approach to assessment	Comment that the site may be important for individual species and/or assemblages of scarce arable flora and evidence of surveyor competence should be provided.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been agreed with NKDC. Surveys for arable flora were carried out in 2024, and a number of scarce species identified. Appropriate surveyor competence and details of the surveys are provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.8: Notable Arable Flora Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Specific mitigation measures to ensure the continued survival of scarce arable plants have been outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that all detailed botanical and habitat surveys should be appropriately timed. Specific reference to scarce arable flora surveys.	North Kesteven District Council	Botanical and habitat surveys were appropriately timed where possible. The PEA habitat surveys which covered the majority of the Site were carried out in April, May and June which is within the optimal survey period for habitat surveys. The PEA habitat surveys for the two northern fields in Springwell West and the Grid Connection Cable Corridor area were carried out in January and November respectively, which is outside of the optimal survey period. Less conspicuous plant species (including Invasive Non-Native Species) may have been missed as a result of these surveys being undertaken outside of the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			optimal survey period, however the majority of plants present were confidently identified, and as these areas were mostly arable habitat the surveys were considered valid to identify broad habitat types present and sufficient to make a preliminary assessment and recommend further survey where required. The precautionary principle was used for condition assessments where appropriate. Limitations to the PEA habitat surveys are discussed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The Local Wildlife Site grassland verge surveys and notable arable flora surveys were carried out in June, which is considered to be an appropriate time for grassland and notable arable flora surveys, justified by the number of grassland species and scarce arable species being identified. Although some notable arable plant species, which germinate later, may have been missed as they may only be visible in late summer/early autumn. These later germinating species have been assumed to be potentially present and have been considered in the assessment as enhancement proposals include both spring and autumn cultivation which would benefit both spring and autumn germinating notable arable flora. Details of habitat enhancement proposals for notable arable flora are in the **Outline**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]. Some hedgerows were surveyed between August - October 2024, due to the timing of updates made to the design, which is not optimal for survey of ground flora. However, this was not considered as a significant constraint to the findings of the surveys as for those hedgerows surveyed (outside of the optimal time period) the presence of qualifying ground flora species was not a deciding factor on whether the hedgerows were deemed important or not - except for one hedgerow which was deemed potentially important, using the precautionary principle, as it was assumed that the qualifying three ground flora species were present. Details of methods and timings of botanical surveys are detailed in appendices found in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.8: Arable Flora Survey; Appendix 7.9: Local Wildlife Site Verges Survey** and **Appendix 7.11: Important Hedgerow Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that the evaluation in Appendix 6.2 and Appendix 6.3 of the PEIR is questionable given the surveys were	North Kesteven District Council	It is acknowledged that the timings of the surveys as presented in Appendix 6.2 and Appendix 6.3 of the PEIR were not optimal for botanical surveys as vegetation growth is minimal and some species, such as notable arable plants, may not be visible.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	completed in January 2023 and November 2023 respectively and this should be addressed in the ES.		However, this was not considered as a significant limitation due to the nature of habitats present, which were mostly arable, and objectives of the preliminary survey. Further targeted surveys for notable arable plant species were carried out in June 2024. Hedgerow surveys of the Grid Connection Corridor area were carried out in May 2024, which are considered appropriate timings for these botanical surveys. Limitations to the PEA survey are discussed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
Approach to mitigation	Agreement that the Proposed Development poses opportunities for biodiversity, however proposed mitigation and enhancement measures should be carefully distinguished. Specific reference to protection of woodlands, hedgerows and trees which should	North Kesteven District Council	In **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]** mitigation and enhancement measures are appropriately distinguished. Protection of woodlands, hedgerows and trees are classed as embedded mitigation measures.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	be classed as embedded mitigation not ecological enhancements.			
Badger	Disagreement that badger can be scoped out as evidence has not been provided on the location of the setts and how this relates to the Proposed Development. Request for a confidential standalone report which provides a full impact assessment.	North Kesteven District Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the confidential badger report was made available to NKDC, who agreed that badgers could be scoped out of further assessment. The location of badger setts is shown in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.10: Confidential Badger Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Badgers have been scoped out as main badger setts would be avoided by a 30m buffer as per the embedded design. This is secured through the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**.	N
Barn owl	Agreement with the rationale given for scoping barn owl out of assessments and that the Proposed Development could improve habitat quality for barn owl.	North Kesteven District Council	Since Phase Two Consultation, barn owl has subsequently been scoped in due to the proximity of potential nesting sites near the Order Limits, as works in proximity to nesting sites could potentially disturb barn owl. Mitigation to avoid disturbance and proposals to improve habitat quality including the management of grass margins for hunting barn owls and provision of barn owl boxes are detailed in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].	
Bats	Note that the site baseline is of regional to national importance for bats and agreement with approach within the Bat Activity Survey report and proposals for further surveys and assessments. Comment that further consideration of operational lighting design to limit effects on bats will be required.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted regarding agreement with the Applicant's approach to assessment as set out in the Bat Activity Survey report. Further details on the bat activity surveys can be found within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.5 Bat Activity Survey, Appendix 7.6: Bat Activity Survey Addendum** and **Appendix 7.13 Further Targeted Bat Activity Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Lighting has been considered to minimise light spill to prevent disturbance to bats and other nocturnal animals. Throughout construction and operation, the use of motion detection or manually operated lighting would be used to avoid constant lighting. Security lighting would use infra-red which is not on the visible spectrum for bats. The lighting design is secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149APP/7.4]** and discussed in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Biodiversity net gain	Comment that work is on-going to support local nature, including with NSIP projects and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Anglian Water Services Natural England	We have engaged with LCC on the emerging LNRS, noting that no data was available at the time of the assessment as the LNRS is still in development. The Applicant has had regard to existing biodiversity opportunity mapping and the historic Lincolnshire	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	(LNRS). Request that connecting new and existing habitats is a key consideration of the design to contribute to the development of the Nature Recovery Network.		Biodiversity Action Plan to ensure that the Applicant's habitat creation proposals are locally appropriate and accord with local biodiversity priorities. This approach has been discussed and agreed with host authorities. Connecting new and existing habitats has been a key consideration in the design of the Proposed Development which would contribute to the Nature Recovery Network. This includes looking for opportunities to bolster existing calcareous grassland Local Wildlife Site verges and existing hedgerows. Also includes planting 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts which are proposed to enhance connectivity, e.g. new tree belts and meadow creation adjacent to Bloxholm Wood LWS which is a Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust reserve. Details of proposals to enhance habitat connectivity, which would contribute to the Nature Recovery Network, are in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and within the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Biodiversity net gain	Comment that no BNG calculations have been undertaken, and while not yet a statutory requirement for NSIPs,	Natural England Anglian Water Services	The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	it is advised that the statutory metric is used to quantify the benefit of the Proposed Development. Other comments state that the Proposed Development is expected to deliver a significant BNG, and a Biodiversity Gain Plan, oLEMP and Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan is required to demonstrate how this would be secured.	North Kesteven District Council	**[EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Biodiversity Net Gain calculations have now been undertaken. The Statutory Metric was used to calculate the potential Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals. The Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan is detailed and secured in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** and has been mindful of the monitoring requirements of BNG. The Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment, with details of the calculations and plans of habitat enhancement proposals, is in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Biodiversity net gain	Comment that the Applicant has not indicated that it will conduct further habitat surveys in support of BNG assessment which is considered necessary.	North Kesteven District Council	Habitat surveys in accordance with the UK Habitat classification survey method and condition assessments using the Biodiversity Metric 4.0 (which was current at the time), and the Statutory Metric were carried out for all habitats within the Order Limits. The results of these assessments were used to inform a BNG Assessment which can be read in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			[EN010149/APP/6.3] and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Therefore, appropriate guidance has been followed with regards the habitat survey and subsequent BNG assessment. The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Birdstrike	Comment that the Proposed Development could attract wildlife through the construction and operational phases and increase risk of birdstrike.	CAA	It is not considered likely that the Proposed Development would cause a significant increased risk of bird strike for RAF sites in the vicinity by attraction of birds as it is not proposed to create new woodland, scrub or waterbodies that would likely attract significant assemblages of birds. Habitat creation and mitigation measures have been designed to support an assemblage of farmland birds that already exists within the Order Limits. Habitat creation and enhancement measures are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Birdstrike	Comment that the Proposed Development is located within statutory birdstrike safeguarding zones for RAF Barkston Heath, RAF Cranwell and RAF Waddington and therefore attractiveness to hazardous bird species should be minimised with opportunities to shelter, roost and scavenge limited (e.g. drainage basins, landscapes, planting).	Ministry of Defence	It is not considered likely that the Proposed Development would cause a significant increased risk of bird strike for RAF sites in the vicinity by attraction of birds as it is not proposed to create new woodland, scrub or waterbodies likely to attract significant assemblages of birds. Habitat creation and mitigation measures have been designed to support an assemblage of farmland birds that already exists within the Order Limits. Habitat creation and enhancement measures are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Breeding bird survey reports	Comment that approach to breeding bird surveys is appropriate for most species, with request for further information as to how breeding bird survey methods	North Kesteven District Council	The potential presence of Schedule 1 protected bird species was considered in the survey methods. The breeding bird surveys undertaken in 2023 were considered of sufficient survey effort for most Schedule 1 bird species likely to be present. Exceptions to this were for quail and barn owl, which would usually require more tailored survey methods. Surveys for quail would usually involve surveys at dusk. However, as quail were	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	were developed to cover Schedule 1 protected species, as survey effort relating to quail was less than appropriate.		recorded during the daytime surveys, (despite being a difficult and ephemeral breeding bird species that can appear almost anywhere) it was therefore deemed sufficient survey effort to inform on the presence of quail in order to make an assessment. The ES is based on the assumption that quail could be present during construction. Barn owls were seen during the breeding bird surveys in 2023. Further barn owl surveys of barns and nest boxes within 250m of the Order Limits were subsequently undertaken in mid-June 2024 by a licensed surveyor to check for evidence of nesting. The surveys informed that barn owls are likely to be breeding near to the Site and are using areas within the Site for roosting and foraging. Details are in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.4: Barn Owl Survey (Confidential) [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Mitigation for birds is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and survey details, with consideration of limitations, detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.2: Breeding Bird Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Breeding bird survey reports	Comment that the nature conservation evaluation provided in the Breeding Bird	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant considers that the methodology used for the breeding bird surveys was appropriate and had sufficient survey effort as it followed Bird Survey & Assessment Steering Group (2024): Bird Survey	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Survey report goes beyond the approach given in the method statement, but query use of dated approach (Fuller 1980).		Guidelines for assessing ecological impacts. This survey method is considered as becoming the industry standard with regards to conducting breeding bird surveys. There is no specific recent guidance in terms of how assemblages of breeding birds should be evaluated. The Applicant acknowledges that the approach taken by Fuller (1980) is slightly out of date and therefore made adjustments to this methodology. In addition, where possible, county bird records were also used to aid the context when arriving at the evaluation. It should be noted that the breeding and wintering bird assemblage have been identified as being of significant biodiversity value and impact upon then assessed accordingly. Survey details, with consideration of adjustments to methods and limitations, are detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.2: Breeding Bird Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
Breeding bird survey reports	Comment that figures within the Breeding Bird Survey report to show the land-use at the time of survey would be useful rather than just aerial images	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant agrees that recording the cropping regime at the time of survey would provide further information to inform the results of the breeding bird survey. However, this is not considered essential as the breeding and wintering bird assemblage will only ever be a snapshot in time reflecting the current distribution of arable cropping at the time of the survey.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	to assist understanding.		It is considered that sufficient survey information was gathered from the breeding bird surveys to inform the impact assessment and the mitigation requirements. Survey details, with consideration of limitations, are detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.2: Breeding Bird Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Breeding bird survey reports	Comment that the surveys identify that the site is important for birds, and more information is requested to agree these conclusions noting species of specific interest would include grey partridge, skylark, yellow wagtail and linnet.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant agrees that the Site is important for birds. Breeding and wintering bird surveys have been completed and are detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.2: Breeding Bird Survey** and **Appendix 7.3: Wintering Bird Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Species of specific interest found during the surveys included grey partridge, skylark and corn bunting. Consideration for ground nesting and wintering birds is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The assessment concluded that both wintering and breeding birds are of significant biodiversity value. This is reflected in mitigation requirements with approximately 100ha of mitigation area as well as other enhancements proposed as detailed in **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Breeding bird survey reports	Comment that the data indicates a potential opportunity to support and bolster curlew which is suspected to be breeding at RAF Digby.	North Kesteven District Council	Habitat creation and enhancement measures for ground nesting birds, including curlew, are discussed in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Measures include creation of over 100ha of neutral and calcareous grassland for ground nesting birds and enhancement of field margins for foraging birds including winter wild bird seed and tussocky grassland. The creation of 100ha of open grassland is likely to provide additional foraging habitat for curlew, which are an open grassland species.	N
Construction	Concern that during the construction phase, the impact on biodiversity would be significant. Specific reference made to impacts from dust and noise.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	There is not anticipated to be any significant adverse effects on biodiversity due to embedded design and mitigation measures, which is discussed in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Mitigation measures to control pollution including dust and noise during the construction phase are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** In addition, the design of the Proposed Development includes buffer zones, e.g. 10m buffers from hedgerows, 15m buffers from woodlands and 6m buffers from watercourses, throughout all phases of the Proposed Development,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			which is secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].**	
Construction	Comment that the 15m buffer proposed for existing woodlands would be particularly important during construction. The Applicant should adhere to Root Protection Zones (BS 5837), employ protection measures include taking care not to cut tree roots, cause soil compaction around trees or contamination from poisons.	Forestry Commission	The 15m buffer to protect woodlands, throughout all phases of the Proposed Development, is secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** Mitigation measures to protect trees are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. Specific measures include adhering to Root Protection Zones (BS 5837) and employing protection measures such as taking care not to cut tree roots or cause soil compaction around trees.	N
EcIA	Agreement with approach to Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) which aligns with standard good practice methods and requirements.	North Kesteven District Council	This is noted and the Applicant is grateful for engagement with NKDC on biodiversity matters throughout the pre-application stage. Good practice methods and requirements have followed the Chartered Institute of Ecological and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidance and other relevant guidance where possible. Specific assumptions and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			limitations relevant to each survey, including how any difficulties and/or uncertainties have been overcome, are included within the relevant technical reports presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 7.1-7.13 [EN010149/APP6.3**].	
Engagement	Comment welcoming further engagement on biodiversity with the Applicant once in-house resource is secured to provide detailed comments.	Lincolnshire County Council	Further consultation with LCC and NKDC ecologists was undertaken on 9 May 2024 to discuss updates to ecology surveys and the biodiversity design. The Applicant is grateful for engagement with LCC and NKDC on biodiversity matters throughout the pre-application stage and welcomes further engagement as required.	N
Environmental enhancement	Comment that the opportunities for environmental enhancement and intended submission of an oLEMP within the PEIR is noted.	Lincolnshire County Council	An **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** is submitted as part of the Application, which includes habitat creation and improvement measures such as creation of 100ha of neutral and calcareous grassland, planting of 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha new tree belts.	N
Environmental enhancements	Comment that the Proposed Development should look for opportunities	National Trust	Habitat creation and improvement measures are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** This includes enhancement of field margins, management of land under solar PV	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	offered by ecological enhancement.		modules and installation of a variety of bat and bird boxes. The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Environmental enhancements	Comments that opportunities for environmental enhancements identified in the PEIR are welcomed.	Natural England	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with Natural England throughout the pre-application stage and welcome further engagement as required. Engagement with Natural England regarding biodiversity design, habitat creation and improvement measures was undertaken via its Discretionary Advice Service. Following this, the design and mitigation requirements have been refined and measures are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Environmental enhancements	Comment that physical characteristics of the site should be considered when proposing	Natural England	The Applicant agrees with this comment. The wetter, heavy soil in Springwell East and comparatively dry lighter soils in Springwell Central and Springwell West were considered in the design of habitat creation and improvement measures, which are detailed in the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	enhancements e.g. nutrient index, soil type or wetness to inform choice of habitats and ongoing management.		**Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Environmental enhancements	Offer to advise on strategic ecological networks and enhancement via knowledge from its ongoing engagement with the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Lincolnshire.	Natural England	The Applicant engaged with Natural England were undertaken via its Discretionary Advice Service to discuss the biodiversity design which incorporated network connectivity, as well as the results of ecology surveys. It was agreed that, based on the wintering bird surveys completed, it was unlikely that the Site is functionally linked to The Wash SPA/Ramsar. Proposed habitat creation and enhancement measures have been designed to be locally appropriate and in line with the emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy, aiming to enhance habitat connectivity. Details of habitat creation and improvement measures to enhance connectivity are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP7.9]**.	N
European eel	Agreement that European eel can be scoped out.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted and agreed. The details of receptors scoped in and out are discussed in **ES Volume 1 Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
General comment - Biodiversity	Comments that many people nature watch in the surrounding area, and this experience would be adversely affected.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	This has been noted and has been considered within the design. Habitat creation and improvement measures are anticipated to enhance biodiversity overall, maintaining the assemblage of farmland birds and brown hare which are part of the local appeal of the Site and surrounding area. Habitat creation and improvement measures have been targeted along PRoWs and along buffer zones of Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs), woodlands and other priority habitats. Measures are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
General comment - Biodiversity	Comments that during operation there would be a significant impact on biodiversity and habitats. Specific concerns include that wild animals would be trapped within the Proposed Development or prevented from moving through the local area	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Land interest	There is anticipated to be no significant adverse impacts on biodiversity due to embedded design and mitigation measures. Further, there is anticipated to be significant beneficial effect on hedgerows, notable arable flora and birds from habitat creation and improvement measures, which are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Fencing has been designed to enable animals to disperse across the Order Limits, including gaps under fences for brown hare and hedgehog, along with 'two-way' opening mammal gates for badgers. There would be a 10m buffer of fencing from field margins to enable	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	due to fencing (including deer), that wildlife could be directed onto A15, and that birds and bats could be killed by mistaking the panels for water.		deer to disperse across the Site. Fencing design is secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** The risk of road collisions on the A15 is discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Proposals to plant new hedgerows and trees alongside the A15 would increase the flight height of bats and birds such as barn owl which is anticipate to reduce risk from road collisions. Details of new planting proposals are set out in the **Outline Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The impact assessment on biodiversity, including assessment of risk for birds and bats mistaking the solar PV modules for water, is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
General comment	Comment that tree planting and wildflower planting are mentioned but no detail (e.g. size, number variety) is provided.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	Details on habitat creation and improvement measures are set out in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** This includes suggestions of likely hedgerow and tree species and wildflower mixes that could be used. Detail regarding planting stock size and variety would be presented in the final LEMP(s). In terms of quantity, habitat creation proposals include 15,563m of new hedgerow, 16ha of new tree belts and 100ha of grassland creation.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Grassland	Agreement that good quality semi-improved grassland can be scoped out, however relevant areas and their condition should be identified in the ES for the BNG baseline. Agreement that other semi-improved grassland can be scoped out.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted and agreed as part of Phase Two Consultation. Information on habitat condition and the BNG baseline is detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
Great crested newts	Agreement that great crested newts can be scoped out of assessments as the Proposed Development is expected to improve habitat quality.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted and agreed as part of Phase Two Consultation. Details on habitat creation and improvement measures are set out in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Great Crested Newts	Comment highlighting the forthcoming District Level Licensing	Natural England	From surveys undertaken of ponds within the Site and up to 500m from the Order Limits, great crested newt is considered likely absent from the Site and therefore licensing is not likely to be required. The details of great crested newt eDNA surveys are presented in **ES**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Scheme for GCNs in Lincolnshire.		**Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Grid connection	Comment that measures set out in Appendix 6.3 (PEIR: Volume 3, Appendix 6.3) in relation to the grid connection are appropriate.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted.	N
Hedgerows and trees	Comment noting response to stand-off distances to trees and hedgerows in the Scoping Opinion Response Matrix.	Lincolnshire County Council	Proposed buffer zones from habitats including hedgerows and trees are documented and secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**. A tree root protection zone plan is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.12: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N
Hedgerows and trees	Disagreement that hedgerows and trees can be scoped out with request for impact assessment to be proportionate to the relevant impacts and effects. Request for a tree and hedgerow	North Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire County Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant subsequently scoped hedgerows and trees affected by the Proposed Development into assessment. A hedgerows survey has been carried out and is presented in **ES Volume 3 Appendix 7.11: Important Hedgerows Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Assessment of impact on hedgerows and hedgerow trees is	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	protection plan and arboricultural method statement.		discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].** An Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been carried out, with a tree root zone protection plan presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.12: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Mitigation measures to avoid impact to habitats, including hedgerows and trees are also detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	
Internationally Designated Sites	Confirmation that internationally designated sites can be scoped out.	Natural England	This has been noted and agreed as part of Phase Two Consultation.	N
LEMP	Request for management of habitats across the site to be secured via the LEMP, including measures to address habitat enhancement failures.	Natural England	Details on habitat creation, management and improvement measures, monitoring and any remedial action requirements would be secured by the final LEMP(s). An **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** has been submitted as part of the Application.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Limestone Becks	Comment stating that opportunities for biodiversity enhancement that support the aims of the `Bringing the Limestone Becks Back to Life' project (East Mercia Rivers Trust, the Environment Agency, and the Wild Trout Trust) should be sought as it is within the catchment.	Environment Agency	The Applicant has embedded measures in the design of the Proposed Development which aim to contribute to the objectives of the `Bringing the Limestone Becks Back to Life' project. This includes buffer zones to protect watercourses, conversion of arable to grassland to reduce run-off; and reduction in pesticide and fertiliser use which is expected to enhance water quality over the operational lifetime of the Proposed Development. Embedded design measures are secured in **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** Consideration to protect watercourses is included in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Local Wildlife Trust	Agreement that named LWSs within the PEIR can be scoped out. Request for buffer zones to be agreed and justified with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.	North Kesteven District Council	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust was consulted as the biodiversity design was updated, including offset buffer zones from LWS and mitigation measures. Meetings were held with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust on 16 February 2023 and 20 June 2023 and buffer zones were agreed. Due to design updates following Phase Two Consultation, four LWSs which would be affected by works were scoped in and have been assessed in **ES**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].	
Marsh harrier	Agreement that marsh harrier can be scoped out.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted and agreed as part of Phase Two Consultation.	N
Mitigation	Comment that embedded mitigation detailed in section 6.5.13 (PEIR: Volume 1, Chapter 6: Biodiversity) is appropriate.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted and agreed. Embedded mitigation is detailed and secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].**	N
Mitigation	Request for the Applicant to consider the mitigation hierarchy before concluding an impact is necessary/ acceptable and specifying mitigation.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted and agreed. The hierarchy has been applied with the assessment work. Where possible, potential impacts have been avoided by embedded design which has been informed from ecology surveys. The embedded design and mitigation proposals are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Nationally Designated Sites	Agreement that impacts on Nationally Designated Sites can be scoped out.	Natural England	This has been noted and agreed as part of Phase Two Consultation.	N
Non-ground nesting birds	Agreement that non-ground nesting birds can be scoped out.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted and agreed as part of Phase Two Consultation. The majority of non-ground nesting habitat would be retained along with significant additional hedgerow and tree belt planting which would increase the nesting bird resource. More detail can be found in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Offsets	Comment that minimum separation distances to all green features must be informed by a Tree Survey and constraints plan to consider Root Protection Zones.	North Kesteven District Council	Details of the tree survey undertaken and plans showing root protection zones in relation to the Proposed Development are presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.12: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The plans show separation distances from tree root protection zones**.**	N
PEA	Comments that PEA Reports are generally consistent with good practice CIEEM guidance and	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire	This has been noted. All reporting has been undertaken with regard to CIEEM guidelines. Consideration to limitations of surveys are detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 7.1-7.13 [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	supporting survey work completed at suitable times of the year.	County Council		
PEA	Comments on Methods within PEA: • Desk study search parameters do not fully align with guidance. Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan and Near Threatened species not included in scope. • Plant and habitats survey method does not address plant species, including invasive non-native species comprehensively. • It is not clear when surveys were	North Kesteven District Council	• For the PEA, it is considered that the desk study search parameters were sufficient with regard to designated sites, habitats and species and followed CIEEM guidelines. Following Phase Two consultation, the PEA desk study results were reviewed and further information added regarding the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan and Near Threatened species. The PEA Report is available in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. • The plant and habitats survey method details were updated following Phase Two Consultation to address plant species, including invasive non-native species more comprehensively in the PEA report. The PEA report is shown in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. • Information on methods for further species-specific surveys (including timings) are detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 7.2 - 7.13 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Badger survey details are in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.10: Confidential Badger**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	completed for specific species (e.g. badger) and therefore no comment can be made on expectations for update surveys.		**Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Providing there are no significant material changes to the habitats on Site then update surveys including PEA habitat surveys, botanical surveys, bat activity and bird surveys are not considered likely to be required. However, update surveys for badgers, within 6 months prior to commencement of works, are considered likely to be required. Other potential update surveys considered likely to be required include nesting barn owls, if any works are likely to cause disturbance in the vicinity of potential nesting sites and bat surveys if any trees or structures with bat roost potential are likely to be affected by works.	
PEA	Request for limitations within PEA data for plant species and invasive species to be addressed, with request for protected and notable plants to be addressed as thoroughly as other species.	North Kesteven District Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the botanical and habitats survey method details were updated to address plant species, including protected and notable plant species and invasive non-native species more comprehensively in the PEA. The PEA and details on limitations is shown in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
PEA	Comment that updated surveys are likely	North Kesteven	The PEA surveys are considered valid as there have been no significant changes to baseline habitats within	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	needed where data is more than 12-18 months old at the time of submission.	District Council	the Site, which has been confirmed by further ecology surveys across the Site in 2023 and 2024. Details of the PEA surveys, limitations and validity of survey data are in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3].** As per CIEEM guidelines, the baseline surveys could be valid for up to three years if there have been no significant changes to baseline habitats within the Site, although this would depend on species. An ecologist would need to review, undertake a site visit and potentially update desk study information in order to review the validity of the survey reports. Providing there have been no significant material changes to the habitats on Site then update surveys including PEA habitat surveys, botanical surveys, bat activity and bird surveys are not considered likely to be required. However, update surveys for badgers, within 6 months prior to commencement of works, are considered likely to be required. Other potential update surveys considered likely to be required include nesting barn owls, if any works are likely to cause disturbance in the vicinity of potential nesting sites and bat surveys if any trees or structures with bat roost potential are likely to be affected by works.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
PEA	Suggestion that the Applicant should review whether Appendix B of the PEA reports provide a full account of the relevant species identified by the desk study. Example given of 47 records of notable plant species detailed in the PEA, against Appendix B which identifies just 1 species of plant.	North Kesteven District Council	Following Phase Two consultation, the PEA desk study results was reviewed and updated to include a full account of relevant species including notable plants. The updated PEA report is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	Y
PEA	Comment on Appendix C of the PEA with reference to habitat maps (Figure 2), that not all target notes adequately define all the habitats present. Example given that target notes are not available for all discrete strands of	North Kesteven District Council	Most Habitats of Principal Importance were excluded from the Order Limits following Phase Two Consultation. The minimal mapping unit guidelines of the UK Habitat Classification survey method were used to determine and map habitat types. Target notes have only been used where it was considered necessary to add further detail on specific areas or features. Where there are no target notes or details about discrete stands of semi-natural habitat then it was considered that target notes were not required as sufficient information on these areas or specific features was provided in the results in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	semi-natural habitat that merit this level of detail (all habitats except arable fields, species-poor pasture fields and similar).		the main body of the report. It is considered that sufficient detail is provided in the PEA report and habitat plans to determine all the habitat types (within the UK Habitat Classification) and features within the Site to inform the baseline assessment of ecological value or requirement for further surveys and to inform the baseline for the BNG assessment (with associated habitat condition assessments). Details on PEA survey methods and limitations are in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Further botanical surveys carried out for notable arable flora and LWS provide information on detailed botanical survey, in targeted areas where this is required. Details are provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix: 7.8 Notable Arable Flora** and **Appendix 7.9 Local Wildlife Site Verges Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Planning policy	Comment that the Applicant should refer to Local Plan policies S14, S53 and S59 and associated local guidance on BNG and Biodiversity Opportunity Areas.	North Kesteven District Council	Local Plan policies S14, S53 and S59 and associated local guidance on BNG and Biodiversity Opportunity Areas have been reviewed and referenced in the PEA report as appropriate, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The policies have been considered in the biodiversity design as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14:**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3] and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Planning policy	Comment that the Applicant should refer to Chapter 12 of the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan.	North Kesteven District Council	In line with the objectives of the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan, the Applicant has embedded measures to protect and enhance biodiversity within the design of the Proposed Development. This includes avoiding impact to important habitats and species where possible and creation of new habitats and wildlife corridors. Details are provided in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** and discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Ponds	Agreement that ponds can be scoped out of assessment.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted and agreed as part of Phase Two Consultation. No ponds would be lost and would be protected by buffers and pollution control measures as detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N
Protected species	Approach to avoiding impacts on protected species welcomed.	Natural England	This has been noted and agreed as part of Phase Two Consultation.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Protected species	Acknowledgement that further surveys are planned for a number of species and noting that the Applicant should have regard to licensing advice for pre- and post-consent surveys where necessary.	Natural England	No species licences are anticipated based on the results of surveys carried out to date, embedded design measures and mitigation. Ecology surveys are detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 7.1-7.13 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N
Rare or notable arable (non-crop) plants	Agreement that rare or notable (non-crop) plants can be scoped out of assessment.	North Kesteven District Council	Notable arable plant surveys were carried out and subsequently scoped into the assessment. The Applicant has proposed appropriate mitigation measures to ensure continued habitat for scare arable plants is available. Survey details are provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.8: Notable Arable Flora Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and an impact assessment in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	Y
Reptiles	Agreement that reptiles can be scoped out of assessment. Request for consideration to be given for how habitat	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted and agreed as part of Phase Two Consultation. Overall, the habitat was considered suboptimal for reptile species as it is largely intensive arable and farmed grassland. Small discrete areas of grassland potentially suitable for reptiles has been avoided by design. Any areas suitable for reptiles (albeit	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	suitability for reptiles could be affected e.g., through unfavourable management regimes such as grazing livestock, and that habitats for potential importance are retained.		likely only suitable for low numbers of reptiles) such as field margins would be subject to precautionary method of works, such as a 'two-stage' vegetation cut to avoid harm by allowing reptiles to disperse before cutting to ground level. These measures are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** Habitat creation and enhancement measures, in particular the treatment of field margins which would benefit reptiles, bats and birds, are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Root Protection Zones	Comment that root protection zones for trees and hedgerows should be informed by a tree survey carried out in accordance with BS 5837 and contain the information set out in BS about each tree that meets the survey criteria.	Lincolnshire County Council	An arboricultural impact assessment survey has been carried out and tree protection measures have been considered within the design of the Proposed Development. The results of this survey and tree root protection zone plans are detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.12: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** details measures to protect trees in accordance with BS 5837.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Scarce arable flora	Comment that the BSBI Atlas identifies nationally threatened scarce arable flora species recorded within the Proposed Development, and the Applicant's surveys concur that field margins have the scope to support notable species of scarce arable flora.	North Kesteven District Council	Springwell West and Springwell Central are considered likely of County importance for notable arable plants. Notable arable flora surveys have been carried out and a number of scare plants have been identified, which are detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.8: Notable Arable Flora Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Proposed measures to manage field margins for the improvement of arable flora habitats and to maintain the scarce arable plants identified, by cultivating field margins in targeted areas in both spring and autumn, are provided in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. An assessment of effects on notable arable flora is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Scoping	Disagreement with the Applicant's rationale to scope species with reference to specific phases of the Proposed Development, as impacts occurring at construction could be permanent.	North Kesteven District Council	Potential effects on habitats and species during construction (e.g. hedgerow loss) have been scoped in specifically for the construction phase as these are anticipated to be temporary. For example, while some hedgerow habitat would be 'lost' during construction, it would be re-instated or replaced by compensation hedgerow planting elsewhere. Overall, there would be a gain in the amount of hedgerow once established during the operational phase. Details of habitat creation and improvement measures are shown in the **Outline**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9] and details of impact assessment and mitigation are provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Trees	Comment that the PEIR and PEA present different accounts of whether veteran trees have been identified, and that further consideration of veteran trees is needed, including information about final bespoke stand-off distances and how they have been addressed.	North Kesteven District Council	No veteran trees were identified during the PEA surveys and were scoped out of the PEIR. The subsequent arboricultural survey identified one veteran tree within the Order Limits. However, this is over 200m from proposed works so is not anticipated to be affected. All trees would be considered with appropriate stand-off distances and root protection zones as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.12: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Mitigation measures are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Trees and hedgerows	Comment noting that there are no plans for tree and hedgerow removals, although some removals may be required. Losses to connectivity should be	Forestry Commission Natural England	Vegetation removal plans are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 7.4: Important Hedgerow Survey and Areas Proposed for Vegetation Removal [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. Habitat creation and improvement measures which would benefit biodiversity and enhance hedgerows, trees, and woodland are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	avoided by retaining trees and hedgerows wherever possible. Comment that any compensatory planting should benefit biodiversity and enhance hedgerows, trees, and woodland e.g. steeping stone woodland, creating soft edges for existing woodland and detail should be provided.		**[EN010149/APP/7.9].** Approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha new tree belts are proposed to be planted in strategic locations to enhance connectivity which is considered to be a significant beneficial effect.	
Trees and woodland	Comment stating that with the Government aspirations to plant 30,000ha of woodland per year across the UK by 2025, tree planting should be consideration in every development.	Forestry Commission	Although sections of hedgerow totalling 1,249m are proposed to be removed to accommodate cabling and access, these would be reinstated like for like with additional landscape planting greatly exceeding the amount being removed. Approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha new tree belts are proposed to be planted in strategic locations to enhance connectivity which is considered to be a significant beneficial effect.	Y
Trees and woodland	Comment that proposals for	Forestry Commission	• For planting proposals, biosecurity measures would be in put in place, for example checking all planting	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	significant planting should consider: • Biosecurity of all planting stock to avoid the introduction of pests and diseases • Woodlands should be designed to be climate and pest and disease resilient. • Maximise the ecosystem services benefits of all new woodland wherever possible e.g. for flood reduction and also to ensure the planting contributes to a resilient treescape by maximising connectivity across the landscape.		stock before planting to avoid the introduction of pests and diseases. • Woodland species proposed to be planted have been chosen as appropriate to climate and disease resilience. • The design has been strategic to maximise ecosystem services benefits by enhancing woodland and hedgerow connectivity with a diversity of species planted to minimise the effects of disease, improve resilience to climate and reduce flood risk. • There is a long-term management plan for habitats, including woodland tree belts, for the duration of the operational phase. These measures are detailed in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Plans are in place to ensure long term management and maintenance of woodland.			
Trees and woodland	Approach to ancient and veteran trees welcomed. Recommendation that measures such as dust suppression should be considered to avoid any potential smothering and/or other indirect effects where any ancient/veteran trees or ancient woodland are in proximity to construction works.	Natural England	One veteran tree has been identified within the Order Limits; however this is over 200m from proposed works so is not anticipated to be affected. Measures would be put in place to protect all trees throughout works, such as pollution control measures to suppress dusts and maintaining appropriate root protection zones, as shown in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.12: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**.	N
Vegetation	Comment that proposed vegetation removal should be surveyed to BS5837 to establish its	North Kesteven District Council	An arboricultural impact assessment survey was carried out of vegetation within the Site to establish arboriculture value and appropriate mitigation (as per BS5837). This is detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.12:**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	arboriculture value and appropriate mitigation. Comment that retained vegetation should also be protected to BS5837.	Lincolnshire County Council	**Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**	
Vegetation	Comments that the uneven distribution of rainfall would see some areas get vegetation growth where water channelises.	Land interest	The differences in soil and water conditions across the Order Limits have been considered in the design and planting proposals. For example, creation of neutral grassland creation has been proposed for Springwell East which has wetter, heavier soil and creation of calcareous grassland is proposed on the lighter, drier soil in Springwell Central and Springwell West. Strategic tree and hedgerow planting and arable reversion to grassland would reduce run-off and prevent sedimentation of watercourses. Details are set out in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Wintering birds	Disagreement that wintering birds can be scoped out of the operational impact assessment due to insufficient evidence	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant subsequently scoped in wintering birds following Phase Two Consultation. Wintering birds were surveyed in 2023/2024, with the results shared with Natural England. Based on the survey results, Natural England concluded that potential effects on internationally designated sites	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	and potential for any impact during construction to be permanent. Note that suitable evidence and assessment of wintering birds will be required for the cumulative impact assessment.		for birds were not a concern. Effects on wintering birds has been considered in the cumulative assessment. Details of the survey are included in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.3: Wintering Bird Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The impact assessment and cumulative assessment are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity and Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Wintering birds	Comment that the Site supports important populations of wintering birds, and this should be taken into account and noting the proposed mitigation appears suitable for significant impacts on them.	Natural England	The Applicant subsequently scoped in wintering birds following Phase Two Consultation. Wintering birds were surveyed in 2023/2024, with the results shared with Natural England. Based on the survey results, Natural England concluded that potential effects on internationally designated sites for birds were not a concern. Details of the survey are shown in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.3: Wintering Bird Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The impact assessment is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Woodland	Agreement that ancient woodland can	Forestry Commission	This has been noted and agreed following Phase Two Consultation. Ancient woodland is not considered to be present within or near to the Site.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	be scoped out of assessment.	Natural England		
Woodland	Comment that further consideration of potential impacts on ancient woodland is required as inventory within PEA is not comprehensive. Specific reference made to species in Bloxholm Wood that may be ancient.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has subsequently reviewed survey data and historic maps which confirmed that there appears to be no ancient woodland within or adjacent to the Order Limits. Not enough ancient woodland indicator species were identified from the PEA surveys nor species listed in the LWS citation, for Bloxholm Wood LWS to qualify as ancient woodland. Bloxholm Wood LWS is outside of the Order Limits and would be protected by a minimum 20m buffer with habitat creation measures including tree planting and meadow creation to buffer and increase the connectivity of this important site in the wider landscape. Details are in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** All woodland within or adjacent to the Site would be protected by 15m buffer zones, which as per Government Standing Advice is considered a sufficient buffer for ancient woodland, as secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** Pollution control measures, e.g. to mitigate dust, are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Woodland	Comment stating that there are numerous small fragmented lowland mixed deciduous woodlands within the site, which is on the Priority Habitat Inventory (England). A number of these woodlands also have woodland management plans therefore access would need to be maintained for management to continue.	Forestry Commission	The Order Limits have been revised since Phase Two Consultation and most woodlands have now been excluded. Only two small woodlands (which are lowland mixed deciduous woodlands on the Priority Habitat Inventory) are now within the Order Limits, which can be accessed via trackways. The **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** specifies that the final LEMP(s) and Habitat Monitoring Plan would detail the programme of works for management of this woodland throughout the operational phase. All woodlands adjacent to or within the Order Limits would be protected by minimum 15m buffer as secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** Mitigation measures, such as pollution prevention and noise control, would be detailed and secured in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N
Climate				
Alternatives	Request for GHG emissions to account for 'alternatives' in the context of GHG offsets to reflect revised layouts or overall	North Kesteven District Council	The scope of this assessment consisted of the calculation of all emissions associated with the construction, operation (including maintenance and replacement), and decommissioning of the Proposed Development, in line with IEMA guidance, as well as a calculation of the anticipated GHG savings from the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	energy generation capacity in relation to BMV land considerations.		Proposed Development as a result of displacing fossil-fuel based energy in the national electricity network. Results of these assessments were then used to determine the net GHG impact of the Proposed Development. Accounting for 'alternatives' in the context of GHG offsets is not considered to be necessary, was not covered within scoping, and is not required under IEMA guidance. The assessment carried out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]** presents a worst-case scenario regarding GHG emissions associated with the Proposed Development.	
Carbon sequestration	Comment that partnership working and collaboration across large scale infrastructure projects can provide carbon sequestration gains.	Anglian Water Services	This comment has been noted. The Applicant would continue to welcome further engagement on potential opportunities of the Proposed Development.	N
Carbon sequestration	Request for quantification of the carbon sequestration potential of new planting.	North Kesteven District Council	The expected carbon sequestration potential of new planting would be less than 1% (96,000 tCO_2e) of the change in total emissions and therefore was not considered further.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			IEMA's Guide to Assessing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Evaluating their Significance (2022) states: "activities that do not significantly change the result of the assessment can be excluded where expected emissions are less than 1% of total emissions, and where all such exclusions total a maximum of 5% of total emissions, all exclusions should be clearly stated."	
Concrete	Comment that concrete is the world's second largest producer of CO2, and the amount needed would be vast.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The Applicant has committed to minimise the use of concrete and foundations where practicable within the detailed design of the Proposed Development. For areas of Solar PV development, the mounting structure of the Solar PV modules would be predominantly fixed to the ground using driven or helical piles which could easily be removed at decommissioning. Concrete footings would only be used where ground conditions restrict the use of piles, for example, where there are areas of sensitive archaeology. This would be secured by the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** For other elements of the Proposed Development that require hardstanding, such as the BESS and compound areas, the layout would be designed to make the most efficient use of land, and the extent of foundations would be limited to the minimum functional requirement.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The full lifecycle assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]** takes into account the emissions associated with the use of concrete for the Proposed Development (including embodied emissions and transport emissions) and displays those emissions in tCO_2e. The GHG savings of the Proposed Development would outweigh the emissions associated with its construction, operation (including maintenance and replacement), and decommissioning, resulting in net GHG savings of over 9.6 million tonnes of CO_2e.	
Decommissioning	Comparison between the Applicant's assumed 99% reuse or recycle rate of all material components compared to the proposed Heckington Fen, which assumes a 96% reuse rate for solar panels.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant is confident in the reuse and recycling rates applied for all components in this assessment. Recycling at end of life for all materials and components associated with the Proposed Development was largely based on publicly available data from disposal scenarios available in the Environmental Product Declarations used. All Environmental Product Declarations used can be found in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 8.1: Raw data and emissions factors [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
GHG emissions	Comment querying reported GHG emission savings during operation due to	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	The full lifecycle assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]** takes into account the emissions associated with the construction of the Proposed Development and displays those	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	the potential GHG emissions during construction. Request for more information about how the saving is calculated.	Parish Council	emissions in tCO_2e. GHG savings were calculated through comparisons with operational emissions from a Combined Cycle Gas Turbine, which is currently the most carbon-efficient fossil-fuelled technology available. The GHG savings of the Proposed Development outweigh the emissions associated with its construction, operation (including maintenance and replacement), and decommissioning, resulting in net GHG savings of over 9.6 million tonnes of CO_2e.	
GHG emissions	Comment that the 11Mt CO2e figure – as well as the 180,000 homes figure - could be presented as the number of years for the net whole life carbon to be paid back. The climate gains are then nearly 100% verses unabated current technology fossil fuel-based energy generation.	Anglian Water Services	When assessed against operational emissions (which is the methodology adopted by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (2024)), the Proposed Development has an emissions payback period of three years. When assessed against whole lifecycle emissions, the Proposed Development has an emissions payback period of ten years. The GHG savings of the Proposed Development outweigh the emissions associated with its construction, operation (including maintenance and replacement), and decommissioning, resulting in net GHG savings of over 9.6 million tonnes of CO_2e. The payback period of the Proposed Development is included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Payback period	Request for data relating to expected payback period for all estimated emissions to be calculated and presented in the ES, based on a worst-case scenario of the country and method of component manufacture and associated transportation.	North Kesteven District Council	A reasonable, worst-case scenario has been adopted throughout this assessment, including assumptions concerning source countries of components, method of component manufacture, and associated transportation. When assessed against operational emissions, which is the methodology adopted by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (2024), the Proposed Development has an emissions payback period of three years. When assessed against whole lifecycle emissions, the Proposed Development has an emissions payback period of ten years. The payback period of the Proposed Development is included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Planning policy	Comment that relevant planning policy included within the PEIR does not include reference to applicable policies contained in Chapter 3 'Energy, Climate Change and Flooding' of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan or the	North Kesteven District Council	While the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan references solar, this is in relation to small scale installations on individual homes and was therefore not considered applicable to the Proposed Development. The Neighbourhood Plan is referenced in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 1: Background and Context [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, as are local planning policies relating to Lincolnshire County Council, including the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan 2018 – 2040 (adopted 2023).	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan.			
Policy	Comment that the Parish Council has sought to promote environmental initiatives and supports proposals to provide rooftop solar panels.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** evidences that, on its own, smaller scale solar (including rooftop solar) is not likely to deliver a sufficient total installed capacity at the required pace and at an affordable cost to meet the government's net zero and energy security targets. Therefore, smaller scale solar, including rooftop solar, must be considered as additional to, as opposed to instead of, large-scale solar. Along with the contribution the Proposed Development would make to decarbonising the electricity system, the Applicant has also sought to deliver wider environmental enhancements as part of the Proposed Development, including benefits for biodiversity. Details on embedded design, mitigation and the assessment of impacts of the Proposed Development on biodiversity is shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals, such as creation of 100ha of grassland, planting of 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16 new tree belts, are detailed in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. The Proposed Development	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Replacement of equipment	Disagreement with assumed replacement of equipment, stating that replacement of panels would be higher than factored into assessments, and referring to assumptions given for the proposed Heckington Fen project. Request for further justification.	North Kesteven District Council	A reasonable, worst-case scenario has been adopted throughout this assessment, including assumptions concerning replacement rates of equipment. Assessments have been completed using aggregated data and experience from other solar projects. Replacement rates of components, including those for panels, have been presented in Table 8.5 in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]**	N
Supply chain	Comment that the Proposed Development cannot be 'green' if materials are imported from	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The full lifecycle assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]** takes into account the emissions associated with the manufacture and transport of materials and components from source countries (including China as a part of Asia) and displays	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	China which 'has clearly been shown to use the most polluting industrial processes.'		those emissions in tCO_2e. The GHG savings of the Proposed Development outweigh the emissions associated with its construction, operation (including maintenance and replacement), and decommissioning, resulting in net GHG savings of over 9.6 million tonnes of CO_2e.	
Community benefit				
Community benefit	Comment that there is no benefit for communities impacted by the Proposed Development.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Land interest	The Applicant intends to provide benefits for the community through the enhancement of PRoWs and permissive paths, provision of a community growing area, a community fund and creating direct and indirect effects associated with employment, skills and education. The Applicant intends to promote economic benefits for the community through the activities set out in the **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20].** The plan describes activities that would promote access to employment, upskilling and re-skilling opportunities for local people. These could include work experience placements, access to jobs, and joint Apprenticeships across industry partners. The Plan also includes provision for working with schools to promote career opportunities available to young people within renewable industries, including,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			importantly, those available local to their place or residence. This would support the objective, shared by regional and local stakeholders, to encourage young people to invest their careers and futures within Lincolnshire rather than seek opportunities in other parts of the UK. The Applicant is proposing to enhance approximately 2km of existing PRoW and provide approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and 8.58km of permissive paths to improve connectivity within the area and around the Order Limits. These are secured by the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. A new community growing area of up to approx. 2ha is proposed to the north of Scopwick in response to stakeholder feedback, adjacent to existing community facilities along Vicarage Lane. This would be available to the public and could include areas for growing of fruit, vegetables and wild foraging. More detail is available in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. In addition, the Applicant is proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The Applicant held initial discussions with the Lincolnshire Community Foundation as outlined in **Appendix B-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	
Community benefit	Request for the following incentives to be delivered within a year of consent being granted, outside of the Community Benefit Fund. • All properties within the boundaries of the Proposed Development to	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	• The Applicant is aware of ongoing work looking at how discounted electricity could be provided to close neighbours of different types of energy infrastructure projects. While it is complex to administer this as part of any community fund, the Applicant will continue to investigate how this could be applied to the Proposed Development. • The Community Fund would be put in place at the start of operation and last throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	receive 60% reduction on their electricity bills for the lifespan of the Proposed Development • All properties within the boundaries of the Proposed Development to be offered free solar installation including battery storage. • A compensation plan for devaluation of land and property should be put in place.		delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend and could prioritise issues that are important to the local area. This could include a programme promoting the installation of solar and battery storage, should this be a community priority. • A compensation plan is not proposed; however the Applicant has sought to limit impacts on properties close to the Proposed Development. More information about how the Proposed Development has been designed to limit visual effects can be found in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. Should any parties believe that their property has decreased in value as a direct result of the physical impacts from the operation of the Proposed Development such as noise and vibration, they may be eligible to claim for compensation under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973. Compensation is not payable for loss of value as a result of diminished a view/visual amenity related impact.	
Community benefit	Request for more information about how the Community Benefit	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	The Community Fund would be put in place at the start of operation and last throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Fund would be managed and by who.	Parish Council	partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The Applicant held initial discussions with the Lincolnshire Community Foundation as outlined in **Appendix B-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	
Community benefit	Comment that local communities most affected by the Proposed Development should administer and solely benefit from the Community Fund, rather than the funding being used across Lincolnshire.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Community Fund would be put in place at the start of operation and last throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The Applicant held initial discussions with the Lincolnshire Community Foundation as outlined in **Appendix B-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Community benefit	Comment that the proposed figure of £400 per megawatt per year is insufficient and as a minimum the Community Benefit Fund should be £1000 per megawatt per year.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Applicant is proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development.	N
Community benefit	Comments supporting the provision of a community benefit fund.	Anglian Water Services	The Community Fund would be put in place at the start of operation and last throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The Applicant held initial discussions with the Lincolnshire Community Foundation as outlined in **Appendix B-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	
Community benefit	Comment that the Applicant should deliver the following to mitigate the stress and impact of the Proposed Development: • Mature planting scheme • Building footpaths • Improvements to drainage • Contributions to enhance local roads • Cycle routes • Improve and extend Swimming pool at Metheringham and install solar heating. • Provide additional sports facilities i.e.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and include mitigation and enhancements to embed good design to the Proposed Development. This includes proposals for new planting, habitat creation, PRoW and permissive paths: • Proposals for new planting are shown on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Plan [EN010149/APP/6.2]**, and would be secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. New planting would comprise tree belts and hedgerows to screen the Proposed Development and integrate it to the surrounding landscape, whilst also providing habitat for biodiversity receptors. • The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to create an enhanced and better-connected footpath and cycle network. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths, as shown on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Plan [EN010149/APP/6.2].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	All weather tennis court		• The drainage design is provided within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**). It is proposed to prioritise the use of infiltration-based SuDS if suitable based on ground infiltration rates. If utilised, then this could reduce the surface water runoff leaving the Order Limits compared to the existing scenario. If surface water runoff is discharged to local watercourses, then this would be restricted to runoff rates based on the equivalent greenfield runoff rates, this may reduce the surface water runoff leaving the Order Limits during the lower frequency high rainfall events. • The highway network would be improved at specific locations to mitigate the impact of additional construction traffic. This would involve improving; the A15/B1191 junction, A15/Gorse Hill Lane junction, providing two passing bays on Temple Road, widening the carriageway on B1191 south of Ashby de la Launde, road marking improvements at B1191/Navenby Lane junction and B1191/RAF Digby junction. A new footway would be provided along the B1191 west of Scopwick to link existing footway with a proposed new Public Right of Way. The details of the proposed highway improvements are outlined in	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. • The Applicant has proposed upgrades to the existing footpath between Scopwick and Blankney to be cycle friendly in line with the ambition set out in the Scopwick & Kirby Green Neighbourhood Plan. More information about recreation and amenity enhancements proposed as part of the Proposed Development is included in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. • A Community Fund would be put in place at the start of operation and last throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. This could include upgrades to leisure and sports facilities in the local area should this be a community priority.	
Community benefit	Comments that the local community would like cheaper or free electricity generated by	Land interest	The Applicant is aware of ongoing work looking at how discounted electricity could be provided to close neighbours of different types of energy infrastructure projects. While it is complex to administer this as part of any community fund, the Applicant will continue to	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	the Proposed Development.		investigate how this could be applied to the Proposed Development.	
Community benefit	Comments against the provision of a community benefit fund, including that it is propaganda, is too small to outweigh impacts, and is not required by the local community.	Land interest	The Applicant is proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	N
Community benefit	Comment that Public Health would like to influence the allocation of the Community Benefit Fund to maximise potential gains for public health improvement.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Community Fund would be put in place at the start of operation and last throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The Applicant held initial discussions with the Lincolnshire Community	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Foundation as outlined in **Appendix B-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	
Connecting to the grid				
Cable route	Comment that there could be impacts from the underground cable route and request for further delineation of the cable route to reduce potential crossings with utilities.	Anglian Water Services	The Applicant has welcomed engagement with Anglian Water Services Ltd throughout the pre-application stage, including on the location of its assets. The Application includes a **Draft Statement of Common Ground – Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]**, which agrees interfaces between the Proposed Development and those of Anglian Water Services Ltd. The Applicant is engaging with Anglian Water on protective provisions for their apparatus. In any event, the Applicant has included standard water and sewerage protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** submitted with the Application.	N
Grid connection agreement	Comment that the Applicant has received a grid connection agreement from National Grid which suggests that the Proposed	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	A grid connection agreement is a contract between a developer and the National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO), which sets out the terms and conditions for connecting a project to the grid. It is normal practice for a developer to secure a grid connection agreement before progressing with a DCO Application and does not predetermine consent.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Development is a done deal.		More information about how the Proposed Development would connect into the National Grid can be found in the **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6]**. The Applicant has submitted an Application for the Proposed Development. The final decision on whether or not to grant development consent would be made by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, in accordance with the relevant policy and legislative requirements.	
Grid connection date	Request that inconsistency between the first year of operation stated in the PEIR (2030) and consultation materials (2028) should be clarified. Other comments request more information on alternatives and contingencies should the substation be delayed or does not go ahead.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The Proposed Development has a two-stage grid connection to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS). The Stage 1 connection date (currently 2028) reflects 50% of the overall 800MW grid connection. The Stage 2 connection date (currently 2030) reflects the remaining 50% of the overall 800MW grid connection and full operation. Partial operation is forecast at Stage 1 whilst Stage 2 is being constructed, in line with the phased delivery approach. For the purposes of the EIA, it has been assumed that the Proposed Development would be built in a single phase across the 48-month period, assuming a peak construction year (the year during which the greatest level of construction activity would occur) of 2028, and that that peak construction year occurs for the full 48 months.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The only exception to the above is for **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, which has assumed that the construction of the BESS and Springwell Substation would be up to 48 months, with other parts of the Site being constructed over a period of 24 months in any given part of the Site. This assumption is considered to be the worst-case scenario for landscape and visual impact. The Applicant has submitted a Modification Agreement to amend the dates of its grid connection agreements to better align the connection dates with 1) the construction programme outlined within its Application, and 2) the projected timeline for the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation (forecast operational by Q4 2029). Revised connection dates are expected to be offered in November 2024, which the Applicant will have 3 months to review, discuss and sign any amendment to the existing grid connection agreement. Further detail of the Proposed Development's grid connection can be found in **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6]**. This is also available on the 'TEC Register' which is found on National Energy System Operator (NESO) website.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Should the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation be delayed, NESO would be required to offer new connection dates to the Applicant. This would likely lead to a delay in the Proposed Development being constructed and commissioned. If the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation did not proceed, the Applicant would expect a revised grid connection to be offered at an alternative point of connection into the NETS. The Applicant's preferred scenario is to connect at the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation, at the earliest date possible, to supply the grid with renewable energy and help towards the UK's goal of 70GW of operational solar by 2035. The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence on the urgent need for the Proposed Development.	
Construction				
Approach to assessment	Comments querying the validity of the 'likely but not significant' assessment of soil contamination, soil compaction, damage to field drains, effects on water quality, groundwater	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The assessment of residual effects (with additional mitigation), as presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** provides the following assessment results for each of the receptors mentioned in this comment: • **Soil contamination:** the sensitivity of the receptor is categorised as low, based on guidance provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	contamination. Request for further assessment.		**Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** (Table 11.5). With the implementation of additional mitigation measures (as presented in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP) [EN010149/APP/7.7]**), the magnitude of impact was assessed to be negligible, based on the guidance in Table 11.7. Both receptor sensitivity and magnitude of impact definitions are based on the IEMA Guide: A New Perspective on Land and Soil in Environmental Impact Assessment, which is an appropriate document on which to base the assessment methodology for this topic. The significance of effect would be neutral or slight adverse, as defined by the matrix provided as Table 11.9. Therefore, the residual effect on land during construction is considered to be not significant with respect to potential contamination issues. Potential impacts relating to soil contamination in the EIA would not be likely. Further work would be required prior to commencement of development works to confirm existing ground conditions (including the presence of any existing contamination). The scope of this work would be agreed by the relevant planning authorities prior to being undertaken and would be determined based on the desk-based information available relating to potential contamination sources (reported in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 11.2:**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Preliminary Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.3]). This is the standard approach within the UK planning framework for assessing potential contamination and would ensure that the Proposed Development does not cause significant impacts due to any existing contamination. The procedures covered by the **oCEMP [EN010149/APP/7.7]** would ensure that there is no environmental impact as a result of leaks or spillages during construction works. • **Damage to soil (including the potential for damage due to soil compaction and as a result of damage to field drainage):** Soil is classified as very high sensitivity (ALC grade 1 and 2 land), high sensitivity (grade 3a) and medium sensitivity (grade 3b land), based on guidance provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** (Table 11.5). As set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, impacts as a consequence of construction activities (including soil compaction, or damage as a result of damage to field drains) could result in a temporary reduction in the availability of agricultural land, but there would be no discernible change in soil quality or agricultural land classification grade. The reason for this is that the	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			scope of the **Outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.11]** means that soil quality and soil structure, and the integrity of field drains, would be protected by the procedures provided to cover activities during construction, operation and decommissioning. The application of the mitigation measures detailed in the **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** would ensure that the magnitude of the impact on soil (including impacts on field drainage) is minor (based on Table 11.7). The significance of effect is therefore determined to be moderate adverse for very high sensitivity soils, slight adverse for high sensitivity soils and slight adverse for medium sensitivity soils (further detail is provided in Chapter 11). The effect on very high sensitivity soil is therefore assessed as being significant. The effect on high and medium sensitivity soil is assessed as being not significant. The assessment of soils has been thorough, based on sampling and surveying methodology approved by Natural England and is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 11.1a-1c [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. It is not considered necessary to undertake any further survey work relating to the soil types present. • **Water quality:** Mitigation measures to protect water quality by reducing the risk from silt laden surface	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			water runoff and potential pollutants are included within the **Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]**. • **Groundwater contamination:** Groundwater sensitivity is classified as high, medium or low, depending on the type of aquifer and source protection zones that are present. The Applicant has set out the methodology for groundwater receptor sensitivity in Table 11.6 within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The magnitude of impact from leaks and spills of fuel or chemicals, or from piling works during construction is considered to be low with the implementation of additional mitigation measures, as indicated in Table 11.8 of Chapter 11. The **oCEMP [EN010149/APP/7.7]** includes methods for ensuring the safe storage and use of fuels or chemicals (which could be damaging to the groundwater environment if released), and details response plans for addressing leaks and spills to localise any impacts and limit their duration. The **oCEMP [EN010149/APP/7.7]** also includes a piling risk assessment to manage the piling construction process. The assessment concludes that the	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			significance of effect is low adverse (for high and medium sensitivity groundwater) and very low adverse (for low sensitivity groundwater). Therefore, the residual effect on groundwater during construction is considered to be not significant with respect to groundwater. It is concluded that the management plans would provide suitable guidance and procedures for ensuring that construction works would not result in damage to the groundwater regime. Further assessment work relating to this aspect is not considered to be required based on the methodology applied and the results of the assessment provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Cable route	Comment that open-cut trenching methods which expose AWS pipes may require the presence of an AWS engineer on site.	Anglian Water Services	The design of the Proposed Development has been informed by stakeholder engagement and technical assessments and advice as detailed within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** The Applicant is engaging with Anglian Water on protective provisions for their apparatus. In any event, the Applicant has included standard water and sewerage protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** submitted with the Application. The Applicant is aware of the likely interfaces involved with open-cut trenching and would continue to work	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			proactively with AWS to ensure the correct AWS personnel are involved before, during and after relevant physical works on Site. This includes ensuring the appropriate desktop studies and non-intrusive surveys are completed for that location prior to any excavation, as well as having suitable AWS presence on site. A summary of the discussions can be found in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground – Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21].** This includes investigation and agreement of the known interfaces between the Proposed Development assets and those of Anglian Water Services Ltd. Future oversite by AWS representatives would be discussed and agreed as appropriate.	
Construction access	Request for all construction access points to be located away from homes and businesses to avoid impacts. Specific references made to Mill House and Toll Bar Cottage.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	At Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant included indicative zones for the locations of the construction access points. Following Phase Two Consultation, these zones have been reduced in size or removed to increase the distance from nearby properties while taking into account the need for safe access and egress to the Order Limits. Specific changes following Phase Two Consultation include:	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• Access on Heath Road that was adjacent to Mill House is now approximately 300m away from this property. • Access on the road between the A15 and Thompson's Bottom that was approximately 450m from Toll Bar Cottages is now approximately 800m away from this property. • Access on the B1188 north of Scopwick that was approximately 100m from Scopwick House is now approximately 600m north of this property. • Access on Heath Road close to Peacock Lodge has been removed, with the closest access now approximately 450m away from this property. Proposed construction accesses are shown in **Indicative Construction and Operational Access Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2 Figure 3.4]**. The impact of construction traffic noise during the construction phase at receptors is considered low, as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Construction compounds	Concern that the proposed main construction	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	The Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East would be a temporary feature and is sited to reduce	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	compound shown in Springwell East is adjacent to a listed development.	Parish Council	potential environmental impacts whilst also meeting technical requirements. At Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant included an indicative area for the Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East (which at its closest point was approximately 100m from the listed building at Scopwick House). Following Phase Two Consultation, the Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East was moved northeast (Field C8) as shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2].** The proposed access to the compound has also been moved further north (in Field C7). Proposing the compound in Field C8 reduces potential impacts on Scopwick House, the village of Scopwick and the B1188 by providing a greater offset to these receptors. At its closest point the compound would now be approximately 600m from Scopwick House. The effect on the heritage significance of Scopwick House is considered to be minor (as reported in Annex 12 of **Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment** (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) which is considered not significant.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Details of the assessments and proposed mitigations can be found in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The current locations of the construction compounds are detailed in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**.	
Construction workers	Concerns that construction workers would negatively impact the local community due to: • Burden on local infrastructure • Temporary population increase • Lack of care from workers about local residents	Land interest	The Applicant intends to promote opportunities for local people to gain employment as outlined in the **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20].** The plan details the intention to employ local construction workers and use local manufacturers where possible. The Plan suggests that a process could be introduced whereby residents closest to the site are targeted, as a priority, for proactive awareness raising and recruitment drives. The Plan sets out a list of key partners that the Applicant would wish to work with to reach out to local people to promote job opportunities on site. These may be new to construction or have construction skills and experience. An assessment of impacts to occupancy is addressed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The assessment concludes that the maximum potential number of staff requiring overnight accommodation as a result of the Proposed Development is 6% of the peak number of construction	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			workers required onsite. This equates to a maximum number of 39 staff that are 'not local' to the area and would need to rely on local infrastructure. The assessment concludes that there would be no significant effects on occupancy and thus construction staff would not burden local infrastructure. The Applicant has addressed potential impacts associated with construction traffic in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. This plan intends to ensure that construction traffic would not adversely impact local residents. Measures would include keeping to agreed construction working hours, optimising deliveries to reduce congestion and preparing a routeing strategy to minimise disruption for highway users and avoid large built-up areas. Signage would be used to alert highway users to any changes to the network because of the construction phase.	
Construction workers	Comment that damage to local tracks caused during survey work shows the disregard construction workers and the Applicant would have.	Land interest	The Applicant has sought to ensure that residents are kept up to date with works happening on-site. This has included a dedicated on-site surveys page on the project website, as well as providing communication channels (freepost, freephone and email) to ensure that anyone wishing to discuss on-site survey works could contact the team. Where work was expected to be disruptive, the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Applicant wrote to properties to give advance notice about the nature, timings and duration of the works. The Applicant has ensured that surveyors carry out pre- and post-condition reports when carrying out on-site survey works. To date, no significant damage has been reported. Where the Applicant has been contacted about the survey works, this has been relayed to on-site teams. The **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** demonstrates how the Applicant would manage the works in a manner that is sensitive to the local community. Measures would include keeping to agreed construction working hours, optimising deliveries to reduce congestion and preparing a routeing strategy to minimise disruption for highway users and avoid large built-up areas. Condition surveys would continue to be undertaken and any damage as a result of construction of the Proposed Development would be remediated. Any damage to the local highways caused by the Proposed Development would be agreed and repaired to the reasonable satisfaction of the Local Highways Authority.	
Funding	Comment that the construction period would inevitably cost	Land interest	The Proposed Development is a joint venture between two companies with considerable experience in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	twice as much as budgeted for.		developing, constructing and operating renewable projects, including solar. This considerable experience has been used to inform the budget for the Proposed Development, which is a matter for the Applicant. The **Funding Statement [EN010149/APP/4.2]** outlines how the Proposed Development is proposed to be funded and that the Applicant has sufficient financial robustness to finance the Proposed Development.	
General	Comments that the impact on the community during construction would be significant and that disruption to the local community should be minimised.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	No significant traffic, air quality or noise impacts are anticipated during the construction phase of the Proposed Development. Further detail on these assessments that have been undertaken are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6: Air Quality, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Measures to minimise impacts and disruption to the local community are outlined and secured within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].** The Applicant would minimise impacts to the local community associated with construction traffic through the implementation of an **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. This plan	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			intends to ensure that construction traffic does not adversely impact local residents. Measures would include keeping to agreed construction working hours, optimising deliveries to reduce congestion and preparing a routeing strategy to minimise disruption for highway users and avoid built up areas. At Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant included indicative zones for the location construction access points and construction compounds. Following consultation, these zones have been reduced in size or removed to increase the distance from neighbouring properties. Specific changes following Phase Two Consultation include: • Access on Heath Road that was adjacent to Mill House is now approximately 300m away from the property. • Access on the road between the A15 and Thompson's Bottom that was approximately 450m from Toll Bar Cottages is now approximately 800m away from the property. • Access on the B1188 north of Scopwick that was approximately 100m from Scopwick House is now approximately 600m north of this property.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• Access on Heath Road close to Peacock Lodge has been removed, with the closest access now approximately 450m away from the property. Details of proposed construction accesses are in **Indicative Construction and Operational Access Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2 Figure 3.4]** and construction compounds in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. The Applicant has also produced an **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** which would be submitted as part of the Application. This includes measures to control construction noise, waste and light pollution.	
Impact on local business	Comment that Toll Bar Equestrian specialises in teaching horse riding to novices and during construction it is feared the business would close due to sensitivity of horses. Request for a safe working distance to be	Land interest	This has been noted. Dialogue is expected between the Applicant and Toll Bar Equestrian prior to construction works commencing. It is expected that works in this area can be undertaken at a pre-arranged time with notice given to the business owner so that they are aware of when construction works will be happening nearby. The following changes have been made to the design of the Proposed Development since Phase Two Consultation which would reduce potential effects experienced at Toll Bar Equestrian:	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	applied around the business.		• The Primary Construction Compound to the west of the A15 has been reduced in size to reduce potential impacts on residential properties and users of the A15. This has been achieved by discounting the compound from land adjacent to New England Lane (Field Tb1) and land opposite Toll Bar Cottage (Field Bcd082). As a result, the compound would be located approximately 250m further away from Toll Bar Cottage. • Construction access on the road between the A15 and Thompson's Bottom that was approximately 450m from Toll Bar Cottages is now approximately 800m away. • The location of the cable corridor to the north of Toll Bar Cottage has been revised to move the corridor approximately 60m further away from this property. This has been achieved by removing an area of land to the north of Toll Bar Cottage from the Order Limits and would be secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. • An additional field proposed for solar PV development has been omitted from the Proposed Development directly to the west of Toll Bar Cottage. • The siting area for the BESS and Springwell Substation has been refined to mitigate potential	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			impacts and increase the distance between these elements of the Proposed Development and Toll Bar Cottage. An earth bund is proposed to reduce the potential scale of impact and minimise visual impacts Therefore, all associated works and related noise emitters are much further away. The nearest works relate to the cable route to the north of Toll Bar Equestrian. For further detail regarding noise impacts, please see **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **Appendix 2 - Cabling and Grid Connection Method Statement** of the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	
Information	Request for more detailed information about construction activities proposed at each construction compound.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Proposed Development has three primary construction compounds that would include a security staffed checkpoint, welfare facilities, offices, car parking, laydown area, delivery offloading and storage areas. Construction staff arrive and check-in, before being transported to work areas. Deliveries would check-in and be directed to the unloading location or be unloaded for materials to be stored in the main compound. The five secondary construction compounds when in use would include security staff, welfare for construction staff and storage of bulk materials such as frames and stone.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			For more information, see **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Details of proposed construction accesses are in **Indicative Construction and Operational Access Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2 Figure 3.4]** and construction compounds in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**.	
PRoW	Request for the Applicant to liaise with Lincolnshire County Council in relation to stopping up of PRoW and to justify the variance in timescales between 3 and 24 months; the latter of which appears excessive.	North Kesteven District Council	It is expected that any temporary closures of PRoW would not extend beyond six months in duration. Diversion opportunities and any diversion requirements would be outlined at detailed design, with potential routes identified within the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Path Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12].** Liaison with LCC Highways and PRoW officers has been undertaken, outlining expected requirements for PRoW crossings, temporary closures during construction and potential diversion options in Springwell East as outlined within the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Path Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**.	N
Timescale	Comment that the construction period would inevitably take	Land interest	The Proposed Development is a joint venture between two companies with considerable experience in developing, constructing and operating renewable projects, including solar.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	twice as long as predicted.		This considerable experience has been used to inform the construction programme for the Proposed Development. The Applicant would engage with the supply chain at an early stage to identify risks, reduce delays and establish a realistic delivery and construction programme. Other measures such as establishing framework agreements with technology suppliers and advancing detailed design at an early stage would help to identify delay risks and inform procurement. The Applicant would continuously monitor the progress of the project to ensure timely completion of all works as well as monitor risks to the schedule. Appropriate mitigation measures would be implemented to avoid delays and reduce any impacts on the project and local community, should the delay occur. The Applicant would minimise impacts to the local community associated with construction through the implementation of an **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** which sets out a framework for measures that would be developed in the detailed Construction Traffic Management Plan including: • The safe and efficient movement of people and materials.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• Minimise freight and construction traffic during network peaks. • Set a framework for continued monitoring, review and subsequent evolution of the detailed Traffic Management Plan and mitigation measures over time. • Limit the impacts on the natural and built environment, such as air quality and heritage assets, where practicable.	
Workers	Query about whether there would be accommodation on-site for construction workers and where this would be located.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	There is no accommodation proposed on-site for construction workers. An assessment of the capacity of local accommodation providers to cater for construction staff is addressed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The assessment concludes that there would be no significant effects on occupancy rates as a result of the Proposed Development and only around 6% of construction workers (a maximum of 39 staff) would require temporary accommodation at one time. The assessment concludes that there is capacity within the study area to accommodate construction staff as well as cater for tourism and other uses.	N
Working hours	Requests for revision of proposed working	Scopwick and Kirkby	Construction working hours on site would be from 7am to 7pm Monday through Friday and 7am to 12 noon on	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	hours, including no work on weekends or public holidays where residents could be disturbed.	Green Parish Council North Kesteven District Council Land interest	Saturday. No working would be permitted on Sundays or Bank Holidays. A variety of Best Practical Means are proposed to limit impacts to the local community during the construction phase (as set out in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** and **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**). This includes the use of temporary hoarding around construction works close to nearby properties. Construction impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Some impacts are anticipated due to trenching works between Springwell Central and Springwell West, as well as some horizontal directional drill works.	
Consultation				
Consultation materials	Comments stating that the Applicant should include a plan showing the Proposed Development in relation to the following:	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The updated layout for the Proposed Development presented at Phase Two Consultation was overlaid on a satellite imagery base map, the data for which was captured during 2021/22. This was in response to feedback from Phase One Consultation which requested that plans were overlaid on a satellite imagery base map. It is acknowledged that developments which began	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Approved and proposed residential developments in the area • Approved and proposed infrastructure projects in the area • Developments in construction that are not currently shown on an OS map. • Operational solar farms which are not shown on the OS base map		construction after the time that the imagery was taken would not appear on the base map, however there were no substantial developments in construction in proximity of the Order Limits at the time of Phase Two Consultation. A preliminary assessment of cumulative effects was provided as part of the PEIR during Phase Two Consultation (see **Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). This included a list of proposed and approved residential and infrastructure developments in the local area (identified in accordance with PINS Advice Note Seventeen, which was the relevant guidance at the time of the assessment). It is considered that this preliminary assessment gave consultees sufficient information to understand and comment on the likely significant cumulative effects of the Proposed Development and other developments in the local area. More information about cumulative effects is available in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and supported by several figures **(ES Volume 2, Figure 16.1 – 16.8 [EN010149/APP/6.2])** which presents the short list of developments assessed, cumulative developments assessed in relation to Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land and cumulative zones of theoretical visibility (ZTV)	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			from the Proposed Development with several developments assessed in the short-list.	
Consultation materials	Comments on the consultation booklet, including that it did not have enough detail, that it lacked information about how non-specific propositions would be met and contains unrealistic graphics and questionable statistics.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The Phase Two Consultation booklet provided an accessible, non-technical summary of the proposals. The booklet set out the scope of the consultation, providing accurate information that gave consultees a clear view of what was proposed and encouraged them to share their feedback. A copy of the Phase Two Consultation booklet is included in **Appendix G-2.3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. This was supplemented by materials in different formats and at different levels of detail to ensure that everyone could find out more about the Proposed Development. This included the PEIR (**Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) which summarised the results of the Applicant's preliminary environmental assessments. More information about how the Applicant carried out its Phase Two Consultation can be found in **Chapter 5** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**.	N
Consultation materials	Comment that Plate 2.9 in the PEIR shows a battery storage facility with less than	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	The Applicant provided indicative images of different components that would be included within the Proposed Development as part of the PEIR (see **Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). This	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	20 containers which is not representative of the Proposed Development.	Parish Council	was to provide an indicative image of the colour, size and dimension of each component rather than demonstrate the amount of each component which could be required as part of the Proposed Development. Information about the amount of each component that would likely be required was included in the accompanying text which set out the parameters of each part of the Proposed Development. For example, Plate 2.9 was labelled as an 'Example BESS facility' with accompanying text in the PEIR describing a typical BESS and what the Proposed Development's BESS could comprise.	
Consultation materials	Comment that it is not clear from the consultation when separate substation works would be approved, and a connection made to the electricity transmission network.	Anglian Water	The Applicant included information about the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation as part of its Phase Two Consultation that was publicly available at this time, noting that this is being developed and consented separately by National Grid, and does not form part of the Proposed Development. National Grid published information about the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation in September 2024, which included information about the proposed timeline for construction and operation. The Applicant explained the relationship between the Proposed Development and the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation (including information about its grid	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			connection agreement) in its Phase Two Consultation materials – including the exhibition boards, consultation booklet and PEIR (see **Appendices G-2 and Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). At public events, contact information for National Grid was available for anyone who wished to find out more about the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. More information about how the Proposed Development would connect into the National Grid is provided in the **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6]**.	
Consultation materials	Comments stating that no example images of collector compounds or proposed locations were included in the consultation materials.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	The Applicant included the potential locations of the collector compounds in the updated operational layout of the Proposed Development published for consultation (see **Appendix G-2.4** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). These were fully considered as part of the environmental assessments undertaken as part of the PEIR. Information about the collector compounds (including the parameters of development) was included in the PEIR (**Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]** and summarised in the Phase Two Consultation booklet (see **Appendix G-2.3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). It is considered that the information provided ensured consultees had sufficient knowledge about the likely scale, appearance and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			location of the collector compounds to respond meaningfully to the consultation.	
Consultation materials	Query about visualisation shown in the consultation booklet of mitigation planned for fields on Heath Road and which fields this specifically relates to.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Visualisations shown in the Phase Two Consultation booklet (see **Appendix G-2.3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) were included to provide an indication of the approach taken to design in key areas of the Proposed Development. This included how tree belt planting could be applied, as proposed in fields along Heath Road (specifically Bcd123, Bcd128 and Bcd129). Proposals for new planting are shown on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Plan [EN010149/APP/6.2]**, and would be secured by the **outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. For more information about the approach taken to design, see **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	N
Consultation process	Comments that the consultation process is not a genuine exercise, including that it is just to appease a legal requirement, and that the Proposed Development is a foregone conclusion.	Land interest	While the PA 2008 requires pre-application consultation, the Applicant viewed gathering feedback as critical to developing its proposals for the Proposed Development, and also had regard to all comments received through non-statutory pre-application consultation and ongoing meetings and feedback from consultees. This is demonstrated and reported in the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**. The evolution of the design of the Proposed Development, including how feedback has	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			helped to shape the proposals is summarised in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
Consultation questionnaire	Comment that given the extent or nature of the matters being raised it was not practical to express these using the consultation questionnaire.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant provided a number of different ways for consultees to provide feedback on the consultation, enabling respondents to choose the format most suitable for the content of their response. Respondents were able to share their views on the Proposed Development by: • Completing a consultation questionnaire online. • Submitting freeform comments or a completed questionnaire to the project email address. • Posting freeform comments or a completed questionnaire. • Returning freeform comments or a completed questionnaire at the public events. Ways people could return their feedback were clearly listed in the Phase Two Consultation materials, including the consultation newsletter, the Springwell Solar Farm project website, Phase Two consultation booklet and exhibition banners. This was also included in associated publicity and public notices, including press releases, statutory notices and social media and newspaper adverts.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Copies of the Phase Two Consultation materials and sample advertising are included in **Appendix G-2** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2].** This also includes a copy of the Phase Two Consultation questionnaire (**Appendix G-2.5** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). Newspaper notices published in compliance with s48 of the PA 2008 are included in **Appendix I-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	
Consultation questionnaire	Comment that the consultation questionnaire is biased, ambiguous and misleading.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The questionnaire was one method available for responding to the consultation. Answers were not required for every question and feedback could be submitted in other ways, including by letter or email (allowing a freeform response). The Applicant does not consider that the questions in the Phase Two Consultation questionnaire were biased or ambiguous. The consultation questionnaire was designed to invite a broad range of comments and responses. The questionnaire was made up of six questions about the Proposed Development that all enabled respondents to provide a freeform response. There was also a space for respondents to leave any further suggestions or comments on the Proposed Development beyond the scope of the questions.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			A copy of the Phase Two Consultation questionnaire is available at **Appendix G-2.5** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	
Engagement	Comment that as the appointed water and sewerage undertaker for most of the main site and the cable route, the Applicant's ongoing engagement is welcomed. Request for a draft SoCG with a summary of engagement provided, and for further engagement on: • Protective provisions to ensure services are maintained • Waste supply and wastewater requirements • Asset protection	Anglian Water	The Applicant has welcomed engagement with Anglian Water Services Ltd throughout the pre-application period. A **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]** between the Applicant and Anglian Water has been submitted as part of the Application. A record of engagement with statutory bodies, including Anglian Water Services Ltd, throughout the pre-application period can be found in **Appendix B-2** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. The Applicant is engaging with Anglian Water on protective provisions for their apparatus. In any event, the Applicant has included standard water and sewerage protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** submitted with the Application.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Pre-construction surveys			
Engagement	Comment that further comments will continue to be provided as the Proposed Development evolves and the ES is completed.	Lincolnshire County Council	Engagement with the host authorities has helped to develop the EIA for the Proposed Development throughout the pre-application stage. The Applicant continued to welcome engagement with the host authorities following Phase Two Consultation. Where meetings discussed EIA development, these are listed within **Appendix B-2** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]** and covered in more detail within the relevant topic chapters of the **Environmental Statement Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Engagement	Comment that the respondent would welcome a further meeting to discuss any proposals to mitigate concerns.	Land interest	The Applicant has continued to meet with stakeholders on request following Phase Two Consultation. A summary of engagement undertaken outside of formal consultation period is presented in **Chapter 3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**.	N
General comment - Consultation	Comment stating that Branston Solar Farm had been cited by the Applicant as an example of a solar	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	The Applicant has not referred to Branston Solar Farm in its consultation materials. Consultation materials published as part of Phase Two Consultation are	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	farm, but this is disingenuous due to the scale of the site and height of the solar panels.	Parish Council	available in **Appendix G-2** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	
Logo	Comment that the logo (sprigs of wheat) is badly thought out and highly offensive.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council.	This is noted.	N
Public events	Comment that many residents felt that responses given at the public events by the Applicant were 'evasive.'	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Refining the design and layout of the Proposed Development was an iterative process, guided by a programme of pre-application consultation and engagement, as well as the outputs of environmental assessments and technical work. At each phase of consultation, the Applicant presented information available at that stage of the design process, noting where outcomes of technical work and environmental assessments were not final. At Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant sought feedback on the latest iteration of its proposals, which had evolved in response to comments received at Phase One Consultation and as a result of on-going environmental assessments and technical work but were not final.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The Applicant ensured that specialist members of the project team were available at the public events to provide further information and answer questions about the Proposed Development. Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant had regard to feedback before finalising the proposals for DCO submission. More information about how the design of the Proposed Development has evolved over the pre-application period is available in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
Regard to feedback	Comment that the changes made to the Proposed Development between consultations was inevitable and was always intended as a bargaining chip.	Land interest Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The design of a project is an iterative process, and it is common for changes to be made to a design to reflect feedback received during consultation, the results of environmental assessments and technical work. The Applicant sought to consult at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure that feedback could be taken into account in the design of the Proposed Development. During Phase One Consultation, the Applicant made it clear that the proposals were at an early stage and would change in response to feedback received, outputs of early environmental assessment and technical work. More information about how the design of the Proposed Development has evolved over the pre-application	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			period is available in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
Regard to feedback	Acknowledgment that some positive changes have been made following Phase One Consultation however the scale of the Proposed Development is unchanged.	Land interest	The Applicant made extensive changes to the design of the Proposed Development over the pre-application period, in part to reduce effects on local communities. Between the Phase One and Phase Two consultations, the Applicant reduced the area proposed for Solar PV development to 816ha (from 1,438ha of area identified as suitable for solar development at Phase One). Following Phase Two Consultation, the area proposed for Solar PV development reduced further from 816ha to 594ha. More information about how the design of the Proposed Development has evolved over the pre-application period is available in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	N
Regard to feedback	Comment that the Internal Drainage Boards; The Environment Agency; Natural England and DEFRA will be concerned by the potential loss of arable land and	Land interest	The Applicant consulted with all statutory bodies as part of its Phase Two Consultation, including Internal Drainage Boards, the Environment Agency and Natural England. Feedback received from Phase Two Consultation is set out in **Appendix J-1** and **J-2** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. The Applicant has submitted an **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]** as part of its	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	environmental damage.		Application which presents the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment undertaken for the Proposed Development. The EIA process has assessed the likely significant effects on the environment resulting from the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Proposed Development and considers measures to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any likely significant adverse effects on the environment. The ES also identifies 'residual' effects, which can be defined as the impacts remaining following the implementation of mitigation measures. The proposed mitigation and monitoring measures are outlined within the respective environmental factor chapters (**ES Volume 1, Chapters 6 - 15 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**). This includes **Chapter 11: Land, Soils and Groundwater** which considers any effects on arable land.	
Cultural heritage				
Above ground heritage assets	Disagreement with the list of receptors and matters scoped out of assessment. Welcome further engagement to agree the list of	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has engaged further with the NKDC Conservation Officer and archaeological advisors regarding the receptors and matters scoped in/out of the ES.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	receptors and matters for ES.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant considers that the 5km study area for designated heritage assets and 2km study area for non-designated heritage assets used for the **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment** (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) is appropriate as it follows the published guidance from LCC and refers to the ZTV for the Proposed Development. The Applicant considers that the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment adequately identifies those heritage assets with potential for likely significant effects.	
Ancillary works	Comment that the impacts of ancillary works and enhancement measures as stated in the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment have not been considered in the PEIR (Volume 1, Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage).	Lincolnshire County Council	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]** considers all potential impacts including the ancillary works and ecological enhancement measures. With the exception of the proposed community growing area north of Scopwick, tree planting proposed would be limited to enhancements to existing hedgerows or new hedgerow planting around the areas proposed for solar arrays. No ponds or scrapes or other areas of excavation are proposed as part of the ecological enhancement measures and therefore no impacts on below ground archaeology are anticipated.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Any alterations to these proposals during the detailed design phase of work would require a variation to the DCO and the Applicant considers that DCO requirements on the detailed design would adequately allow for further assessment of any additional impacts resulting from changes to the Proposed Development.	
Approach to assessment	Reiterate advice on approach to archaeological assessment and techniques given in response to EIA Scoping.	Historic England	Several baseline surveys and assessments informed the baseline for the ES. These are presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 9.1-9.5 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The geoarchaeological deposit model specifically addressed a comment from Historic England in response to the geophysical survey. The Applicant considers that these reports together provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the Order Limits to inform the DCO Application.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment noting that all Grade II listed buildings and Conservation Areas are designated – assets - and therefore the identification of significant effects in EIA terms is not the totality of consideration	Historic England	All Grade II listed buildings and conservation areas within the study area are included in the **DBA and Stage 1 Setting Assessment** (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**). Where significant effects (in EIA terms) have been identified these are reported in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, non-significant effects are identified in the gazetteer to **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	required and should not result in any reduction of attention to the effects on Scheduled and equivalent, Grade I and Grade II* assets.			
Approach to assessment	Comment that host authorities recommended a 5km buffer for non-designated heritage assets was applied for the Stage 1 setting assessment but only 2km has been used.	North Kesteven District Council	The buffers used for the assessment follow published guidance from LCC. Visibility of the Proposed Development is limited beyond 2km as illustrated in the ZTV (**ES Volume 2, Figure 9.1: Cultural Heritage Study Area [EN010149/APP/6.2]**). Likely significant effects to non-designated heritage assets beyond this distance are therefore not predicted.	N
Approach to assessment	Concern about the approach and conclusions made with regards to cultural heritage detailed in the PEIR which is considered to be high-risk with reductive conclusions supported	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant considers that **ES Volume 3, Appendices 9.1: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment, 9.2: Geoarchaeological Deposit Modelling Report, 9.3 Aerial Investigation and Mapping, 9.4: Geophysical Survey Report** and **9.5: Archaeological Trial Trenching Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]** together provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the Order	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	by an inadequate evidence base.		Limits and likely impacts resulting from changes to the setting of heritage assets to inform the application.	
Approach to assessment	Agreement with the approach to the grouping of assets in built up areas but the rationale does not apply to individual structures.	North Kesteven District Council	All designated heritage assets within 5km have been included individually in the gazetteer of the Stage 1 Setting Assessment (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) along with the rationale for including or excluding them from the assessment.	N
Approach to assessment	Disagreement with the approach taken by the Applicant to suggest de-scoping 147 Listed Buildings not predicted to have visibility of the Proposed Development based on an aerial analysis and request for more information.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	147 listed buildings were predicted to have no visibility of the Proposed Development based on the ZTV at the time of production of the PEIR. Following Phase Two Consultation, updates to the design in response to environmental constraints (including the setting of listed buildings, conservation areas and scheduled monuments) have resulted in an updated ZTV which predicts reduced visibility. All designated heritage assets within 5km have been included individually in the gazetteer to **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** along with the rationale for including or excluding them from the assessment.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Approach to assessment	Comment that guidance should be sought from Historic England on Applicant's intention to de-scope 17 scheduled monuments within 5km of the site boundary and in relation to impacts on all Grade I and Grade II designated heritage assets.	North Kesteven District Council	All designated heritage assets within 5km have been included individually in the gazetteer to **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** along with the rationale for including or excluding them from the assessment.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that geophysical survey has greatly expanded understanding of the archaeological potential of the site, noting several foci of archaeological activity comprising likely Bronze and Iron Age and Roman activity where the archaeological	North Kesteven District Council	The high level of confidence between the geophysical survey results and archaeological potential is noted. Trial trenching of the proposed areas for the Springwell Substation, BESS, and collector compounds has added further to our understanding of the archaeological potential of the Order Limits and has confirmed the geophysical survey results in these areas and identified that the expansive linear anomalies in Springwell West relate to geological variations. The design of the Proposed Development has sought to minimise impacts on identified archaeological sites. The likelihood of extensive, sensitive remains being present	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	potential is noted as being 'very high', with a high level of confidence between the geophysics and archaeological potential.		outside of the identified areas of archaeology is considered to be low. Mitigation measures and further investigation of high potential areas that are not avoided by the design are proposed in the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]**.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that the term 'ground disturbance' has not been defined.	North Kesteven District Council	In the context of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, "ground disturbance" refers to those construction activities that result in topsoil stripping, earthworks or excavation. The piles for the solar arrays would also result in ground disturbance, however as this comprises disturbance over less than 0.1% of the total area of the Proposed Development this is considered to be a negligible amount. Further consideration of known and potential archaeological remains within the Site is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]** refers more specifically to the various construction activities impacts on the known and potential archaeological remains within the Site.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Approach to establishing importance of heritage assets	Comment that the approach to establishing importance of heritage assets (Table 8.4) of the PEIR should be streamlined, with reference to the proposed Heckington Fen NSIP. Recommendations on the classification of heritage assets: • Conservation Areas should all be placed within the 'high' category. • Non-designated heritage assets should all be placed within the medium category unless otherwise justified on an individual basis.	North Kesteven District Council	As set out in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, the criteria for establishing the importance of heritage assets has been based on relevant legislation and national planning policy. • Conservation Areas, as local designations are considered to be of medium importance, except where their particular characteristics justify a higher category of importance (none have been identified within the study area where this is the case). • Grade II listed buildings are considered to be of medium importance along with conservation areas. • Non-designated heritage assets are considered to be of low importance unless they are demonstrably of equivalence to scheduled monuments (which are of high importance). With the exception of the WWII air crash sites which are of particular sensitivity and have been assigned a high importance, and areas of geophysical anomalies suggestive of complex multi-phase archaeological remains which are deemed to be of potential medium importance, no non-designated heritage assets have been identified which justify categorisation as of more than low importance.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Query that Grade II listed buildings are in the same category as non-designated heritage assets and unlisted buildings.			
Archaeological assets	Suggestion that a more cautious approach should be taken to the potential for later pre-historic, Romano British and early medieval remains and that previous artefact finds should not be assumed to likely relate simply to casual loss (PEIR, Volume 3: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment 5.4.28), as there is potential for Roman	Historic England Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant considers that **ES Volume 3, Appendices 9.1: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment, 9.2: Geoarchaeological Deposit Modelling Report, 9.3 Aerial Investigation and Mapping, 9.4: Geophysical Survey Report** and **9.5: Archaeological Trial Trenching Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]** together provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the Order Limits and likely impacts resulting from changes to the setting of heritage assets to inform the application. These evaluation methods have identified areas of archaeological interest including possible settlements which have been considered in the ES. An **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** has been prepared setting out the proposed strategy for further evaluation at detailed	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	roadside developments, such as funerary and settlement sites.		design stage and mitigation measures for known heritage assets.	
Archaeological assets	Comment that low potential should not be inferred from a simple absence of evidence, as stated in the PEIR (PEIR, Volume 3: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment).	Historic England	The Applicant considers that **ES Volume 3, Appendices 9.1: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment, 9.2: Geoarchaeological Deposit Modelling Report, 9.3 Aerial Investigation and Mapping, 9.4: Geophysical Survey Report** and **9.5: Archaeological Trial Trenching Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]** together provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the Order Limits and likely impacts resulting from changes to the setting of heritage assets to inform the Application. The strong correlation between these various sources of information indicates that beyond the areas of identified archaeological remains it is unlikely that there are substantial areas of currently unknown remains.	N
Archaeological Desk Based Assessment	Suggestion that the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment is renamed as it also includes detailed discussion of the Setting of Heritage	North Kesteven District Council	This report has been renamed as **Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment** and is provided as **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Assets in the Study Area.			
Archaeological Desk Based Assessment	Comment that there is limited justification as to why heritage assets have been scoped out of analysis in the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment.	North Kesteven District Council	All designated heritage assets within 5km have been included individually in the gazetteer to **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** along with the rationale for including or excluding them from the assessment.	N
Archaeological potential	Comment that archaeological potential should not be capped off in advance of the results of geophysical survey having been well tested by a programme of archaeological trenching.	Historic England	The Applicant considers that **ES Volume 3, Appendices 9.1: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment, 9.2: Geoarchaeological Deposit Modelling Report, 9.3 Aerial Investigation and Mapping, 9.4: Geophysical Survey Report** and **9.5: Archaeological Trial Trenching Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]** together provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the Order Limits and likely impacts resulting from changes to the setting of heritage assets to inform the application. The strong correlation between these various sources of information indicates that beyond the areas of identified archaeological remains it is unlikely that there are substantial areas of currently unknown remains.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Archaeological potential	Comment that local authority archaeological advisors can provide detailed advice in respect of trial trenching and noting that apparent natural features may contain archaeological remains or environmental context / resource crucial to the understanding of adjacent Sites. e.g., where wet natural / semi-natural features can represent areas of rich preservation and heightened importance and sensitivity there is a need therefore for focused use of deposit modelling / preservation	Historic England	The methodology for the trial trenching was agreed with the local authority archaeological advisors and included trenches targeting possible natural features. No evidence of waterlogged deposits was identified. A desk-based **Geoarchaeological Deposit Modelling Report** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.2 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) has been produced at the request of Historic England. The results of this have informed the ES.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	assessment in such areas.			
Archaeological potential – approach to assessment	Disagreement with the approach taken to pre-determination evaluation as trial trenching has been limited to five areas allocated for infrastructure, concentrating on 'known' potential rather than blank areas where potential could have been missed by other methods. Additional comments state that failure to adequately evaluate the site at application stage could lead to unnecessary destruction of heritage assets, programme delays and excessive	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council	Trial trenching carried out over the five proposed areas for potential infrastructure (Springwell Substation, BESS and Collector Compounds) included testing apparently "blank" areas in the geophysical survey results where there were no apparent archaeological remains. The strong correlation between desk-based assessment, aerial investigation and mapping, geophysical survey and trial trenching results indicates that beyond the areas of identified archaeological remains, it is unlikely that there are substantial areas of currently unknown remains. The Applicant considers that the evaluation carried out to date provides adequate information to inform the Application. A further programme of archaeological work, as set out in the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** and secured through a DCO Requirement would be carried out to inform the detailed design of the Proposed Development, including measures to protect the known archaeological remains within the areas proposed for solar PV development. It would also be used to mitigate potential impacts of cable routing. These mitigation measures are set out in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9:**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	costs as the true archaeological potential is not understood and therefore cannot be adequately mitigated.		**Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and would prevent unnecessary destruction of heritage assets. These works have been factored into the project programme. The Applicant considers that extensive archaeological trial trenching pre-determination where the geophysical survey results provide clear information on the below ground archaeological potential is disproportionate to the impacts of the Proposed Development.	
Archaeological potential - baseline	Comment that as only partial baseline information is provided in the PEIR it cannot provide an assessment of the likely significant effects from construction operation and decommissioning.	North Kesteven District Council	Full baseline information is provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 9.1: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment, 9.2: Geoarchaeological Deposit Modelling Report, 9.3 Aerial Investigation and Mapping, 9.4: Geophysical Survey Report** and **9.5: Archaeological Trial Trenching Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]** which have informed the ES.	N
Archaeological potential – evaluation	Comment that the assessment of residual effects on unknown remains is not	Lincolnshire County Council	The assessment of potential unknown remains is based on the evidence gathered from the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment (**Appendix 9.1**), Geoarchaeological Deposit Modelling (**Appendix 9.2**), Aerial Investigation and Mapping (**Appendix 9.3**), Geophysical Surveys (**Appendix 9.4**)	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	evidenced and is reductive.		and targeted Archaeological Trial Trenching (**Appendix 9.5**) (see **ES Volume 3, Appendices 9.1-9.5 [EN010149/APP/6.3]** The assessment of the likely heritage significance/importance of currently unknown remains has been informed by these phases of evaluation and with reference to the regional research framework. The potential impacts on such remains has been fully assessed in the ES.	
Archaeological potential - mitigation	Comment that embedded mitigation proposed is inadequate as it is limited to infrastructure areas, with additional measures limited to reducing ground disturbance, and it is felt more comprehensive archaeological measures should be explored supported by robust assessment.	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council	The ES has, with reference to the results of the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment (**Appendix 9.1**), Geoarchaeological Deposit Modelling (**Appendix 9.2**), Aerial Investigation and Mapping (**Appendix 9.3**), Geophysical Surveys (**Appendix 9.4**) and targeted Archaeological Trial Trenching (**Appendix 9.5**) (**ES Volume 3, Appendices 9.1-9.5 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) identified areas of proposed archaeological mitigation where impacts to known archaeological remains are not avoided through the design of the Proposed Development. These include areas of targeted archaeological excavation in advance of construction for the collector compound in Field By22 to mitigate any impacts on the WWII crash sites, areas of targeted excavation where cable routes and access tracks cannot avoid areas of archaeological remains,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			and areas where non-intrusive construction methods or exclusion of panels would be used to mitigate effects for the solar PV arrays. A programme of further archaeological investigation as set out in the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** would inform the detailed design of the Proposed Development, secured by DCO Requirement.	
Archaeological potential - mitigation	Comment that proposed mitigation during construction would be ineffective for piling and is a very high-risk approach for cable trenching and other groundworks where archaeology could be seen. Other comments highlight risk to archaeology through piling and cable trenching.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant considers that the phased approach to archaeological evaluation taken is proportionate to the potential impacts of the Proposed Development. A programme of further archaeological investigation as set out in the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** would inform the detailed design of the Proposed Development, secured by DCO Requirement. This would include trenching of the cable routes and other areas where excavation is proposed (such as for ITS and new access roads). The strong correlation between the non-intrusive surveys and the trial trenching indicates that there are unlikely to be substantial areas of currently unknown archaeological remains within the areas proposed for solar PV development. Where known archaeological remains are present within the proposed areas for solar PV development, the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** sets out the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			process by which archaeological mitigation would be agreed. In summary, (i) further trial trenching will test the extent, state of preservation and depth of the archaeological remains; (ii) where the remains are of a level of importance that merits preservation in situ (e.g. high importance remains equivalent to scheduled monuments) the design will make use of non-intrusive construction (e.g. concrete feet for solar panel supports and near / on surface cabling) where possible and exclusion of areas where this method is not possible; (iii) where the remains are of low or medium importance non-intrusive construction will be used where possible but where these remains cannot be preserved in situ an area of pre-construction excavation, recording and archiving of the remains in accordance with a task-specific Written Scheme of Investigation (in line with the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]**) would mitigate the effects.	
Archaeological potential - mitigation	Comment that the choice of either preservation in situ below solar arrays or no mitigation at all is wholly inadequate and comprehensively excludes mitigation	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council	A programme of further archaeological investigation as set out in the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** would inform the detailed design of the Proposed Development to be secured by DCO Requirement. This would include trenching of the cable routes and other areas where excavation is proposed (such as for ITS and new access roads). This would also include excavation of the area for the Collector	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	techniques which can be applied if the whole baseline is known.		Compound in Field By22 to mitigate any impacts on the WWII crash sites. As detailed in the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** mitigation measures for any archaeological remains identified during the additional trial trenching would be agreed with the local authority archaeological advisor and Historic England as appropriate. Other mitigation for known heritage assets is set out in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**	
Archaeological potential - mitigation	Concern that the use of 'concrete pad foundations' may not be an appropriate mitigation response to buried archaeological remains, as the effects of compaction on shallowly buried significant archaeological remains needs to be considered.	North Kesteven District Council	Concrete pad foundations or similar would be used where the soil conditions are such that compaction would not occur. The soil stability has been investigated through a programme of ground investigation and further testing would be carried out to inform the detailed design.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Belton House	Comments stating that Belton House and Park is located 14km to the southwest of the Proposed Development and should be considered in relevant analysis.	National Trust	At a range of 14km southwest of the Proposed Development the ZTV (**ES Volume 2, Figure 9.1: Cultural Heritage Study Area [EN010149/APP/6.2]**) indicates there would be no visibility of the Proposed Development from Belton House due to the intervening topography. On this basis, the Applicant has not included Belton House in its assessment.	N
Brauncewell	Disagreement that the scheduled remains at Brauncewell can be scoped out of assessment and request for further justification. Other comments seek clarification on receptors to be included for further assessment as it is stated that the Scheduled remains of former villages of Brauncewell and Dunsby (operation) are	North Kesteven District Council Historic England	The scheduled remains at Brauncewell have been scoped in as they are partly within the Order Limits and a permissive path is proposed across them. The scheduled remains at Dunsby are scoped out as they lie over 1km from the Order Limits. Therefore, no physical impacts would occur to them and no visibility of the Proposed Development is predicted.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	proposed to be scoped in.			
Comment	Comment that impact upon the setting and significance of cultural and heritage assets need to be considered in light of the urgent need to deliver renewable energy, but projects should as far as possible aim to respect the setting and significance of places.	National Trust	The design has sought to avoid or minimise impacts on heritage assets resulting from change to their setting. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to conserve heritage assets within the Order Limits and surrounding area. This has formed part of the iterative design and EIA process and is assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. For example, solar PV development has been omitted from land to the north of Ashby Walled Gardens and would not be visible from the heritage asset. Solar PV development is omitted from land to the north of Scopwick Mill. To the south of Scopwick Mill, solar PV development is omitted from rising land which is visible from the heritage asset. This includes Fields Bk07 and parts of Fields Bk06 and Bk15. These fields would be converted to grassland habitat to maintain the agricultural setting of the mill. To the north of Brauncewell medieval village scheduled monument, solar PV development is omitted from Field E2. This field would be converted to grassland habitat which would maintain the visual relationship between the monument and the surrounding agricultural fields. It	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			would also preserve the remains of ridge and furrow, enhancing (through long-term preservation) its contribution to the significance of the monument. New tree belt planting along the northern boundary of Field E2 would screen Solar PV development in other fields to the north and further reduce visual change on the monument. A new permissive footpath, linking Bloxholm Wood to Brauncewell Village would be aligned to the edge of existing field boundaries and would be unsurfaced in keeping with the rural character of the landscape. Site access points from the A15 have been selected to avoid works in proximity to the listed milepost to the south of Ashby Lodge Farm.	
Conservation areas	Request for more information on the approach to the setting assessment on Blankney and Scopwick Conservation Areas, including: • how buffer zones have been informed	North Kesteven District Council Historic England	Buffer zones around the Blankney and Scopwick Conservation Areas have been informed through site visits to examine the contribution that their setting makes to their significance, including views into and out of the conservation areas. The **Stage 1 Setting Assessment** within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]** has considered the listed buildings within the conservation areas (as well as all other designated heritage assets within the study area) and assessed the impacts with regard to Historic England guidance.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• how impacts have been assessed including on listed buildings within the settlement. • how impacts have influenced the design of the Proposed Development		Potential impacts to the significance of the Church of St Oswald, Blankney (within the Blankney Conservation Area) were identified at an early stage of the assessment as views of the church from the Spires and Steeples Trail within the Order Limits contribute to the significance of this building. Solar PV development has been excluded from the field west of the Spires and Steeples Trail in order to maintain this view and avoid impacts on the significance of the building. The setting of Scopwick Conservation Area was also considered, although as there are limited views out of the conservation area and views into the conservation area from the surroundings are heavily filtered by vegetation, it has been considered that siting solar PV within closer proximity to Scopwick would not adversely affect the heritage significance of the conservation area.	
Conservation areas	Agreement that impacts on Conservation Areas within 5km, Welbourn, Wellingore, Navenby, Metheringham, Dunston, Nocton, Boothby Graffoe and	North Kesteven District Council	The conservation areas listed have been scoped out as detailed in the Scoping Report (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.1: Scoping Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]**).	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Martin can be scoped out.			
Construction	Comment that the approach to installation of the mounting structures and underground cabling to reduce impacts on archaeology can only be effective where the location and extent of significant areas has been identified and where the depth, nature and significance of the surviving archaeological has been determined. Other comments suggest that layout changes would not be possible during operation and construction and would constitute a high-risk	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council	Geophysical surveys (set out in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.4: Geophysical Survey Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) has identified areas of archaeological potential, which has been factored into the design of the Proposed Development. The Applicant has sought to avoid siting solar PV within areas of archaeological potential. Within areas required for cable routing, the detailed design would seek to avoid or minimize impacts. Residual impacts would be mitigated through a programme of archaeological work to be secured through a DCO Requirement in line with the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	approach to archaeology, with appropriate pre-determination evaluation allowing layout changes as part of the mitigation strategy.			
Decommissioning	Comment that archaeology would be located less than a metre below ground and therefore removal of infrastructure up to a depth of one metre could harm below ground archaeology. Other comments state that decommissioning impacts cannot be scoped out at this stage due to insufficient knowledge of the baseline.	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant considers that any areas where decommissioning would result in impacts through removal of infrastructure up to 1m below ground level would have already been impacted during construction and these impacts would be mitigated at pre-construction or during construction through a programme of archaeological work secured by a DCO Requirement in line with the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]**, significant effects are therefore not considered likely. The Applicant considers that there is sufficient knowledge of the baseline. An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment (**Appendix 9.1**), Geoarchaeological Deposit Modelling (**Appendix 9.2**), Aerial Investigation and Mapping	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			(**Appendix 9.3**), Geophysical Surveys (**Appendix 9.4**) and targeted Archaeological Trial Trenching (**Appendix 9.5**) (see **ES Volume 3 Appendices 9.1 to 9.5 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) together have identified clear areas where archaeological remains are present as well as areas where substantial archaeological remains are unlikely.	
Engagement	Comment that the Applicant and LCC has been unable to reach agreement on the scope and approach taken to trial trenching despite the host authorities urging engagement, and agreement to approach should be sought prior to DCO submission.	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council	Agreement was reached with the local archaeological advisors regarding the methodology for the trial trenching. The trenching was carried out in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation and reported in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.5: Archaeological Trial Trenching Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The Applicant considers that the evaluation carried out to date provides adequate information to inform the Application. A further programme of archaeological work, as set out in the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** and secured by DCO Requirement would be carried out to inform the detailed design of the Proposed Development, including measures to protect the known archaeological remains within the areas proposed for solar PV development. It would also be used to mitigate potential impacts of cable routing. These mitigation measures are set out in the **ES**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1] and **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and would prevent unnecessary destruction of heritage assets. The Applicant considers that extensive archaeological trial trenching pre-determination where the geophysical survey results provide clear information on the below ground archaeological potential is disproportionate to the impacts of the Proposed Development.	
Farmhouses	Comment that the setting assessment does not sufficiently consider the impact on farmhouses as there is a blanket presumption that they would be unaffected and does not consider the wider setting and how this would impact on significance, or the designation of individual farmhouses.	North Kesteven District Council	All designated heritage assets within 5km have been included individually in the gazetteer to **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** along with the rationale for including or excluding them from the assessment. This includes the farmhouses.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Further assessments	Comments stating that the assessments will require updating and additional surveys to reflect the area of the Proposed Development including the area of the Grid Connection Corridor.	North Kesteven District Council	The **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3])** has been updated to reflect the additional area for the Grid Connection Corridor and revised ZTV. Additional geophysical surveys have been carried out, which are detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.4: Geophysical Survey Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. It is not considered that the geoarchaeological deposit model (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.2 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) requires updating to include the Grid Connection Corridor as the transects examined in the model provide sufficient information to address the queries raised by Historic England and the local authority archaeological advisors in response to the geophysical survey results.	N
Geophysical survey	Comment that the PEIR references that the geophysical survey has informed the preliminary assessment however no information on the results of the survey is included in the main chapter, with no overview of the	North Kesteven District Council	Results of the geophysical survey are reported in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Information on how the results of the assessment have informed the embedded mitigation measures are set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives Considered [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Additional mitigation measures are set out in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, **Outline Construction**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	baseline conditions or sense of wealth of archaeological remains identified during the survey apart from inclusion of individual sites/receptors in the tables, or discussion about how it has informed embedded mitigation measures to avoid areas of high archaeological potential.		**Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13].**	
Green Infrastructure	Comment that Green Infrastructure and areas for mitigation, enhancement and/or retained agricultural land could have potential impacts on surviving archaeology e.g. mitigation measures such as scrapes, wildlife ponds and tree planting, but	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council	No scrapes or ponds are proposed. Tree planting would be limited to hedgerow enhancements and a proposed community growing area north of Scopwick. Further trenching as part of the **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** would inform the detailed design, including the nature of planting for the community growing area in order to minimise impacts on below ground archaeological remains.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	there is no indication that this has been considered or would be evaluated on mitigated.			
Impact on heritage assets	Comment that the proximity to historically important buildings has been dismissed as many significant assets are within the site boundary.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	There are no listed buildings within the Order Limits and the desk-based assessment (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) has not identified any historic buildings within the Order Limits of more than low importance. All heritage assets within the Order Limits have been considered within the desk-based assessment and those where significant effects are predicted have been considered within the ES.	N
Military heritage	Comment that with regard to air crash sites the Applicant should seek advice and engage with the Ministry of Defence.	Historic England	Trial trench evaluation in proximity to the location of an air crash site was carried out in accordance with a licence obtained from the Ministry of Defence.	N
Mitigation	Comment that 'additional mitigation' proposed in the PEIR	North Kesteven	An **Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]** setting out the nature and scope	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	includes a programme of archaeological investigation as part of the DCO, but the nature, scope or timing of the proposed 'investigation' is not provided.	District Council	of proposed intrusive evaluation to be secured as a DCO Requirement is provided as part of the Application.	
Mitigation measures	Comment welcoming the proposed measures for the physical protection of the listed milestone within the Proposed Development.	Historic England	This comment is noted. The access into the Site has been chosen to avoid impacting on the listed milepost. Details of specific measures to protect the milepost from accidental damage during construction, operation and decommissioning are included in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]**. Potential enhancement measures for the listed milepost (which is currently oriented the wrong way round) are also set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Planning policy	Comment that relevant planning policy should	North Kesteven	The list of non-designated heritage assets provided in Appendix E of the Scopwick and Kirkby Green	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	include the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan including Appendix E 'Non designated Heritage Assets'.	District Council	Neighbourhood Plan has been considered within the **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment** in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
RAF Digby	Comment that there are no plans to consider the impact of the Proposed Development on views from RAF Digby (a non-designated heritage asset, MLI60621) and a more holistic approach is needed.	North Kesteven District Council	Views from RAF Digby have informed the proposed layout. As noted in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, no above ground structures are proposed within immediately adjoining fields or within approximately 1km of the main residential barracks in RAF Digby. A gentle ridge to the east of the B1191 (Heath Road) together with established woodland separates the residential barracks from Springwell Central. No significant effects are predicted to this non-designated heritage asset.	N
Residential properties	Disagreement that listed buildings within settlements more than 1km from the site can be scoped out of assessment and request for further justification.	Lincolnshire County Council	Assets beyond 1km from the Order Limits are not anticipated to experience significant effects, based on an appraisal of how their setting contributes to their significance and the ZTV which shows limited visibility at this range. All designated heritage assets within 5km have been included individually in the gazetteer to **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			[EN010149/APP/6.3] along with the rationale for including or excluding them from the assessment.	
Setting of heritage assets	Comment that the setting assessment does not sufficiently consider the impact on heritage features, and further engagement is requested with particular reference to: • Mills which should be considered individually, with particular reference to Kirkby Green and Scopwick. • Historic parkland with particular reference to Grade II listed Ashby Walled Garden. • Grade II listed building 1280661/ MLI86780 and	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	All designated heritage assets within 5km have been included individually in the gazetteer to **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** along with the rationale for including or excluding them from the assessment. This includes the mills, the assets associated with Ashby Hall, the farmhouses, churches and scheduled monuments.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	impact of visibility from Scop/1135/3 due to Md02. • Grade II listed building Ashby Hall and its grounds 1061827/1261470. • Grade II farmhouse and coach house stables (1254329, 12544067) • Blankney St Oswald's Church (1064285) associated listed buildings/undesignated assets and impact of C6 on views looking north along Scop/737/1. • Temple Bruer Knights Templar Preceptory Scheduled Monument ref			

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	1007686 and Grade I Church Tower, north of Grade II Temple Farmhouse (1254328, 1261359) • Brauncewell medieval village Scheduled Monument ref 1018397 and Grade II listed Church of All Saints ref 1254135 • Setting impacts upon Dunsby medieval village Scheduled Monument ref 1018395			
Setting of heritage assets	More information requested about how views to and from assets highlighted in scoping advice would be affected, including	Historic England	All designated heritage assets within the 5km study area have been considered within the **Stage 1 Setting Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**). The Proposed Development has been designed to minimise the impacts on the experience of moving between the settlements, which is	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	the kinetic experience of the assets in their landscape context.		discussed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Tattershall Castle	Request that relevant analysis (inc. cultural heritage, landscape and visual, glint and glare) includes Tattershall Castle, particularly in relation to Springwell East due to the castle's unique profile and panoramic views offered.	National Trust	The Applicant is not proposing to scope Tattershall Castle into the assessment of cultural heritage. The Applicant considers that the significance of Tattershall Castle derives primarily from its architectural and historic interest inherent in its fabric as an example of early use of brickwork, as a medieval fortified house and its association with Ralph Cromwell (Lord High Treasurer). The evidential value includes archaeological interest as the 15th century building is on the site of an earlier castle which is partly incorporated into the building, as well as the associated remains of the Tattershall College and other structures and features. The positive contribution of setting to the significance of the castle includes views over the surrounding landscape – as a defensive structure the castle would have required clear views over its surroundings to provide advance warning of any attacks. It is noted that due to the low-lying surrounding topography, views from the top of the castle extend as far as Lincoln. The building was also clearly intended to be prominent in the surrounding landscape as a symbol of power and control and views of the building from the surroundings also	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			contribute to the architectural and historic interest as well as at closer range allowing an appreciation of the artistic interest / aesthetic value of the decorative brickwork. The Proposed Development is proposed to be located approximately 12km from Tattershall Castle. At this distance, it would be indiscernible in the landscape due to its low vertical profile combined with many layers of intervening vegetation in the landscape, including a mature tree belt along the eastern boundary of the Site. It would not interrupt views from the castle over the surrounding landscape (including expansive views towards Lincoln). Views of the castle from the wider landscape would similarly not be interrupted and the Proposed Development would not affect an appreciation of the castle's architectural and historic interest and aesthetic value. The Applicant has assessed glint and glare effects from the Proposed Development within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The methodology used within the glint and glare study considers residential properties within the surrounding area. Commercial properties are not considered with regard to glint and glare as residential amenity is not a significant concern. This methodology has been widely accepted in planning	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			submission for UK projects, including NSIPs, and internationally.	
Views of heritage assets	Comments that historical structures are focal points in local views and make a huge contribution to environmental quality.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment** (presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) has identified those assets which are focal points in the local area and where this visibility contributes to their significance. The design of the Proposed Development has been refined to reduce potential impacts on designated heritage assets.	N
Views of heritage assets	Comment that historic views from the Spires and Steeples Trail would be adversely affected by the Proposed Development.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	There are no specifically recognised historic views from the Spires and Steeples Trail in the vicinity of the Order Limits. Effects on views from the Spires and Steeples Trail are assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Following Phase Two Consultation, solar PV is no longer proposed in a (Field Md02 and the western part of Field C6). As a result, solar PV development would not be seen in any views of heritage assets in Scopwick or Blankney.	N
Cumulative effects				
Approach to assessment	Agreement with development types considered within the	North Kesteven	The Applicant has engaged with NKDC on the short list of developments that have been assessed within the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	cumulative effects assessments but request confirmation that 'Energy infrastructure developments' will include TCPA 1990 solar development proposals within the ZoI as well as the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation and Green Man Road battery storage proposals.	District Council	cumulative assessment, presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Energy infrastructure developments including TCPA solar developments have been considered within the ZoI and have been included within the short-list if they meet the below criteria, as outlined in further detail within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**: • Projects that are under construction but that will not be completed prior to the Proposed Development commencing (N.B. in accordance with Table 2 of the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Seventeen, other projects that are expected to be completed before construction of the Proposed Development, and the effects of those projects have been fully determined within their respective applications, are considered as part of the baseline) • Projects with planning permission within the last five years (whether under the PA 2008 or other regimes), but not yet implemented • Submitted applications (whether under the PA 2008 or other regimes), but not yet determined • Projects on the Planning Inspectorate's Programme of Projects where an EIA Scoping Report has been	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			submitted, but for which an application has not yet been submitted. The Green Man Road BESS proposal does not meet these criteria as a Scoping Report has not been submitted for this development. Therefore, there is insufficient information to assess potential cumulative effects at this stage. An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Approach to assessment	Request that two live planning applications for TCPA 1990 solar development referenced 23/1419/FUL (Mareham Lane Scredington) and 23/1021/FUL (land at Little Hale Fen) are included within the short-list of existing development.	North Kesteven District Council	Mareham Lane (23/1419/FUL) has been included in the short-list as it met the criteria for inclusion. An assessment of inter-project cumulative effects is included within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Little Hale Fen (23/1021/FUL) does not meet the short-list criteria for inclusion outlined in **ES Volume 1, Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and therefore has not been assessed. The development is located approximately 12km from the Proposed Development and is outside the Zone of Influence of 10km that has informed the short-list of other existing development and/or approved developments that have been assessed	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Approach to assessment	Agreement with general commentary in relation to cumulative effects of the Proposed Development in combination with Fosse Green, Heckington Fen and Beacon Fen and that these are scoped into assessment.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with NKDC on cumulative effects throughout the pre-application stage and welcomes further engagement as required. An assessment of inter-project cumulative effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Approach to assessment	Agreement that the long and short list of other existing developments should be kept under review.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has engaged with NKDC and LCC to agree the short list of developments that have been assessed within the inter-project cumulative assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Biodiversity	Comment that consideration should be given to cumulative substantive habitat changes arising from other solar NSIP	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has further considered its assessment of the potential long-term cumulative impact of habitat change (during the operational phase) rather than just assessment during the (relatively short-term) construction phase.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	proposals in Lincolnshire alongside consideration of construction disturbances, as potential consequences for biodiversity and magnitude of change at landscape scale are not adequately defined and understood. Specific concern is impacts on ground-nesting birds. Agreement that efforts to mitigate the impact of the Proposed Development would help to remove potential for cumulative effects with other similar schemes close to the site boundary, and this should be detailed in the ES.		The effects of habitat change/loss of open arable land on ground nesting birds has been a key consideration in the design of the Proposed Development. Over 100ha of grassland habitat is proposed to be created to provide enhanced quality nesting habitat for ground nesting birds (based on number of skylark territories identified on Site). Other habitat creation and enhancement measures to increase foraging habitat include enhancement of field margins (wild bird seed plant mixes, arable flora enhancement, tussocky grassland), herbal ley and grassland treatments under solar PV modules and 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. Although there would be an adverse effect on ground nesting birds during the construction phase, this would be relatively short-term and is not considered significant. It is anticipated that the habitat creation and enhancement proposals would provide a significant benefit to farmland birds once established and appropriately managed for the duration of the operational phase. Therefore, this would remove the potential for adverse cumulative effects with other developments in proximity to the Order Limits. Details of habitat creation, enhancement and management proposals are in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The embedded design and additional mitigation measures proposed to reduce the potential impacts identified, and therefore to remove potential for cumulative effects, with specific consideration to impacts on ground-nesting birds, wintering birds and bats, is discussed in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity, [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The cumulative effects of other developments and their mitigation proposed (where information is available) on ground nesting birds, wintering birds, bats and other receptors has been considered and is discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Impacts, [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Cumulative effects	Comment that the impacts of all proposed solar NSIPs in Lincolnshire should be assessed as a single project.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	To complete the inter-project cumulative effects assessment (where other solar NSIPs have been considered), the common sensitive receptors are reviewed to determine if both the Proposed Development and other project affect the same receptor, and the type of impact pathway. In accordance with the Planning Inspectorate's Advice on Cumulative Effects Assessment, a long list of relevant other existing development and/or approved development(s) was established to determine the 'search area'. For the purposes of the cumulative assessment, the 'search area' has been determined by	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			affording consideration to the ZoI for each environmental factor assessed within the ES. The ZoI for each environmental factor is defined as the spatial area over which an effect is likely to be experienced. The ZoI for each environmental factor has been identified based on the extent of the likely effects identified in each of the individual environmental factor assessments (**ES Volume 1, Chapters 6-15 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**), whilst also reflecting any additional area over which cumulative effects may occur for particular cumulative scenarios (e.g., sequential cumulative visual effects on users of linear routes). The overall combined 'search area' for the long list of relevant other existing development and/or approved development(s) has been based on the largest ZoI (study area) in terms of distance, which in this case is 10km. However, and notwithstanding the above, consideration has been afforded to the adoption of a wider county level study area for cumulative assessment in relation to BMV agricultural land and transport which considers other solar NSIPs in Lincolnshire. An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing development and/or approved developments is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
General comment	Comment that it is unacceptable to assess the environmental effects of the Proposed Development as a standalone project.	Land interest	An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing development and/or approved developments is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Land, soil and groundwater	Agreement with the Applicant's commitment to review the cumulative availability of BMV land in the region in agreement with statutory consultees. Suggestion that all registered solar NSIPs in Lincolnshire should be considered in relation to cumulative assessment on agricultural land.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council Natural England	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with NKDC and LCC on this matter and welcomes further engagement if required. The assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects of temporary loss of BMV agricultural land from solar developments has considered the ZoI to be the county of Lincolnshire, in addition to any developments within 1km of the border with Nottinghamshire (to the west of the Proposed Development). An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing development and/or approved developments in relation to BMV agricultural land is presented in Section 16.8 of the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Landscape and visual impact	Agreement that there are no cumulative effects on the Lincoln	North Kesteven	The solar and energy storage element of the Fosse Green scheme is proposed to be located in the vale west of the Lincoln Cliff, in a different character area (the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Cliff AGLV from the Fosse Green cable corridor. Other comments acknowledge uncertainties regarding the Fosse Green cable corridor and that the Applicant is unlikely to be able to form a judgement on significant cumulative LVIA effects.	District Council	Witham and Brant Vales) and therefore would have no visual connection with the Proposed Development. There would be no shared landscape or visual receptors. Although indicative grid connection corridor options extend to the A15 north of the Proposed Development, it is understood that this would be via an underground cable and therefore no significant landscape or visual effects are anticipated in combination with this project.	
Lincolnshire Reservoir	Comment that the proposed Lincolnshire Reservoir should be considered as a Reasonably Foreseeable Future Project in the EIA.	Anglian Water Services	In line accordance with the Planning Inspectorate's Advice on Cumulative Effects Assessment and the inter-project methodology detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, the proposed Lincolnshire Reservoir would be considered a Tier 3 project. A review of the information available for Anglian Water's proposed Lincolnshire Reservoir has been undertaken. The proposed reservoir footprint is >10km from the Order Limits; however, ancillary infrastructure (e.g. pipelines) may be required that extend within the 10km ZoI. Although public consultation for the scheme has	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			commenced, an EIA Scoping Report has yet to be submitted. The information available from the statutory consultation (30 May – 9 August 2024), provides an overview of the design principles, opportunities and assessment approach for key environmental topics. There is insufficient information available to identify pipeline routes and/or common sensitive receptors and therefore there is insufficient information to consider this development within the inter-project cumulative effects assessment. The Applicant is engaging with Anglian Water on protective provisions for their apparatus. In any event, the Applicant has included standard water and sewerage protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** submitted with the Application.	
National Grid Navenby Substation	Comment that relevant assessments, as well as the overall cumulative assessment should take into account cumulative effects of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation, noting the	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	effects could be permanent. Specific topic areas raised include: • Traffic and transport (construction) • Noise and vibration (construction and operation) • Agricultural land (construction and operation) • Landscape and visual impact (construction and operation) • Biodiversity (construction and operation) • GHG impacts (construction and operation) as the Proposed			

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Development should be liable for a proportion of the emission relative to its connection agreement.			
National Grid Navenby Substation	Comment that the removal of the National Grid substation element of the Proposed Development creates uncertainty for potential cumulative impacts.	Anglian Water Services	For the purposes of the cumulative assessment and, as a number of developments already progressing through the planning process require a connection to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation, it has been assumed within the cumulative assessment (presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**) that the relevant planning submission would be submitted in spring 2025, with construction commencing in 2026 for approximately three years. This ensures a reasonable worst case has been assessed. An assessment of the cumulative effects of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is based on assumptions using similar applications and National Grid's factsheet on substation construction and is detailed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Navenby Heath BESS	Comment that the Applicant should continue dialogue with the host authorities in relation to the proposed Navenby Heath BESS (23/0390/EIASCO) to agree approach to assessing cumulative effects. Other comments agree that cumulative assessment of cultural heritage and noise is required.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has engaged with NKDC on the short list of developments considered in the cumulative assessment, which includes an assessment of the Navenby Heath BESS. The inter-project cumulative effects are presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Noise	Comment that cumulative construction noise assessments for the Proposed Development and Fosse Green grid connection corridor will be required if	North Kesteven District Council	Construction impacts (with decommissioning noise expected to be similar to construction impacts) have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Potential inter-project cumulative effects have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The receptors that may be impacted by both the Proposed Development and Fosse Green grid	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	construction timelines overlap.		connection corridor are considered to be along Gorse Hill Lane, namely Gorse Hill Farm and The Bungalow. No significant impacts are anticipated to these receptors during the construction phase of the Proposed Development. The Applicant agreed a cut-off date for consideration of other developments within the cumulative effects assessment with the host authorities (31 August 2024). It is noted that following this date, updated information has subsequently been made available for both Fosse Green and the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. While no cumulative noise impacts are anticipated as a result of these developments, additional assessment on the possible cumulative construction noise is likely to be undertaken during the examination period to reflect this updated information available.	
Short-list of developments	Question the exclusion of Brauncewell Quarry and Len Kirk Plant Hire Ltd from the cumulative short list as impacts of mineral developments should be considered given potential cumulative	Lincolnshire County Council	The two applications listed, Brauncewell (PL/0082/22) and Len Kirk Plant Hire Ltd (PL/0028/22) were included in the long list, however given the size and scale of the development proposed (installation of filter press and wash plant respectively) these did not meet the Stage 2 criteria for inclusion in the Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 16.1: Long list of other approved and or existing developments [EN010149/APP/6.3]**).	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	impacts from traffic, noise, dust as well as visual impacts.		The potential for cumulative effects with mineral developments has been considered, with a review having been completed of LCC's *Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Preferred Approach for Updating the Plan – Regulation 18 Consultation, Site Assessment Report* (June 2024), to identify sites within the CEA's 10km Zone of Influence. Of the sites, those with a planning application or submitted EIA Scoping Report have been included in the short list for the CEA (e.g. the extension at Dunston Quarry PL/0094/23) (see Table 16.3 Short list of other approved and or existing developments within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**).	
Traffic and transport	Recommendation that the traffic and transport study area should – depending on timeframes of pr–jects - assess cumulative construction (and where relevant operational) effects associated with: • Triton Knoll	North Kesteven District Council	Inter-project cumulative effects relating to traffic and transport would depend on the likely routes used by cumulative development traffic (HGV and worker cars), and whether these overlap with routes proposed to be used by the Proposed Development in the construction phase. A review of the construction flows and associated routes of short-listed projects from relevant documentation available has been completed to determine whether there could be any potential overlap with the Proposed Development from other existing development and/or	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Viking Link • Heckington Fen (including works to Bicker Fen Substation) • Beacon Fen Solar Park • Temple Oaks Solar Park • Lincolnshire Reservoir • TCPA (1990) projects requiring cumulative assessment of transport effects including the Sleaford West and potentially the Sleaford South SUEs (A17/A15 corridor), along with the Lincoln South East Quadrant		approved developments, where this information is available. Of the short-list projects within the ZoI for traffic and transport, the following are considered to overlap in geography (road links), and timeframe: • Heckington Fen Solar Park (including works to Bicker Fen substation), planning reference EN010123; and • Sleaford West, planning reference 16/0498/OUT. The justification for excluding the other existing development and/or approved developments is included in **ES Volume 3, Transport Assessment, Table 6.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	(SEQ) SUE which sits alongside parts of the A15 and B1188.			
Traffic and transport	Comment that in relation to cumulative effects associated with component deliveries, the study area may need to include the A17 corridor depending on the choice of port, noting that the A17 to A153 node is referred to in the PEIR.	North Kesteven District Council	The A17 is not considered to be within the study area. The study area outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** has been developed to consider construction phase effects in agreement with LCC Highways Officers. In addition, the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** has been developed factoring in that abnormal load movements may occur.	N
Traffic and transport	Concerns raised about the cumulative impact on Navenby from traffic associated with four schemes proposed within the parish (Springwell Solar Farm, Fosse Green Solar Farm,	Navenby Parish Council	Inter-project cumulative effects have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The chapter concludes that there would be no significant adverse impacts as a result of the traffic related with the Proposed Development alongside the other existing development and/or approved developments that have been assessed, including Fosse Green and the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	BESS on Green Man Road and the National Grid Navenby Substation).		The Green Man Road BESS proposal does not meet the inter-project cumulative short-list criteria as detailed in Section 16.4 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]** as an EIA Scoping Report had not been submitted for the development and there is insufficient information to assess the cumulative effects at this stage.	
Wider solar development in Lincolnshire	Comments that the cumulative assessment should include all renewable NSIPs in Lincolnshire to strategically assess effects such as loss of agricultural land and changes to landscape, and impact on tourism.	Land interest Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	In accordance with the Planning Inspectorate's Advice on Cumulative Effects Assessment, a long list of relevant other existing development and/or approved development(s) was established to determine the search area. For the purposes of the cumulative assessment, the search area has been determined by affording consideration to the Zone of Influence (ZoI) for each environmental factor assessed within the ES. The ZoI for each environmental factor is defined as the spatial area over which an effect is likely to be experienced. The ZoI for each environmental factor has been identified based on the extent of the likely effects identified in each of the individual environmental factor assessments (**ES Volume 1, Chapters 6 to 15 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**), whilst also reflecting any additional area over which cumulative effects may occur for particular cumulative scenarios (e.g., sequential cumulative visual effects on users of linear route)	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The overall combined 'search area' for the long list of relevant other existing development and/or approved development(s) has been based on the largest ZoI (study area) in terms of distance, which in this case is 10km. However, and notwithstanding the above, consideration has been afforded to the adoption of a wider county level study area for cumulative assessment in relation to Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land and population which considers other solar NSIPs in Lincolnshire. The assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects of temporary loss of BMV agricultural land from solar developments has considered the ZoI to be the county of Lincolnshire, in addition to any developments within 1km of the border with Nottinghamshire (to the west of the Proposed Development). An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing development and/or approved developments in relation to BMV agricultural land is presented in Section 16.8 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. As part of the assessment of population effects, consideration has been given to changes in employment, skills and spending, the agricultural	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			economy and increased occupancy rates during construction. Impact pathways to tourism facilities and PRoWs have been identified as changes to visual amenity and noise. These effects are captured in the noise and landscape assessments and indirect effects on transport routes. Inter-project cumulative effects with other existing development and/or approved developments are presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Zone of influence	Comments that the Zone of Influence for cumulative assessment should be expanded beyond the 10km radius.	Land interest	The Zones of Influence for each of the individual environmental factors have been based on relevant institute guidelines (e.g. IAQM, CIEEM). The overall combined 'search area' for the long list of relevant other existing development and/or approved development(s) has been based on the largest ZoI (study area) in terms of distance, which in this case is 10km. Consideration has been afforded to the adoption of a wider county level study area for cumulative assessment in relation to Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land and population impacts, including the agricultural economy. An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing development and/or approved	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			developments is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Decommissioning				
Below ground infrastructure	Comment requesting a commitment to reinstate agricultural land to its former quality where concrete, hardstanding areas and foundations are removed (up to 1m) to be included within the DCO Application.	Natural England	This commitment is secured within the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** along with measures to mitigate impacts to the soil.	N
Decommissioning plan	Request for the ES to include measures for early decommissioning should energy generation cease early inc. timescales and long stop periods, inc. force majeure events.	North Kesteven District Council	Discussions are ongoing with NKDC and LCC on assessment of early decommissioning including, force majeure events. The DCO (see **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**) provides that no later than 12 months prior to the date the undertaker intends to decommission any part of the authorised development, the undertaker must notify the relevant planning authority of the intended date of decommissioning for that part of the authorised development, which would trigger the need for approval of the Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan and decommissioning.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Following engagement with host authorities, the Applicant assessed whether there could be any significant effects on air quality should the Proposed Development be decommissioning early, different to those identified at year 40. The representative year (year 20) that has been assessed was discussed and agreed with the host authorities. This is included within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6: Air Quality [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Decommissioning plan	Comments that a robust decommissioning and restoration plan is needed to leave a legacy of enhancement.	National Trust	Following decommissioning of the Proposed Development, the Order Limits would be returned to landowners. Landscape structural planting (such as trees, hedgerows, scrub) created to deliver biodiversity mitigation and enhancement associated with the Proposed Development would be left in situ, with the exception of proposed planting within Tb2 which would need to be removed to allow the releveling of this field, which is required for agricultural use. Otherwise, it is assumed the landowner would return the land to agricultural use when it is handed back. The Proposed Development would be decommissioned and restored in line with the **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]**, **Outline Landscape and**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9] and **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11].** The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to create an enhanced and better-connected footpath and cycle network. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional Public Rights of Way (PRoW) which would be permanent and would leave a legacy of enhancement. Further details on the PRoW improvements are provided in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	
DEMP	Comment noting AWS is content to be a consultee on the Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan.	Anglian Water Services	In the planning of the decommissioning works and throughout those works, the Applicant would discuss and agree any interface points between the Proposed Development and AWS. The discussions would agree appropriate measures to put in place to protect AWS assets as well as any attendance that may be required on Site during the works. The Applicant is engaging with Anglian Water on protective provisions for their apparatus. In any event, the Applicant has included standard water and sewerage protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** submitted with the Application.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Land	Comments that the land would not be able to be returned to agriculture. Specific concerns include costs to regenerate the soil, decimation of the land drainage system requiring the affected land to be re-under-drained and that it would take 100 years for the soil quality to be restored.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	Land drains facilitate a quicker movement of surface water and groundwater to drainage ditches to improve land for arable uses. If the land drains are compromised, then surface water would drain overland to those same drainage ditches. Following decommissioning the land would be returned to the landowner, and it is assumed the Order Limits would return to agricultural use. Prior to this, the land would be reinstated in accordance with the **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (oDEMP) [EN010149/APP/7.13]** and **Outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.11].** The **oDEMP [EN010149/APP/7.13]** would be subject to the approval of the local planning authorities at the time of decommissioning. During the lifetime of the Proposed Development the soil quality, soil structure and existing field drainage system would be protected by the procedures detailed in the **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]**, as well as by mitigation measures set out within the management plans for the three phases of the project (**Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			[EN010149/APP/7.10] and **oDEMP [EN010149/APP/7.13]**). The **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** would include methodologies for activities to ensure that damage to soil structure, as well as damage to field drains, is prevented. The **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** would control the timing of work and take into account soil saturation, ensuring that work is avoided during periods when soils are susceptible to damage. Other procedures to protect soils that are covered by the **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** include: retaining soil profiles; avoiding and ameliorating compaction; storing soils for re-use in accordance with best practice; undertaking aftercare and restoration activities in line with procedures that minimise damage; and following procedures for trenching to ensure soil horizons are maintained. Although the decommissioning phase would not adversely affect soils if the **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** is followed, it is noted that if a reduction in soil quality has occurred, this could be reversed using standard agricultural soil improvement techniques, preventing medium or long-term effects on the quality of the soil. Machinery that is used in the decommissioning phase would be of similar size, or smaller/lighter, than plant	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			used in standard agricultural processes, so the works would not result in additional loads on the soil compared to the prior agricultural use. Restoration works in line with the methodologies provided in the **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** would ensure that the land remains at the agricultural land classification grade that was recorded prior to construction.	
Design				
Cable route	Comment that the cable passing north of Toll Bar Cottage should be moved further away so there is no disruption during construction.	Land interest	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant reviewed the location of the cable corridor to the north of Toll Bar Cottage and moved the corridor approximately 60m further away from the property. This has been achieved by removing an area of land to the north of Toll Bar Cottage from the Order Limits and will be secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. The alignment of the cable route has been identified with the aim of minimising potential impacts whilst also meeting technical requirements. No significant noise effects during construction are anticipated at Toll Bar Cottages due to the distance from the cable route activities to the property and through the implementation of the **Outline Construction Environmental**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7] which secures mitigation measures such as ensuring equipment complies with noise limits, equipment is fitted with noise reduction modifications and Best Practicable Means as defined by the Control of Pollution Act 1973. The exact alignment of the cable would be refined within the Order Limits at the detailed design stage.	
Collector compounds	Query where the collector compounds would be located.	Land interest	The Applicant is proposing a total of four collector compounds within the Order Limits which would comprise a main collector compound in Springwell West, and a satellite collector compound in each of the three land parcels (Springwell West, Central and East). Following Phase Two Consultation, the siting zones for each of the collector compounds was refined and reduced in size to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. As a result of the design iteration process fields in Springwell Central (Field Bk02) and Springwell West (Field Bcd139, Bcd140, Tb1 and Bcd082) are no longer proposed for collector compounds. The size of the siting zones within the remaining fields has also been reduced. The exact location of the collector compounds would be identified at the detailed design stage and would be	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			within the spatial parameters set out by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and in accordance with the Requirements of the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**.	
Construction compounds	Comment that the proposed main construction compound in Springwell East would ruin the aesthetics of the Spires and Steeples Trail and the B1188 and against the Applicant's design principles.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Primary Construction Compound proposed in Springwell East is required to construct the Proposed Development as set out within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** The compound would be a temporary feature and has been sited to minimise potential impacts whilst also meeting technical requirements. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the Spires and Steeples Trail and the B1188 (Lincoln Road) in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes protecting the amenity of the Spires and Steeples Trail (Principle 5.2) and considering views and the experience of people using the local road network (Principle 1.3). Following Phase Two Consultation, the siting zone for the Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East was reviewed and refined to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			As a result of the design iteration process the proposed location of the construction compound identified at Phase Two Consultation (Fields Md03, Md04 and C7) was discounted and relocated to Field C8 as shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. This has benefit in reducing the potential impacts on the local environment. No significant noise impacts are anticipated to sensitive receptors during the construction phase and best practice measures to minimise noise are secured within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. Locating the construction compound in this Field C8 increases the distance of the proposed compound from the B1188 (Lincoln Road) by approximately 350m, from Scopwick House by approximately 500m and from the village of Scopwick by approximately 350m compared to the location shown at Phase Two. Field C8 is located to the east of the Spires and Steeples Trail adjacent to existing woodland at Brickyard Plantation and Ash Holt which would provide some visual screening and integration of the compound to users of the Spires and Steeples Trail, local footpaths, and the B1188 (Lincoln Road). Locating the compound	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			in Field C8 would also increase the amount of intervening vegetation between the compound and the B1188 (Lincoln Road) and Scopwick House. This would further reduce the potential visibility of the compound. Landscape and visual effects on the Spires and Steeples trail in year 1 are considered to be significant, however, once mitigation planting in the form of new hedgerows alongside the western boundaries of Fields C8 and C9 and along the northern boundary of Field C6 are established to a height of 3.5m there would be no views of the Proposed Development, with the exception of heavily filtered glimpses through this vegetation in winter months. However, this would be barely discernible, and no significant effects are anticipated in year 10 of operation. Further detail on the landscape planting is detailed and secured in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP7.9]**. The proposed access to Springwell East has also been amended. The access shown at Phase Two Consultation (from the B1188 near to Scopwick House) has been discounted and relocated approximately 500m further north (to the southern boundary of Field C7). Relocating the access further north has benefit in reducing the potential impacts on residential dwellings and settlements.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Relocating the construction compound and the associated access reduces the extent of the compound that would be adjacent to the Spires and Steeples Trail (from 900m to 150m) compared to Phase Two. It also reduces the extent to which operational and construction vehicles would be required to use existing tracks aligned to the PRoW network and reduces the duration for any temporary closures to PRoW as vehicle movements could be managed by a banks person, as detailed and secured in the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Path Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12].** No significant impacts are anticipated to PRoW users as closures would be temporary and would be managed in accordance with the measures set out in the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Path Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12].**	
Construction compounds	Query when the land proposed for the main construction compound in Springwell East would become land for mitigation, ecological enhancement or	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the siting zone for the Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East was reviewed to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. As a result of the design iteration process the location identified at Phase One Consultation (Fields Md03, Md04 and C7) was discounted to reduce the potential	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	retained for agricultural use.		impacts on the local environment. These fields would now remain available for agricultural use as part of the Proposed Development. The construction compound has subsequently been relocated to Field C8 as shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. Field C8 is located to the east of the Spires and Steeples Trail and has increased the distance of the proposed compound from the B1188 (Lincoln Road) by approximately 350m, from Scopwick House by approximately 500m and from the village of Scopwick by approximately 350m. Where practicable, the Applicant has co-located construction compounds with areas of Solar PV development to reduce potential impacts on the environment (this includes the Primary Construction Compound in Field C8). Once the construction compound is no longer required the land would be used for solar PV development. The specific timings of this would be identified at the detailed design stage once construction phasing has been confirmed.	
Design	Query about whether the ratio of land proposed for	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	Following Phase Two Consultation, the areas for mitigation and enhancement have continued to be refined to take account of consultation feedback,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	development (48%) and proposed for mitigation, enhancement or retained for agricultural use (52%) would be maintained.	Parish Council	environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. At Phase Two Consultation, the extent of mitigation and enhancement land required for the Proposed Development was not known and the proposals did not differentiate between potential land for mitigation and enhancement or retained agricultural use. Following further design resolution, and refinement of the biodiversity mitigation strategy based on the outputs of the Environmental Impact Assessment (see **Environmental Statement Volumes 1-4 [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]**) the Applicant is now able to distinguish between land that is required for mitigation and enhancement and land that would be retained as available for agricultural use (but is not required for mitigation). The proposed areas for mitigation and enhancement are shown by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Land no longer required for mitigation and enhancement, and which is not required for any other works has been removed from the Order Limits as described in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Land within the Order Limits that would be retained as available for agricultural use is no longer shown on the Green Infrastructure Parameters as it is not required for mitigation. As a result of these changes, it is not possible to provide a direct comparison to the ratio previously presented at Phase Two Consultation.	
Design principles	Request for more clarity on how the Proposed Development currently responds to the Applicant's thematic principles for good design.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** demonstrates how the Proposed Development would fulfil the requirement for good design. It explains how good design has been embedded into the Proposed Development from the early stages of the Proposed Development via a clear design framework and how this has provided a shared understanding of desired outcomes for the Proposed Development and informed decision making. It also explains the way in which the design has evolved since inception, the rationale for the proposals contained within the Application, and the mechanism by which good design would be secured post-consent.	N
Design principles	Support for the principle of removing fields, or parts of fields, from development where they comprise	North Kesteven District Council	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by the Project Principles set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes retaining all fields comprising solely of Grade 1 or 2 land within the Site as available for arable	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	wholly or partially BMV land.		production (Principle 8.1); prioritising the use of BMV land for arable production where practicable (Principle 8.2); and prioritising the use on non-BMV land for habitat creation where practicable (Principle 8.3). A summary of how the design of the Proposed Development has evolved to respond to each of these Project Principles is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
Design principles	Support for the principle of removing fields, or parts of fields from development to reduce impacts on the Spires and Steeples Trail.	North Kesteven District Council	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by the Project Principles set out within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes developing the design to protect the amenity of the Spires and Steeples Trail, avoiding any Solar PV development between the route and the B1188 (Principle 5.2). This has included discounting Solar PV development from all adjoining fields within the Order Limits west of the footpath (Fields C7, Md03, Md04 and Md05) and north of Scopwick (Field Md02). As a result, Solar PV development would only be located adjacent to the Spires and Steeples Trail for a short stretch of the route (approx. 250m in Fields C6, C8 and C9). This would minimise the potential visual effects on users of the footpath and ensure no views of the churches at Blankney or Scopwick would be interrupted by the	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Proposed Development. This is secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** Where Solar PV development is proposed adjacent to the Spires and Steeples Trail, mitigation measures are proposed to reduce the potential effects on footpath users. This includes a **Design Commitment [EN010149/APP/7.4**] to offset the perimeter fencing surrounding Solar PV development by at least 15m to all PRoW. In addition to this, a larger offset would be provided at the north-west corner of Field C6 where the footpath follows the corner of the field boundary. Mitigation planting, in the form of new hedgerows, is proposed along the western boundaries of Fields C8 and C9 and along the northern boundary of Field C6. At these locations the path would be located within a wide (minimum 15m) walking corridor bounded on either side by existing or proposed hedgerows. Once these hedgerows have established to a height of 3.5m there would be no views of the Proposed Development through the vegetation, except potentially heavily filtered glimpses in winter months, but this would be barely discernible. The location of mitigation planting would be secured by the Green Infrastructure Parameters set out	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** In addition to the mitigation measures identified above, the Applicant is proposing to upgrade parts of the Spires and Steeples Trail within the Order Limits to Bridleway status, with the surface of the path improved in accordance with the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].**	
Embedded mitigation measures	Request for the Applicant to clarify whether proposed buffer zones are derived from guidance, good practice, precedence from other solar NSIPs, professional judgement or a combination.	North Kesteven District Council	The identification of all buffer zones is derived from a combination of guidance, good practice, precedence set by other NSIP solar schemes and professional judgement from technical specialists of the project team. For example, there would be a minimum 15m offset from the proposed built development to any existing woodland in accordance with guidance published by Natural England and the British Standards Institution for tree root protection areas.	N
Enhancements	Comments welcoming the development of Green Infrastructure /proposals for recreation and amenity improvements, which	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant is committed to continuing to engage proactively with stakeholders in the design of Green Infrastructure and amenity and recreation improvements that the Proposed Development could deliver. Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant continued to engage with stakeholders, including the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	should be maximised and integrated within the Proposed Development. Request for further engagement with the host authorities and other interested parties in relation to these elements.	Lincolnshire County Council	host authorities, on the design of the Proposed Development. This included dedicated meetings with LCC Highways and Public Right of Way Office on potential amenity and recreational improvements in April 2024. The Applicant also met with NKDC and its appointed ecologist on 23 July 2024 to discuss the development of the green infrastructure and biodiversity strategy proposals.	
Fencing	Comment that fencing does not need to be used as people stick to footpaths and do not walk on farmland, and removal of fencing would improve the aesthetics of the Proposed Development.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Fencing is required as part of the Proposed Development for safety and security reasons. The Applicant is committed to developing the design of the fencing as sensitively as practicable to reduce potential impacts on the local environment, integrate with the landscape, and provide appropriate levels of security. The Proposed Development only uses fencing where needed (e.g. around areas of Solar PV development, or the Springwell Substation) and is proposing to utilise sensitive specifications to reduce potential impacts. Different types of fencing would be used for different areas of the Proposed Development to provide appropriate levels of safety and security. For example,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			wooden post and wire fencing for areas of Solar PV development, and mesh/palisade fencing for the Springwell Substation. These are set out in the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]** which include commitments on the following: • Perimeter fencing around the Solar PV development will comprise a timber post and wire mesh fence to minimise visual impact. • Perimeter fencing around the Solar PV development will be offset from existing vegetation and other environmental features to reduce potential impacts. • Perimeter fencing will permit the passage of wildlife, either through a clearance at ground level or via mammal gates. Further detail on the proposed fencing is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]**	
Future expansion	Comment that the Proposed Development could increase further in size if approved.	Land interest	If granted, the DCO would only provide consent for the Proposed Development and associated works within the parameters of the Order Limits which have been assessed as part of the Environmental Statement, as set out within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The Proposed Development could not increase in size without a revision to the made DCO, either through a non-material or material change and in line with the procedures for making such changes. This requires the Applicant to submit a request to change the made DCO as it is a legal document, which would require additional consultation and assessments.	
Height	Comment that the proposed solar panels are too high.	Land interest	The Phase One Consultation suggested that solar panels would be approximately 4m at their highest point. The Phase Two Consultation subsequently noted that *'in some limited areas, solar panels could be up to 4m high, though most would be 3.5m high at their highest point.'* Following further refinement of the Proposed Development, the maximum height of solar panels is now proposed to be 3.5m within just five fields in Springwell East which are located within Flood Zone 2 and 3 and a maximum of 3m in all other fields proposed for Solar PV development. The heights of the infrastructure is outlined in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.2: Height Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. The design of the Proposed Development has been informed by technical landscape and visual analysis. The design also incorporates landscape planting to mitigate and screen views of the Solar PV modules. The landscape planting proposals are detailed and secured	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. In terms of residential visual amenity during operation, it is assessed that residents of 25 dwellings would experience significant visual effects during year 1 but in most cases by year 10 these effects would reduce to be not significant due to the establishment of mitigation planting. Further detail on the landscape and visual effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and is supported by several figures presented in **ES Volume 2, Figure 10.1 – Figure 10.28 [EN010149/APP/6.2],** including Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) analysis to show the extent visibility for Solar PV with and without proposed mitigation planting.	
Height	Request to consider building embankments or sinking structures into the ground to better screen areas (e.g. substations).	Land interest	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. This has included incorporation of an Earth Bund in Springwell West. The bund is designed to partially screen the lower lying elements of the Springwell Substation, Main Collector Compound and the BESS from the A15. At its highest point, the bund would be	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			between 3m-5m above existing ground levels with additional planting on top of the bund. The proposed Springwell Substation and BESS would be set within the existing landform as these components require a flat base plane on which to lie. Precise details of levels would be identified at the detailed design stage. Substantial planting is also proposed to help mitigate potential impacts as shown by the Green Infrastructure Parameters found in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	
Impact on property	Comment that the respondent has built an all-weather arena for noise-sensitive horses which is very close to the Proposed Development which would be spoilt.	Land interest	The Proposed Development is located approximately 250m away from the all-weather arena identified by the respondent. Noise associated with the Proposed Development is not expected to impact the identified property or equestrian receptors. The type of noise associated with the Proposed Development is relatively consistent and steady, which is considered not to spook horses, compared to noise which is impulsive or intermittent. There is little guidance on assessing noise levels to horses, although “Protecting horses from excessive music noise – a case study” by Cornelius (Neil) Huybregts, Marshall Day Acoustics Pty Ltd,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			recommends levels not to exceed 65 dB L_{Aeq}, which is significantly higher than the operational noise levels reported at residential receptors and the adopted criteria of 40 dB $L_{Ar,1hour}$ daytime and 35dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$ night-time which is secured in **Requirement 15** of the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**. An assessment on operational noise is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** at residential receptors in the vicinity of the Order Limits. The assessment confirms that there would be no significant noise effects during construction, operation and decommissioning. Best practice measures such as fitting vehicles with noise reduction modifications, erection of temporary hoardings to screen activities close to receptors are detailed and secured in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]**.	
Location of substation	Comment that options for locating the Springwell Substation to the south and centre	North Kesteven District Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the location of Springwell Substation was reviewed and revised to take account of consultation feedback, environmental	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	of Springwell West have been discounted, and noting the zonal masterplan still identifies indicative siting zones for the Springwell Substation and Main Collector Compound in the northern location marked with an 'A' on Figure 2.3 (PEIR, Volume 1: Chapter 3).		surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. This resulted in the siting zone for the Springwell Substation and main collector compound being refined to a single field (compared to 3 fields shown at Phase Two). Under the Application, the siting zone for the Springwell Substation and main collector compound is secured by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and is located entirely within Field Tb2 to the north of Springwell West. Environmental appraisals indicated that Field Tb2 would be less visually exposed than central land parcels in Springwell West and would have reduced impacts on users of PRoW, Bloxholm Wood Nature Reserve, and biodiversity compared to southern parcels in Springwell West. Siting of the substation within Field Tb2 allows for landscape and visual mitigation of the Proposed Development from the A15 and surrounding residential receptors. The Springwell Substation and main collector compound would be offset by 250m from the A15 and an Earth Bund which would partially screen the lower lying elements of the compound from the road. New structure planting, in the form of tree belts and hedgerows would support with screening and integration	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			of the substation compound. This would include tree belt planting to the west, south and east of the compound, while existing woodland (Gorse Hill Covert) would provide screening to the north. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** It is acknowledged in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that some adverse effects on landscape and visual amenity would remain even with mitigation in place but this would be the case wherever this infrastructure was located within Order Limits or the wider landscape.	
Mitigation	Query about what areas shown for mitigation would specifically include.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development has evolved to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. This has included greater resolution of the mitigation proposals. The Proposed Development would provide 15,563m of new hedgerow, 16ha of new tree belts and over 100ha of neutral and calcareous grassland creation as shown by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** provides further details in relation the proposed habitat types and their management.	
Mitigation	Support for the increase in area proposed for mitigation and ecological enhancements since Phase One Consultation, noting the 58% figure is confusing as it does not identify the area of land use that is unchanged, and which would be managed for environmental gain	Anglian Water Services	Following Phase Two Consultation, the areas for mitigation and enhancement have continued to be refined as part of the design evolution process to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. The proposed areas for mitigation and enhancement are shown in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Land within the Order Limits that would be retained as available for arable use has been removed from the plan to avoid any confusion on where the mitigation and enhancement areas would be located.	N
Proximity to residential properties	Comments that the proximity to residential properties remains a significant issue	Ashby de la Launde	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and includes the provision of appropriate offsets to local	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	especially due to the amount of land available to the Applicant.	Parish Council Land interest	settlements and dwellings on a case-by-case basis (Principle 1.2). Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed development has been reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment. This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings. As a result of the design iteration process additional offsets have been incorporated to Scopwick, Blankney, Ashby de la Launde and RAF Digby which would be secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** These changes are described in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** together with the proposed mitigation measures. An assessment of potential effects on residential properties is set out within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Rowston Top	Acknowledgement that following feedback	Land interest	The Applicant engaged proactively with near neighbours. This included meetings and site visits on requests, as	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	from residents proposed areas of solar development close to Rowston Top have been pushed back to the existing footpath. Request that further areas are removed from the proposals to the end of the paddock.		well as facilitating near neighbour design workshops between Phase One Consultation and Phase Two Consultation (see **Chapter 3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]** for more information). **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** acknowledges that there would be some view of the Proposed Development from properties at Rowston Top. However, the Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) concludes that the visual impact on these properties would not be overbearing and that the dwellings would continue to be widely regarded as pleasant and attractive places to live. The properties themselves lie over 200m from Solar PV development beyond an intervening hedgerow which would be supplemented by a second new hedgerow on the southern edge of Field Rw01. Having reviewed the likely visual effects at these properties it was not considered necessary to incorporate a further offset and that the loss of energy generation was not warranted.	
Rowston Top	Comments that members of the project team stated on a site visit to Rowston Top that early planting	Land interest	The Applicant has committed to producing a phasing strategy for new planting at the detailed design stage in accordance with the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** This would be	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	could be considered along the footpath on the southern boundary of Rw01/Rw02 but at the consultation event this was felt not to be the case.		aligned to the construction phase strategy and identify priority areas for new planting to be implemented.	
Scale	Comments on the scale of the Proposed Development. Comments that the Proposed Development is too large, with others suggesting that it should be reduced by 80%.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Land interest	Solar development at scale is needed to help meet the urgent need for home grown, secure, renewable energy that is required by Government policy to address climate change and energy security. The scale of development is an important factor, and maximising the generating capacity of schemes improves their economic efficiency, bringing power to market at the lowest cost possible. It is shown that larger schemes deliver more quickly and at a lower unit cost than multiple independent schemes which make up the same total capacity. The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1],** which supports the Application, provides further detail on the need and scale for the Proposed Development. The size and location of the Proposed Development has been carefully considered, balancing the need to maximise the grid capacity whilst also making most efficient use of the land and avoiding unacceptable impacts. The **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			sets out the reasoning for the Proposed Development, including its size and location. The Proposed Development equates to an output of 1MW per 2.4 acres which represents an efficient use of the land for solar PV and associated infrastructure within the range identified at paragraph 2.10.17 of NPS EN-3. **Appendix 3 Policy Compliance Assessment Tables** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents and a comprehensive assessment. Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development has been reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment. This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development as set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This resulted in an overall reduction of the Order Limits to 1,280ha (compared to 1,702ha at Phase One and 1,772ha at Phase Two).	
Scale	Request for the Applicant to be honest about the scale of the	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	The spatial extent of the Proposed Development would be secured by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Proposed Development and clear on the size and number of panels and the size and number of battery storage containers.	Parish Council	This allows for an area of approximately 594ha for Solar PV development and 13ha for BESS. If DCO consent is granted, the detailed design for the Proposed Development would be submitted for approval by the relevant planning authorities post-consent. Securing the detailed design post-consent is necessary to achieve technological and design flexibility for the Proposed Development because technology is rapidly evolving, such as the output of the individual Solar PV modules and the capacity of the inverters and transformers. The detailed design of the Proposed Development would be secured via Control Documents contained within the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1].** These documents provide sufficient certainty around the size and scale of the Proposed Development. Adherence to the Control Documents would secure good design outcomes, uphold the conclusions of the ES, and provide for flexibility. A full list of Control Documents is set out in the **Guide to the Application [EN010149/APP/1.2]**.	
Scale	Comment that the Proposed	Land interest	The Proposed Development seeks to make the most efficient use of land, balancing the need to maximise the grid capacity and avoid unacceptable impacts. This is	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Development is too dense.		set out within the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2].** The Proposed Development equates to an output of 1MW per 2.4 acres which represents an efficient use of the land for solar PV and associated infrastructure within the range identified at paragraph 2.10.17 of NPS EN-3. **Appendix 3: Policy Compliance Assessment Tables** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents and a comprehensive assessment. Decreasing the density of solar PV would result in a larger land area to generate the same amount of electricity, making the Proposed Development much less efficient.	
Scale	Comment that the scale of the Proposed Development has not significantly reduced since the Phase One Consultation.	Land interest	Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development has been reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment. This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development as set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This has resulted in overall reduction of the Order Limits	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			to 1,280ha (compared to 1,702ha at Phase One and 1,772ha at Phase Two).	
Screening	Comment that more tree belt planting should be introduced in depth along all boundaries.	Land interest	Following Phase Two Consultation, the proposals for new planting have been reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment. Proposed planting is a key component of the design of the Proposed Development and is illustrated by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. New planting has been designed to mitigate the visual impacts of the Proposed Development and provide biodiversity benefit, based on the results of environmental assessments, advice from technical specialists and consultation feedback. This includes consideration of the existing landscape character to ensure an appropriate design response. New planting is designed to complement the existing vegetation mix, structure and pattern of the landscape and includes 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Tree belt planting is an important component of the Green Infrastructure Parameters, however, it is not considered appropriate or necessary along all boundaries. Examples of where new planting has been incorporated into the Proposed Development include: • Tree belt planting to the west, south and east of the proposed Springwell Substation and BESS compound in Springwell West to mitigate views from the A15 and surrounding residential receptors. • Tree belt planting to the north of the B1191 (Heath Road) to mitigate views from the road and residential receptors. • Hedgerow planting along existing PRoW in Springwell Central and Springwell East to mitigate views from local footpaths. Tree belt planting to the west, south and east of the proposed Springwell Substation and BESS compound in Springwell West to mitigate views from the A15 and surrounding residential receptors. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for new planting is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Effects on visual receptors including walkers, horse riders, road users and cyclists are presented **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The impact of the Proposed Development on residential visual amenity has been assessed for each property in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Screening	Comments that all requests for screening made by residents should be implemented, as extra screening would not impact profit.	Land interest	Proposed planting is a key component of the design of the Proposed Development and is illustrated by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The Proposed Development seeks to provide new planting where it is needed based on the results of environmental assessments, advice from technical specialists and in response to consultation feedback. This has included design workshops with local residents to inform the evolution of the Proposed Development and location of proposed planting (see **Chapter 3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**). Following Phase Two Consultation, the amount of new planting has increased and now equates to 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. This includes additional planting to mitigate views from residential	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			properties and in response to consultation feedback. For example, in Springwell West additional planting has been included to the south and west of Slate House Farm and Cottages to screen views of Solar PV development. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for new planting is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** The impact of the Proposed Development on residential visual amenity has been assessed for each property in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Screening	Comments that the hedges to the east of Toll Bar Cottage should be filled in and bolstered to screen views of solar panels.	Land interest	Proposed planting is a key component of the design of the Proposed Development and is illustrated by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The Proposed Development seeks to provide new planting where it is needed based on the results of environmental assessments, advice from technical specialists and in response to consultation feedback. This has included design workshops with local residents to inform the evolution of the Proposed Development	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			and location of proposed planting (see **Chapter 3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**). Following Phase Two Consultation, new hedgerow planting has been proposed to the east of Toll Bar Cottage, along the western boundary of Field Bcd093, to screen views of Solar PV development. In addition to the new planting proposed above, existing field hedgerows would be gapped up / filled in with new planting where required and would be allowed to grow out more fully and managed for visual screening and biodiversity benefits for the duration of the Proposed Development. This is secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. An assessment of potential effects on residential properties is set out within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. With specific reference to Toll Bar Cottage, there would be a major/moderate (significant) effect on visual amenity in year 1 reducing to moderate (not significant) at year 10. At the adjacent Lupus Lair, there would be a	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			moderate (significant) effect on visual amenity in year 1 reducing to moderate (not significant) at year 10.	
Slate House Farm	Comment that Slate House would be surrounded by solar panels in all but one field, as well as all access roads to Slate House. Request for additional mitigation for Slate House Farm, including: • Hedges in the field immediately behind Slate House • Hedges along western edge of Bcd118. • Filing in gaps at the end of the entrance to Slate House Farm off the B1191.	Land interest	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to incorporate appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** Solar PV development has been discounted from all fields directly adjacent to Slate House Farm and Slate House Cottages and the access roads leading to these properties. Proposed planting is a key component of the design of the Proposed Development and is illustrated by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The Proposed Development seeks to provide new planting where it is needed based on the results of environmental assessments, advice from technical specialists and in response to consultation feedback. This has included design workshops with local residents to inform the evolution of the Proposed Development and location of proposed planting (see **Chapter 3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**).	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Mature tree planting in northwest corner of Bcd118. • A fenced off area for dog walking in Bcd118 during construction. • Wildflower planting in field for mitigation close to Slate House Farm.		Following Phase Two Consultation, new planting is proposed along the southern and western boundaries of Field Bcd118 to mitigate views of proposed Solar PV development in Fields Bcd123 and Bcd115. Once this vegetation has established, this would heavily screen views of the Solar PV development from Slate House Cottages. The remainder of Bcd118 would remain available for agricultural use.	
Springwell Central	Request the following fields are removed from potential development: Bcd076, Bcd078, Bcd079, Rw02.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development has been reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment as detailed within **the Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** As a result of the design changes that have been made the following areas have been excluded from the Order Limits: Field Bcd076, Bcd078, the western extents of Bcd079 and the southern extents of Rw02. The northern extent of Rw02 is proposed for Solar PV development and would be screened by new hedgerow	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			planting. The eastern extent of Bcd079 is proposed for habitat mitigation and is also required for cabling routing. It is the Applicant's view the design as submitted represents a suitable design response.	
Springwell Central	Request for additional mitigation in Springwell Central, including: • Hedges along the western boundary of Glebe Farm • Hedges along the southern boundary of RAF Digby • Hedges along the whole of the Proposed Development to the north, south and west of Ashby de la Launde • Hedges along the southern boundary of Rw01	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Proposed planting is a key component of the design of the Proposed Development and is illustrated by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The Proposed Development seeks to provide new planting where it is needed based on the results of environmental assessments, advice from technical specialists and in response to consultation feedback. This has included design workshops with local residents to inform the evolution of the Proposed Development and location of proposed planting (see **Chapter 3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**). • Following Phase Two Consultation, Solar PV development has been discounted from land to the south of RAF Digby and in fields near to Glebe Farm and Ashby de la Launde. Mitigation planting is therefore no longer required at these locations.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Hedges along the eastern edge of Bk04 and Bk06		• New hedgerow planting is proposed along the southern boundary of Rw01 to screen views of the Solar PV development from the adjoining PRoW. • New hedgerow planting is not proposed to the east of Bk04 and Bk06 as there are no existing visual receptors adjoining these boundaries. It is the Applicant's view the design as submitted represents a suitable design response. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	
Springwell East	Request the following fields are removed from potential development: C1, C2, C3, C6, C7, C8, C9, C10, Md02, Md01, Md03, Md04, Md05, Md06, Lf05, Lf07, Lf08, Lf12, Lf13, Lf16.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development has been reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment as detailed within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** As a result of the design iteration process, the following fields have been excluded from the Order Limits as they are not required for mitigation or enhancement: C1, C2, C3, the majority of C7, C10, the majority of Md06, Lf12, Lf13 and Lf16.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Fields Md03, Md04 and Md05 remain inside the Order Limits and are required for cabling routing. Mitigation and enhancement is not proposed on these fields, and they would remain available for agricultural use. Solar PV development has also been excluded from Field Md05 to reduce potential effects of the local environment. This includes reducing impacts on residential properties, BMV land and users of the local roads and PROW in response to consultation feedback. These changes are secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	
Springwell East	Request for additional mitigation in Springwell Central, including: • Hedges along the west of By20, By28, Lf04, Lf11 • Tree planting and hedges in By11 and Md02 along	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Proposed planting is a key component of the design of the Proposed Development and is illustrated by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The Proposed Development seeks to provide new planting where it is needed based on the results of environmental assessments, advice from technical specialists and in response to consultation feedback.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	the public right of way (suggestion for community orchard) • Hedges along south of Trundle Lane • Hedges along south of C9 and By22 • Hedges along southern/west edge of By23		This has included design workshops with local residents to inform the evolution of the Proposed Development and location of proposed planting (see **Chapter 3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**). • Following Phase Two Consultation, Solar PV development was discounted from Fields By20, Md02 and had previously been discounted from fields to the south of Trundle Lane. These changes are secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. Mitigation planting is therefore not proposed at these locations. • New planting is proposed along the western boundary of Fields By28 and Lf04, and the southern boundary of By22 and By23 where Solar PV development is proposed adjacent to existing PRoWs. • Existing hedgerows are located along the western boundary of Lf11 and the southern boundary of C9 which would screen proposed Solar PV development from the adjoining PRoW. • Solar PV development is offset from the PRoW adjacent to By11. In addition to the new planting proposed above, existing field hedgerows would be gapped up/filled in with new	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			planting where required and would be allowed to grow out more fully and managed for visual screening and biodiversity benefits for the duration of the Proposed Development. This is secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
Springwell West	Request the following areas are removed from potential development in Springwell West: • Fields Tb1, Bcd096, Bcd099, Bcd100, Bcd104, W1, Bcd128, Bcd129, Bcd123, Bcd118. • Strip along the western edge of	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development has been reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment as detailed within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. As a result of the design iteration process, the following areas in Springwell West have been excluded from the Order Limits and/or discounted from built development: Field Tb1, Bcd100, Bcd104, Bcd118, the western extent of Bcd096 and the northern extent of Bcd099. These changes are secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. Fields W1, Bcd128, Bcd129, Bcd123, Bcd094, Bcd098, Bcd102, Bcd138 and E1 are proposed for Solar PV	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Bcd094, Bcd098, Bcd102 • Areas of Bcd138 and E1 west of the overhead lines		development. The Applicant considers that Solar PV development would be appropriate in these fields based on the mitigation proposals. This includes proposals for new planting along the A15 and Heath Road to support screening and integration of the Solar PV development in these fields. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	
Springwell West	Request for additional mitigation in Springwell West, including: • Hedges along the A15 on eastern and western boundary • Hedges along New England Lane • Hedges along southern edge of Long Plantation	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Proposed planting is a key component of the design of the Proposed Development and is illustrated by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The Proposed Development seeks to provide new planting where it is needed based on the results of environmental assessments, advice from technical specialists and in response to consultation feedback. This has included design workshops with local residents to inform the evolution of the Proposed Development and location of proposed planting (see **Chapter 3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**). • Following Phase Two Consultation, new hedgerow planting is proposed along the eastern and western	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Hedges along E1 parallel with the overhead line		boundaries of the A15 within the Order Limits to support screening and integration of the Proposed Development and in response to consultation feedback. • New tree belt panting is proposed along the southern edge of Long Plantation to provide screening of the Solar PV development from the adjoining PRoW and biodiversity benefit. Tree planting is considered more appropriate than hedgerow planting at this location. • Solar PV development has been discounted from fields adjacent to New England Lane and therefore no mitigation planting is proposed at this location. • New planting is not proposed parallel with the overhead line in Field E1 as this would have detrimental effect on the long-term agricultural use of the field. In addition to the new planting proposed above, existing field hedgerows would be gapped up/filled in with new planting where required and would be allowed to grow out more fully and managed for visual screening and biodiversity benefits for the duration of the Proposed Development. This is secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [Ref EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	
Springwell West	Comments that all land west of the A15 should be removed from the Proposed Development.	Land interest	The design of the Proposed Development has been informed by stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment as detailed within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. The inclusion of land to the west of the A15 has been reviewed at each stage of the design process. This has resulted in changes to the layout of the Proposed Development to reduce potential impacts on local receptors. The areas of land to the west of the A15 that form part of the Proposed Development are shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. These areas are considered suitable for the Proposed Development and are needed to optimise the generation and export capacity within the constraints of the Order Limits. Specific reasons why land to the west of the A15 is included within the design of the Proposed Development includes:	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• Close proximity to the existing National Grid overhead transmission line. • Close proximity to the A15 to facilitate access and avoid impact on the local road network. • The scale of the landscape (on both sides of the A15), which is larger and less intimate than Springwell Central and Springwell East, and therefore more suited to large scale infrastructure. • The presence of existing infrastructure including prominent pylons. • Relatively few sensitive visual receptors (on both sides of the A15) compared to Springwell Central and Springwell East. • Notably less PRoW compared to Springwell Central and Springwell East. It is the Applicant's view the design as submitted represents a suitable design response.	
Springwell West	Comments that the solar panels sited west of the A15 should be broken up, with suggestion for a southern cluster	Land interest	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to respond to the experience of people using the A15 and in accordance with Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** In particular, this relates to Project	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	around road leading from the A15 towards Temple Farm/Knights Templar monument, removal of panels from fields closest to the lane running from A15 to Thompson Bottom then if needed restart development closer to Gorse Hill Lane.		Principle 1.3 to consider the views and experience of people using the local road network. Along the A15, Solar PV development would be offset by a minimum of 25m from the road. This would ensure that built development is not overbearing on the A15 and enable the retention of long-distance views from the road. Gaps in the Solar PV development would break up the amount of built development when travelling along the road. This includes no Solar PV development in Field Bcd082, between Fields Bcd106 and Bcd114 and between Fields Bcd107 and Bcd115. This is secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. Solar PV development is proposed on either side of the lane running from the A15 to Thompson Bottom. New hedgerow planting is proposed on either side of the road to mitigate views of the Solar PV development at this location. Visual impacts on the local road network are assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** which acknowledges that there would be some significant visual effects on users of the A15 during construction, operation and decommissioning. There would also be some significant visual effects on users of the minor roads leading from	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			the A15 to Temple Bruer and Thompson Bottom Farm. Effects on other roads would not be significant.	
Thompsons Bottom	Comments stating that the Proposed Development wraps around Thompson's Bottom Farm on the north, east and south side.	Land interest	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and includes the provision of appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings on a case-by-case basis (Principle 1.2). Solar PV development is not proposed in fields immediately adjacent to Thompon's Bottom and the Order Limits are located to the east of residential property beyond the existing overhead line that runs from north to south. New planting is proposed along the western boundary of Springwell West to mitigate potential impacts on Thompson's Bottom. This is illustrated and secured by the Green Infrastructure Parameters in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** An assessment of potential effects on residential properties is set out within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			With specific reference to Thompson Bottom Farm, the farm itself would not lie within 200m of any above ground infrastructure and visual effects would not be significant during any phase. At Thompson Bottom Cottages, there would be a major (significant) effect on visual amenity in year 1 reducing to moderate (not significant) at year 10.	
Glint and glare				
A15	Comment that solar panels are proposed in extensive locations immediately abutting the A15 which is a regional road with currently limited landscaping allowing relatively extensive views from the carriageway.	North Kesteven District Council	The effects of glint and glare towards the A15 have been considered within Section 6.4 of **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Solar reflections are geometrically possible towards a 4km section of the A15. Screening in the form of existing and proposed vegetation, buildings and/or intervening terrain is predicted to significantly obstruct views of reflecting panels, such that solar reflections would not be experienced. A temporary screen would be implemented to allow proposed vegetation to reach a sufficient height and density to mitigate impacts. Overall, no impacts are predicted upon road users along the A15.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that the Applicant should reference:	North Kesteven	The Applicant has considered all relevant guidance in relation to glint and glare. Further detail on the guidance	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• BRE guidelines on 'Site layout planning for Daylight and Sunlight' • BRE information paper IP 3/872 • CAA interim guidance in relation to solar farms • CAA Civil Aviation Publication (CAP) 738 document. • CAA CAST Aerodrome Safeguarding Guidance	District Council Land interest	and methodology used for the assessment is set out below. Guidelines exist in the UK (produced by the Civil Aviation Authority) and in the USA (produced by the Federal Aviation Administration) with respect to solar developments and aviation activity. The UK CAA guidance is relatively high-level and does not prescribe a formal methodology. There is railway guidance with respect to signal sighting; however, no guidance with respect to glint and glare from solar developments upon railway operations and infrastructure has been specifically produced. Pager Power has produced guidance for glint and glare and solar photovoltaic developments which was published in early 2017, with the fourth edition published in 2022. This methodology defines a comprehensive process for determining the impact upon railway infrastructure and operations, and aviation activity and this has been used to inform the glint and glare assessment presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3].** In the absence of a specific guidance pertaining to glint and glare, the glint and glare assessment provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			[EN010149/APP/6.1] has considered the following guidance and studies available: • Pager Power Glint and Glare Guidance, Fourth Edition • The National Planning Policy Framework guidance for Renewable and Low Carbon Energy • Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy • The National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure • CAA Interim Guidance • Interim Policy, FAA Review of Solar Energy System Projects on Federally Obligated Airports • Civil Aviation Authority consolidation of UK Regulation 139/2014 The following guidance is not relevant and have not informed the assessment: • The BRE guidelines on daylight and sunlight provides guidance surrounding shadowing effects upon properties, not relevant to glint and glare. • The CAA guidance documents explain that glare should be a safeguarding consideration for aerodromes and that the responsibility of	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			safeguarding lies with the aerodrome. The glint and glare study has assessed the potential safety impacts upon surrounding aviation activities and operations, and consultation is ongoing with aerodromes where appropriate.	
Approach to assessment	Request for the glint and glare assessment to consider variable angles of solar panels.	North Kesteven District Council	The glint and glare assessment presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]** has been undertaken based on the assumption that the angle of the panels would be set at 13 degrees above the horizontal. Changes to the angle within the parameters of 10 to 30 degrees are not expected to affect the modelling results and would be comparable to the effects that have been identified. Therefore, variable angles of the solar panels have not been considered in the assessment.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that glint and glare impacts have not been demonstrably resolved as impacts on the A15 and a property have been identified.	North Kesteven District Council	Potential glint and glare effects towards the A15 and dwellings within the assessment area have been resolved through the development of the design and implementation of landscape planting. Screening in the form of existing and proposed vegetation, buildings and/or intervening terrain is predicted to significantly obstruct views of reflecting panels, such that solar reflections would not be experienced. For a small location on the A15, a temporary screen would be implemented to allow	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			proposed vegetation to reach a sufficient height and density to mitigate impacts. The assessment has concluded that for 100 dwellings, no impact is predicted. For two dwellings, a low impact is predicted because of marginal views. This is not considered significant, and no further mitigation is required. Further detail on the assessment is provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Approach to assessment	Comment that there are no guidelines setting out a methodological approach to delivering a glint and glare assessment.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The methodology used within the assessment of glint and glare is set out in detail within Section 3 of **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The Pager Power methodology that has been used for the assessment has been developed through stakeholder engagement and professional experience. This methodology has withstood legal scrutiny in the UK and internationally and has been used as precedent for NSIPs within the UK.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that all receptors need to be considered in a glint and glare assessment, including homes, traffic and aircraft, RAF	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	Dwellings, roads, aerodromes and railway operations and infrastructure within the surrounding area have been considered in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Section 5 of the study provides a detailed list of the receptors identified for consideration.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	bases and private airstrips.			
Approach to assessment	Request for further assessment of safety considerations in respect of the Proposed Development outside of glint and glare, including: • Engine failure after take-off • Turbulence • Thermal bloom • Electromagnetic interference • Rescue efficacy	CAA Land interest	Consultation with the CAA AAT and Hill Top Farm has been undertaken in respect to engine failure after take-off, turbulence and thermal bloom. Further detail is provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. A high-level electromagnetic assessment has been undertaken and can be found within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.5: High-level Electromagnetic Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The study sets out the proposed siting zone for the cabling and includes an assessment of electromagnetic fields for underground cabling and transformer and substations. The assessment recommends a minimum clearance distance of 25m relative to public exposure limits for magnetic and electric fields and concludes that there would be no effects to sensitive receptors.	N
Consultation materials	Comment that a preliminary glint and glare assessment does not form part of the PEIR.	North Kesteven District Council	A preliminary assessment of glint and glare was presented within Chapter 14 of the PEIR. A full glint and glare assessment has been undertaken and is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
General comment – glint and glare	Comments that there would be an impact of glare from solar panels.	Land interest	Desk-based analysis of geometric modelling has shown that any predicted solar reflections towards dwellings, roads and railways would either not be visible or would have a low effect due to existing and proposed screening. An assessment of aviation receptors has been undertaken and instances of yellow glare are possible at RAF Cranwell, Hill Top Farm, Temple Bruer Airfield (Griffins Farm Airfield) and Cottage Farm Airfield. Instances of green glare considered to have a low impact are possible at RAF Waddington and Old Manor Farm. Based on the result of the technical assessment, the Applicant considers that the potential for yellow glare is operationally accommodatable at the identified airfields. Prior to submission of the Application, the Applicant has engaged with the Ministry of Defence and the Civil Aviation Authority on the results of its Glint and Glare Assessment. This has also involved seeking engagement with three private airfields (of General Aviation use) to understand their operations and discuss the results of the assessment as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The Applicant will continue to engage with these airfields following submission of the Application. The Applicant is in ongoing engagement with the MOD regarding the outcomes noted at RAF Cranwell. While the potential for yellow glare occurs outside of its published operating hours of flying, the Applicant shared the results of its Glint and Glare Assessment and continues to welcome further engagement to discuss the assessment in more detail.	
Glint and glare	Comment that glare from solar panels has the potential to cause disturbance to pilot's eyesight particularly on approach to land and departure from a runway.	CAA	The intensity of the glare has been assessed with respect to aviation receptors. The identified aviation receptors outlined within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]** assess the critical stages of flight at the aerodromes. Paragraph 2.10.159 of NPS EN-3 advises that "*while there is some evidence that glint and glare from solar farms can be experienced by pilots and air traffic controllers in certain conditions, there is no evidence that glint and glare from solar farms results in significant impairment on aircraft safety".* NPS EN-3 further advises that it is unlikely that the Secretary of State would give more than limited weight to *"claims of aviation interference because of glint and glare form solar farms".*	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Glint and glare	Comment that the Proposed Development has the potential to produce glint and glare effects which could be hazardous to aircraft and air traffic control towers. Request for a geometric aviation glint and glare assessment to consider any effects upon air traffic control towers, aircraft using operational runways, circuit patterns and any other applicable air traffic procedures at RAF Cranwell and RAF Waddington.	Ministry of Defence	Following consultation and engagement with the MoD, the requested receptors including the 2-mile approach path, ATC Tower and visual circuits have been assessed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The results of this assessment in relation to RAF Cranwell and RAF Waddington are summarised below. RAF Cranwell: From the geometric assessment, solar reflections are geometrically possible towards the 2-mile approach path for threshold 19 and occur outside a pilot's primary field-of-view, therefore not considered significant. A low impact is predicted. Solar reflections with intensities 'potential for temporary after-image' are predicted towards sections of the circuit for 01/19. Glare occurs outside the published hours of flying and therefore is deemed operationally accommodatable (not significant). Solar reflections are not geometrically possible towards the Air Traffic Control (ATC) Tower, or 2-mile approach paths for threshold 01, 08 and 26. No impact is predicted, and mitigation is not required. RAF Waddington: Solar reflections towards the approach path for threshold 02 occur outside a pilot's field-of-view, therefore not considered significant. A low impact is predicted. Solar reflections with intensities 'low potential for temporary after-image' are predicted towards sections of the circuit for runway 02/20. The	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			glare intensity is considered acceptable and therefore not considered significant. A low impact is predicted. Solar reflections are not geometrically possible towards the ATC Tower and 2-mile approach paths for threshold 20. No impact is predicted. The Applicant is in ongoing engagement with the MOD regarding the outcomes noted at RAF Cranwell. While the potential for yellow glare occurs outside of its published operating hours of flying, the Applicant shared the results of its Glint and Glare Assessment and continues to welcome further engagement to discuss the assessment in more detail. Paragraph 2.10.159 of NPS EN-3 advises that: *"while there is some evidence that glint and glare from solar farms can be experienced by pilots and air traffic controllers in certain conditions, there is no evidence that glint and glare from solar farms results in significant impairment on aircraft safety".* NPS EN-3 further advises that it is unlikely that the Secretary of State would give more than limited weight to *"claims of aviation interference because of glint and glare form solar farms".*	
Mitigation	Comment that landscaping should not be relied upon to	North Kesteven	The Applicant acknowledges that new planting would take time to mature and has committed to advanced planting (prior to installation of solar panels) as part of	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	mitigate identified glint and glare effects as it would require time to mature.	District Council	the Proposed Development. This would include planting adjacent to the A15 for a 700m section of this road to mitigate potential glint and glare effects upon road users. The assumptions and details of the advanced planting are outlined below: • Advanced planting would be implemented in Winter 2024 / 2025 during planting season. • Trees would be planted as young transplants or 'whips'. • Vegetation will need to be established to a height of 3m to provide effective mitigation of the glint and glare impacts. • The Proposed Development currently has phased grid connection dates of 2028 and 2030. It is currently anticipated that construction works will commence at the earliest in Q1 2027 and run to Q4 2030. • It is assumed that some parts of the Proposed Development (Springwell West) will become operational from 2029. • Advanced planting undertaken in Winter 2024 / 2025 is therefore anticipated to have at least 3 seasons	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			growth before construction commences and more than this in some parts of the Site. • It is anticipated that the planting would be at least 1.8m high at the start of construction and 2.6m at the start of operation of the Proposed Development. Based on the assumption that in year 1 that the planting stock would typically be at approximately 0.6m to 0.8m high and contained with tree protected tubes and would not put on much growth during the first planning season and then put on an average of 0.4m growth each subsequent year. It is anticipated a temporary mitigation would be required for approximately 3 years following the construction phase. Until the advance planting (to be planted in Winter 2024/25) in this area has grown to sufficient density and height of 3m to mitigate impacts of glint and glare, temporary mitigation will be implemented to mitigate impacts. This temporary mitigation may include temporary screening or suitable alternative mitigation to be confirmed in the detailed LEMP. This would be removed once the hedgerows are of sufficient height. It is anticipated that a temporary hoarding or suitable alternative would be required for approximately 3 years following the construction phase. The landscape planting proposals are secured within the **Outline Landscape**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]. The full green infrastructure has been considered within the glint and glare assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]**).	
Planning policy	Comment that the CLLP Policy S53 'Design and Amenity' Part 8 should be included as relevant planning policy.	North Kesteven District Council	As part of the planning policy assessment, Table 6: Central Lincolnshire Local Plan within **Appendix 3: Policy Compliance Assessment Tables** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents and a comprehensive assessment. Policies S53 and S59 are further considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The Proposed Development seeks to make the most efficient use of land, balancing the need to maximise the grid capacity and avoid unacceptable impacts. More information about how the Applicant has approached the design of the Proposed Development is set out within the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** and the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. The Applicant considers that the Proposed Development delivers good design, in accordance with the design policies set out in the NPSs in the context of efficiently delivering large scale renewable energy infrastructure	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			where it is recognised in national policy that the extent to which a scheme can contribute to the enhancement of the quality of the area is limited.	
Policy	Comment that regard should be had to Aviation 2050 and GA Strategy 2015 which sets out the need to protect a national network of airfields, as well as NPS EN-1 which highlights the need to develop renewable energy infrastructure in collaboration with aviation receptors.	CAA	The Applicant has had regard to Aviation 2050, GA Strategy 2015 and NPS EN-1 and has sought to engage with aviation stakeholders including the CAA AAT and MoD to ensure the safe coexistence of the Proposed Development alongside the existing aviation activity.	N
Receptors	Comment that Hill Top Farm Microlights was not considered in any assessment despite its proximity to the Proposed Development and this	CAA Land interest	Engagement has been held with Hill Top Farm Microlights and the CAA following Phase Two Consultation to understand its operations and share results of the preliminary assessment. This receptor has been included in the glint and glare assessment, which is provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	should be included as part of the ES.			
Receptors	Comment that RAF Digby is not listed as an aviation receptor in the Glint and Glare Assessment	CAA	RAF Digby ceased flying in 1953 and the base is used by the tri-service Joint Service Signals Organisation, part of the Joint Forces Intelligence Group. This is not an active aviation base, therefore, this receptor has not been included in the Glint and Glare assessment.	N
Health and wellbeing				
Approach to assessment	Comment that the ES should address wider determinants of health and wellbeing (access, traffic & transport, socioeconomic and land use) to demonstrate whether any significant effects are expected.	UK Health Security Agency	The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health can be scoped out of the assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-references to where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant topic chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This information is provided in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Where an environmental assessment has concluded there are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts, it follows that there will be no impacts to human health. Where potential effects have been identified, embedded and additional	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset these effects have been proposed.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that the UK Health Security Agency was not consulted at the scoping stage and there is insufficient detail within the PEIR to comment in detail on its findings.	UK Health Security Agency	The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health can be scoped out of the assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-references to where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant topic chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This information is provided in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
EMF	Request for confirmation that the Proposed Development does not contain any EMF sources that have a potential health impact or ensure that a health impact assessment carried out in the ES.	Health and Safety Executive	An EMF assessment has been undertaken and is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.5: High-level Electromagnetic Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. This sets out the proposed siting zone for the cabling and includes an assessment of electromagnetic for underground cabling and transformer and substations. The assessment recommends a minimum clearance distance of 25m relative to public exposure limits for magnetic and electric fields related to the 400kV cable route, which is secured in the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and concludes that there would be	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			no electromagnetic effects to sensitive receptors due to the Proposed Development.	
Explosives	Comment stating that Explosives Inspectorate response remains the same as the previous one from March 2023, as there are no HSE explosive licenced sites in the vicinity of the proposed development.	Health and Safety Executive	This comment has been noted by the Applicant.	N
General	Comment that changes to the Proposed Development since Phase One Consultation are positive in terms of public health, including offsets from properties, increasing areas proposed for mitigation, enhancement or	Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant notes this comment and thanks LCC for its ongoing engagement on the design of the Proposed Development. The Applicant made a number of changes following Phase One Consultation (summarised in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**). This included removing areas for Solar PV development closest to properties and local settlements, increasing the number of areas proposed for mitigation and ecological enhancements and developing proposals for new footpaths. The ES sets out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	retained for agricultural use, and development of permissive footpaths.		operation and decommissioning and cross-references to where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant topic chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This information is summarised in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Hazardous chemicals	Request for confirmation that the Applicant has considered the hazard classification of any chemicals that are proposed to be present at the Proposed Development. If hazardous substances planning consent is required, HSE should be consulted on the application.	Health and Safety Executive	The management of hazard substances and incident procedures is secured and set out in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N
Human health	Comment that the development of a comprehensive health impact assessment could help alleviate	Lincolnshire County Council Ashby de la Launde	The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health can be scoped out of the assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	concerns and strengthen public health benefits, and this should cover: • Likely and potentially significant effects associated with the Proposed Development • Potential health impacts associated with electromagnetic fields and potential actual exposure to radiation, including connection to the National Grid. • Scope for significant adverse visual effects to affect mental health, wellbeing and potential sense of enclosure.	Parish Council	the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-references to where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant topic chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This information is provided in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. • Where an environmental assessment has concluded there are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts, it follows that there will be no impacts to human health. Where potential effects have been identified, embedded and additional mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset these effects have been proposed. • An EMF assessment has been undertaken and is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.5: High-level Electromagnetic Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. This sets out the proposed siting zone for the cabling and includes an assessment of electromagnetic for underground cabling and transformer and substations. The assessment recommends a minimum clearance distance of 25m relative to public exposure limits for magnetic and electric fields related to the 400-cable route, which is secured in the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and concludes that there would	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			be no electromagnetic effects to sensitive receptors due to the Proposed Development. • **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1],** identifies that there are likely significant impacts at seven visual receptor groups, with impacts on three of these groups lasting for the duration of the Proposed Development. From the outset of site selection, the Applicant sought to avoid or minimise interaction with sensitive landscape receptors and subsequently has proposed a suite of mitigation measures to limit potential impacts (see the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**). However, the Applicant acknowledges that the rural nature of the Site and the type of development proposed means that some of these effects cannot be mitigated. The Applicant also intends to provide benefits for the community through the enhancement of the footpath network and provision of a community growing area which could provide benefits for public health. The Applicant is proposing to enhance approximately 2km of existing PRoW and provide approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and 8.58km of permissive paths to improve connectivity within the area and around the	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Order Limits. These are secured by the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. A new community growing area of up to approx. 2ha is proposed to the north of Scopwick in response to stakeholder feedback, adjacent to existing community facilities along Vicarage Lane. This would be available to the public and could include areas for growing of fruit, vegetables and wild foraging. More detail is available in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	
Impact of construction	Comments expressing concern about the impact of the construction phase on residents' mental and physical health. Specific concerns include residents living near construction compounds, noise and vibration from work (e.g. piling) and traffic, disruption and stress.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health can be scoped out of the assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-references to where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant topic chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This information is provided in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. With specific reference to potential impacts during the construction phase raised in this response:	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• Following Phase Two Consultation, the size and locations of the Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds have been refined, in part to increase distances between residential receptors and construction compounds. The locations of the construction compounds are shown in: **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. • **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** has considered the potential impacts to health as a result of changes in the noise environment through the construction phase. It is not expected that there would be any significant noise emissions. Mitigation measures include best practice measures such as equipment complying with noise limit regulations, maintenance of vehicles, fitting noise reduction modifications (exhaust silencer systems etc) and adherence to set noise levels as secured in Requirement 15 of the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**. The conclusion of this assessment is that there are unlikely to be any significant effects relating to noise as a result of the Proposed Development. • **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** has considered the potential health impacts as a result of an increase in the	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			number of vehicle movements during the construction phase. This includes vehicles associated with construction staff traveling to and from their place of work as well as an increase in the number of heavy goods vehicles within the area. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** has been submitted as part of the Application which sets out measures such as routeing and management of abnormal loads to minimise impacts for local road users. The conclusion of this assessment is that there are unlikely to be any significant effects relating to transport as a result of the Proposed Development. • The Applicant acknowledges that construction can be disruptive. The Applicant has assessed potential impacts of the Proposed Development during the construction phase across all topic chapters (Chapters 6-17) within the **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Measures to manage and reduce potential effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Impact on equestrian users	Comments that there would be a loss of areas for horse riding during the construction period.	Land interest	Precautionary working methods would be implemented to reduce adverse effects during construction including noise and vibration. These measures are outlined in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. There are no proposals to permanently stop up any existing PROW as part of the Proposed Development. However, during the construction phase there may be a requirement to temporarily close PRoW for a duration of up to six months. Any diversion requirements would be outlined at detailed design, in line with the potential routes identified within the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**. The Applicant has engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW officers on requirements for PRoW crossings and temporary closures during construction and potential diversion options in Springwell East.	N
Impact on recreation	Comments that the construction working hours means that the amenity of early morning and evening recreation would be ruined.	Land interest	Adverse impacts to amenity during construction, particularly during the morning and evening, are generally associated with construction traffic and timings. The Applicant proposes to manage and mitigate impacts associated with construction traffic through the implementation of a Construction Traffic Management Plan. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			[EN010149/APP/6.1] has considered the potential health impacts as a result of an increase in the number of vehicle movements during the construction phase. This includes vehicles associated with construction staff traveling to and from their place of work as well as an increase in the number of heavy goods vehicles within the area. An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** has been submitted as part of the Application which sets out measures such as routeing and management of abnormal loads to minimise impacts for local road users. The conclusion of this assessment is that there are unlikely to be any significant effects relating to transport as a result of the Proposed Development. The assessment of potential impacts to recreation associated with walkers, cyclists and horse riders has been provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The assessment concludes that there would be no significant effects to users of the PRoWs including walkers, cyclists and horse riders during the construction phase. An **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** has been submitted as part of the Application. This would manage any temporary diversions or closures of PRoW during the construction phase to reduce impacts to recreation.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Mental health	Comment that a mental health assessment should be provided.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health can be scoped out of the assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-references to where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant topic chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This information is provided in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Where an environmental assessment has concluded there are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts, it follows that there will be no impacts to human health. Where potential effects have been identified, embedded and additional mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset these effects have been proposed.	N
Mental health	Comments stating that mental health of residents could be adversely affected by the Proposed Development. Specific concerns raised included: loss of	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde	The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health can be scoped out of the assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-references to where impacts are considered and assessed within other	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	connection with the natural world, impact on footpath amenity, and reduction of enjoyment of the surrounding environment.	Parish Council Land interest	relevant topic chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This information is provided in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Where an environmental assessment has concluded there are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts, it follows that there will be no impacts to human health. Where potential effects have been identified, embedded and additional mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset these effects have been proposed. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network and protect the heritage of the landscape in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes developing the design to retain all PRoW in their existing alignment during operation (Principle 5.1); protecting the amenity of the Spires and Steeples Trail (Principle 5.2); considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3); conserving the significance of heritage assets (Principle 2.4); and Protect the setting of the Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Area (Principle 2.5). Specific mitigation measures that have been incorporated into the design of the Proposed	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Development, in response to the Project Principles, are summarised below. Solar PV development has been discounted from specific fields within the Order Limits to break up the amount of development along the footpaths and to create green infrastructure corridors aligned to existing footpaths. For example, in Springwell East, Solar PV development was discounted from Fields By18, By20, By27, Lf03, Lf02, Md02, Md03, and Md05 to allow for the creation of green infrastructure corridors. All of these fields are adjacent to existing footpaths including the Stepping Out Scopwick Loop and the Stepping Out Blankney Circuit. As a result, there are relatively few sections of PRoW where the Solar PV development would occupy land immediately adjacent to both sides of a footpath. The exclusions of these fields from Solar PV development are secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be offset at least 15m from either side of existing and proposed statutory PRoW. In addition to this, Independent Outdoor Equipment (transformer, switchgear and central inverters) and ITS will be offset at least 50m from all existing and proposed	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			statutory PRoW. Both of these offsets would be secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**. New planting, in the form of hedgerows and tree belts, would provide screening and integration of the Proposed Development where it is located close to PRoW. The location of new planting is secured in **Appendix 1**, of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** and includes approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. Examples of where new planting has been used to screen views from PRoW include new hedgerow planting along the Spires and Steeples Trail and other PRoW in Springwell East. As a result of the mitigation measures summarised above the level of visual change for PRoW users would be reduced and would ensure that PRoWs can continue to be used in the same manner as pre-development of the Site. The assessment of potential impacts to recreation associated with walkers, cyclists and horse riders has been included in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The assessment concludes that there would be no significant effects to users of the PRoWs including walkers, cyclists and horse riders during the construction phase. An **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** has been	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			submitted as part of the Application. This would manage any temporary diversions or closures of PRoW during the construction phase to reduce impacts to recreation. In addition, new PRoW and permissive paths would be secured by the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]** which have been developed in liaison with the Local Highway Authority and Public Right of Way Officers. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths. The new routes are located across the Order Limits and include provision of a new off-road link between RAF Digby and Scopwick. In addition to the creation of the new routes identified above, the Proposed Development would include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of the PRoW to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users. The surface enhancements would be secured via the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]** and all paths would be managed in accordance with the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Mental health	Comments that the Proposed Development has taken a toll on mental health already due to stress and uncertainty of the Proposed Development and engagement in the consultation process.	Land interest	The Applicant sought to consult at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure that feedback from the local community could be taken into account in the design of the Proposed Development. Throughout the design process, the Applicant made a number of changes to the design of the Proposed Development, in response to feedback received from the local community as well as the outputs of environmental assessments and technical work. This included removing areas proposed for solar development closest to settlements, developing bespoke offsets from nearby properties and reducing the overall size of the Proposed Development. Each iteration of the design was presented to the local community for formal public consultation to continue to collect feedback. More information about how the design of the Proposed Development has evolved over the pre-application period is available in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. Outside of formal consultations, the Applicant has ensured that anyone who wishes to discuss the Proposed Development in more detail with the project team is able to do so. This includes keeping open communication channels outside of formal consultation periods and continuing to meet with stakeholders on request. For example, the Applicant presented outcomes of its Residential Visual Amenity Assessment to near	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			neighbours prior to Phase Two Consultation to show those closest to the Proposed Development how the design was being refined to reduce potential effects. More information about how the Applicant has engaged outside of formal consultation is available in Chapter 3 of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1].**	
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Comment that Table 4.1 in the PEIR (PEIR, Volume 1: Chapter 4) suggests that major accidents and disasters can be scoped out and it is not clear if this is related to only the major accidents originating on site or in general; this is because the site falls into a small part of the outer zone of a Major Accident Hazard Pipeline at a single location. Request that the Applicant makes	Health and Safety Executive	The Applicant has engaged with National Grid Gas Plc (NGG) on the location of their assets following Phase Two Consultation. NGG has confirmed that the nearest relevant asset is sufficiently distant from the Proposed Development, and there is no further consideration of this asset required in the design of the Proposed Development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	contact with National Grid Gas Plc, to inform an assessment of whether or not the proposed development is vulnerable to a possible major accident.			
Public Rights of Way	Comment that the health impacts of any diversions to both PRoW and cycle route during all phases should be considered, including diversions due to the connection of the Proposed Development to the National Grid.	Lincolnshire County Council	An assessment of pedestrian amenity is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The Applicant has produced an **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** which sets out how the Applicant is proposing to manage PRoW and permissive pathways to ensure they are safe and accessible throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. There are no proposals to permanently stop up any existing PROW as part of the Proposed Development. However, during the construction phase there may be a requirement to temporarily close PRoW for a duration of up to six months. Any diversion requirements would be outlined at detailed design, in line with the potential routes identified within the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]. The Applicant has engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW officers on requirements for PRoW crossings and temporary closures during construction and potential diversion options in Springwell East. In addition, the Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to create an enhanced and better-connected footpath and cycle network. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths, as shown on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Plan [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and secured in the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4].** The Proposed Development would also include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of the PRoW to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users. The surface enhancements would be secured via the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**.	
Safety risk	Concern expressed about safety risks in	Scopwick and Kirkby	The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	placing battery storage close to residential properties.	Green Parish Council	(National Fire Chief Council) Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS" and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 "Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems". The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk. The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Safety risk	Concerns that there are safety risks due to increased exposure to electromagnetic fields and high frequency radiation due to proximity of the proposed site to residential properties and footpaths.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Land interest	The majority of underground cabling within the Order Limits to facilitate the connection between the Solar PV modules, Balance of Solar System (BoSS), Satellite Collector Compound, BESS and Springwell Substation would be up to 132kV, apart from the short section of 400kV underground cabling which would connect the Springwell Substation to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. The 400kV underground cabling would be buried within trenches, with each up to 2m in width and approximately 1.5m in depth. This would be sited at a distance of approximately 500m from the nearest sensitive receptors and designed in accordance with the relevant guidance. A standalone electromagnetic study has been undertaken and is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.5: High Level Electromagnetic Field Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The study sets out the proposed siting zone for the cabling and an includes an assessment of electromagnetic fields for underground cabling and transformer and substations. The assessment recommends a minimum clearance distance	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			of 25m relative to public exposure limits for magnetic and electric fields, which is secured in the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and concludes that there would be no effects to sensitive receptors.	
Landscape and visual				
A15	Suggestion that the A15 should be reclassified from having 'low' susceptibility and 'community' value due to its open views from a high number of receptors and regional usage.	North Kesteven District Council	The 'susceptibility' and 'value' of the A15 has been re-evaluated in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Susceptibility has been reclassed from 'low' to 'medium/low' and the overall sensitivity of the receptor has been reclassed from 'low' to 'medium/low'. Further justification for these judgements is set out in the above chapter.	Y
A15	With regards to construction phase effects reported in Table 9.9 of the PEIR, a comment that the overall significance of visual effect on the A15 should be higher than 'moderate/minor'	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has reviewed the visual effects on the A15 in relation to the final submission. It has been assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that during construction there would be a moderate (significant) effect.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	(not significant) as assessed.			
A15	Comment that there is an error in Table 9.10 with reference to the A15 given that the operational phase assessment, with mitigation, assumes a substantial/ moderate/significant effect.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has reviewed the visual effects on the A15 in relation to the final submission. It has been assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that during year 1 of operation there would be a major/moderate (significant) effect and that by year 10 of operation there would be a moderate (significant) effect.	N
A15	Concern that no buffer has been applied to the A15 unlike the treatment of 'B' roads in Springwell East and Central. Suggestion for buffer zones to be adopted alongside a soft landscaping strategy.	North Kesteven District Council	Following Phase Two Consultation a buffer has been applied to the A15, with new hedgerows proposed along the A15 where development would be located. A wider buffer of 250m has also been applied to the area where the Springwell Substation and BESS are proposed to be located. Full details are outlined in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Application of Rochdale Envelope	Agreement that the Rochdale Envelope can be applied to the PV panels, though there is concern about its application to larger elements of the Proposed Development due to the likely greater visual effects which depend on the final location and layout of these elements. Request that the location and 'worst case' extent of these elements are explicitly identified through works plans and/or parameter plans to allow for a better understanding of the potential landscape and visual effects, and ZTV figures produced	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The approach to assessment is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1].** As explained fully in the above referenced chapter of the ES, it is necessary to maintain a degree of flexibility in the layout of the BESS and Springwell Substation. The Rochdale Envelope approach ensures that the reasonable 'worst-case scenario' has been assessed in the ES. Following Phase Two Consultation, the proposed locations of the BESS and Springwell Substation were each narrowed down to a single location. Therefore, the Application has provided greater certainty regarding the proposed location of these elements. Greater clarity has been provided in relation to the reasonable 'worst-case scenarios' assessed for landscape and visual effects in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The parameters assessed (which represent the maximum parameters of development and therefore a 'worst-case scenario') are described in **ES Volume 3: Proposed Development [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Of particular relevance is also **ES Volume 2: Figure 3.2 Height Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2].** The ZTVs presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** are also	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	on the worst-case parameters.		based on the maximum parameters identified for each component of the Proposed Development and therefore represent worst-case scenarios for each component.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that the landscape and visual elements of the PEIR generally align with the Scoping Report, Scoping Opinion, guidance from the host authorities and meetings held with the Applicant.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with NKDC and LCC on landscape and visual matters throughout the pre-application stage and welcomes further engagement as required.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that the initial assessment of likely effects at construction, operation and decommissioning provided in the PEIR provides a clear and accessible summary of the assessment process and judgements made by the author.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	This has been noted.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Approach to assessment	Request that the Applicant has regard to NKDC's LCA 2007 statement of the Limestone Heath/A15 area 'baseline' for consideration.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The NKDC Landscape Character Assessment (2007) has informed the landscape and visual impact assessment and is referenced as appropriate in the baseline section of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that Appendix 9.5 Preliminary Residential Visual Amenity Assessment makes reference to Figure 9.11, however it is assumed that this is actually Figure 9.9.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted. Revised figure numbers are used in **ES Volume 2 [EN010149/APP/6.2].**	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that the list of receptors proposed to be scoped out of the LVIA are reasonable and justified, and this information should be presented in the LVIA to aid understanding.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	This has been noted. Receptors scoped out of the LVIA are presented for information in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Approach to assessment	Agreement that there is potential to scope out character areas that would not be affected by the Proposed Development, though these should be clearly justified in the LVIA.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	This has been noted. Receptors scoped out of the LVIA are presented for information in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** with justification as appropriate.	N
Approach to assessment	Agreement that the baseline should include both Landscape fabric/ elements; and Landscape key characteristics and that this information should be clearly presented in the LVIA.	North Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire County Council	This has been noted. A full baseline is presented **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Approach to assessment	Agreement with approach to assessing significance outlined in the PEIR, including the use of professional judgement for	North Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire	This has been noted. Where effects are identified as 'moderate', justification is provided as appropriate in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	'Moderate' effects. Request that where Moderate effects are deemed not significant, a brief narrative should be provided for transparency.	County Council		
Approach to assessment	Comment that it is noted that *'observations made in the field during the baseline assessment of landscape character'* is included within the baseline assessment of landscape sensitivity.	North Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire County Council	A detailed description of the landscape baseline is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.2: Baseline Landscape Character Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. This includes observations made in the field.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment stating that assessments of visual impact should also consider walkers, horse riders and cyclists as there would be a significant impact	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Effects on visual receptors including walkers, horse riders and cyclists are presented **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	on the ability to enjoy the current landscape.			
Approach to mitigation	Agreement with the approach to mitigation and residual effects in the LVIA, and a multi-disciplinary approach is encouraged (e.g. heritage, ecology, civils and landscape) to provide multi-functional spaces that not only mitigates adverse effects but enhances local landscapes.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	This has been noted. The approach to multi-functional space is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	N
Assessment of effects	Comment stating that preliminary assessments of the Proposed Development's landscape and visual impact appears to demonstrate substantive harm and	Land interest	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1],** identifies that there are likely significant impacts at seven visual receptor groups, with impacts on three of these groups lasting for the duration of the Proposed Development. While policies within NPSs EN-1 and EN-3 seek to limit harm from a landscape and visual perspective, EN-1 accepts that energy generating infrastructure will result	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	therefore conflicts with planning policy.		in some degree of effect on landscape and visual receptors. Particularly, NPS EN-1 (paragraph 5.10.5) recognises that all proposed energy infrastructure is likely to have visual effects for many receptors around a proposed development. It also considers that the scale of energy projects means they will often be visible across a wide area, and the Secretary of State (SoS) should balance whether the benefit of the proposed development would offset the proposed impact. Critically, the SoS should consider how well-designed a project is and whether an Applicant has genuinely sought to minimise harm to the landscape, including using appropriate mitigation. NPS EN-3 expands on this point and advises applicants to minimise landscape and visual impacts through screening. From the outset of site selection, the Applicant sought to avoid or minimise interaction with sensitive landscape receptors and subsequently has proposed a suite of mitigation measures to limit potential impacts (see the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**). However, the Applicant acknowledges that the rural nature of the Site and the type of development proposed means that some of these effects cannot be mitigated.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Given the approach to design and mitigation that the Applicant has rigorously followed it is considered that the designation of the development as a CNP project and the weight which such a designation applies means that such impacts are outweighed by the critical need for the Proposed Development.	
Assessment of effects	Comment that as the Proposed Development is still being developed, the host authorities have not provided detailed judgements against all the preliminary findings.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with LCC and NKDC on landscape and visual matters throughout the pre-application stage and welcome further engagement as required as more information is made available within the Application.	N
Assessment of effects	Comment that the Proposed Development would lead to significant adverse effects on landscape character and visual amenity at all phases of the Proposed Development and has	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The design of the Proposed Development has been developed to respond to the distinctive and unique local character of the Site, informed by relevant local studies such as North Kesteven Landscape Character Assessment. This is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and is one of the Project Principles (Principle 2.2) which has been used to guide the design. Effects on landscape character are assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	the potential to transform the local landscape and its character on a large-scale, with the potential to affect the wider landscape character by replacing large areas of agricultural/rural land with solar development, which would affect the current open agricultural character.		**[EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The assessment notes that the Order Limits span LCAs 7: Limestone Heath and 11: Central Clays and Gravels. The assessment considers the sensitivity of these character areas to the type of development proposed taking account of factors such as openness and landcover amongst other things. The assessment in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** reports that, in the early years of operation, there would be a major/moderate adverse (significant) effect on a tightly defined tract of the landscape surrounding the Proposed Development in both LCA 7: Limestone Heath and LCA 11: Central Clays and Gravels. Following Phase Two Consultation, mitigation measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Development to reduce these effects. Specifically, green infrastructure proposals have been developed which include a considerable amount of proposed new hedgerow and native woodland. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** records that by year 10 (following the establishment of mitigation planting), the effects on LCA 7: Limestone Heath would remain major/moderate adverse (significant) overall whilst effects in LCA 11: Central	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Clays and Gravels would reduce to moderate adverse (significant).	
Change to landscape	Comments that the Proposed Development would industrialise a rural area, and proposed mitigation measures would be insufficient. Other comments state that residents choose to live in an area to appreciate the rural environment.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Rowston Parish Meeting	An assessment of landscape and visual effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The assessment acknowledges that some significant effects on landscape character would arise principally from a localised change in land cover and the introduction of new Solar PV development, Satellite Collector Compounds, BESS, Springwell Substation and ancillary infrastructure such as fencing and CCTV into fields which are currently in agricultural land use. The Solar PV development would, however, be underlain by grassland and mitigated by extensive new hedgerow and woodland planting as outlined in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. The design of the Proposed Development and the new planting proposed is considered to be adequate to mitigate potentially adverse effects of the Proposed Development.	N
Consultation	Request for ongoing engagement on landscape and visual matters as the design evolves to ensure any	North Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire	Engagement with NKDC and LCC continued after Phase Two Consultation. A full description of the engagement undertaken (including agreement on viewpoints and photomontage locations) is presented in **ES Volume 1,**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	additional viewpoints or additional receptors are identified, and input into the process of developing mitigation.	County Council	**Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
General – landscape and visual	Comments stating that the Proposed Development would have a negative impact on the visual amenity on the surrounding area and rural character of the landscape.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Land interest	It is acknowledged in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that, in the early years of operation, there would be a major/moderate adverse (significant) effect on a tightly defined tract of the landscape surrounding the Proposed Development in both LCA 7: Limestone Heath and LCA 11: Central Clays and Gravels. Following Phase Two Consultation, mitigation measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Development to minimise these effects. Specifically green infrastructure proposals have been developed which include a considerable amount of proposed new hedgerows and native woodland to reduce the magnitude of change in the landscape. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** records that by year 10 (following the establishment of mitigation planting), the effects on LCA 7: Limestone Heath would remain major/moderate adverse (significant) overall whilst effects in LCA 11:	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Central Clays and Gravels would reduce to moderate adverse (significant).	
General comment – visual impact	Comment that the experience of driving through the site should be reduced.	Land interest	Following Phase Two Consultation, further effort has been made to reduce the visual effect of driving through the Proposed Development. This includes the incorporation of further breaks in the areas proposed for development along the A15, the incorporation of hedgerows along the A15, drawing the Springwell Substation and BESS further west away from the A15 and drawing solar PV development further south from the B1191 between RAF Digby and Scopwick. Full details are set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	Y
Figures	Comment that the figures associated with the landscape and visual chapter are well presented and read well.	North Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire County Council	This has been noted.	N
Height	Comment that views would be spoilt from villages, public access points and footpaths	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	At Phase One Consultation the Applicant suggested that solar panels would be approximately 4m at their highest point. At Phase Two Consultation, this was revised to 'in	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	due to the proposed height of the elements of the Proposed Development.	Parish Council	some limited areas, solar panels could be up to 4m high, though most would be 3.5m high at their highest point.' Following further refinement of the Proposed Development, the maximum height of solar panels is now proposed to be 3.5m within just five fields in Springwell East which are located within Flood Zone 2 and 3 and a maximum of 3m in all other fields proposed for Solar PV development. Following Phase Two Consultation, green infrastructure proposals have been developed to mitigate visual effects associated with the BESS and Springwell Substation. This includes earthworks and extensive new woodland planting proposals, as illustrated in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2].** An assessment of landscape and visual effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Landscape character	Comment stating that the Applicant has identified many changes to views and landscape character and as a result it would not be possible to walk	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, proposals for Solar PV development in fields to the east of the Spires and Steeples Trail were removed, resulting in a significantly greater sense of rural separation between Scopwick and Blankney. Effects on visual amenity are assessed in **ES**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	from Scopwick to surrounding villages without the view and landscape character being significantly changed for the worse by the Proposed Development.		**Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The assessment records that in the early years of operation there would initially be a moderate adverse visual effect (significant) on users of the Spires and Steeple Trail which passes between Scopwick and Blankney but that by Year 10 when mitigation planting has matured, the effect would reduce to minor adverse (not significant).	
Landscape character	Comment stating that the landscape has been largely formed of generations of local families working within this productive land.	Rowston Parish Meeting	An assessment of landscape effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Landscape character areas	Comment that the size of a character area should not be a determining factor in assessing effects, and caution should be applied in regard to larger LCAs, which can be assessed as having a limited magnitude of	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	An assessment of landscape effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Whilst the effects are reported with reference to LCAs, the size of the LCA is not a factor in determining the significance of the effect. The extent of significant effects on landscape character are defined with reference to physical features in the landscape and not the LCA as a whole.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	change as the Proposed Development would only affect a small percentage of the overall larger character area. Request that the LVIA includes a finer-grained local character assessment which identifies individual elements or features of LCAs to form part of the baseline within the site boundary (LCA 7 and LCA 11) and assesses the change in that part of the LCA resulting from the Proposed Development.		**ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** provides a finer grain of description of landscape character.	
Landscape viewpoints	Comment that the photographs presented are clear, well labelled	North Kesteven District	This has been noted. This approach has been maintained in **ES, Volume 4 [EN010149/APP/6.4].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	and the indication of siting areas aids legibility. The legibility is aided with colour coding of the three different Springwell areas (West, Central and East) which should be carried through to the LVIA.	Council, Lincolnshire County Council	Photomontages have also been provided to compliment these annotated images.	
Landscape viewpoints	Comment regarding VP30 that the view may provide more indication of visibility of elements up to 12m in height within siting area if either rotated to the right, or if extended (additional sheet) to capture more of the western extents. As potentially large components, the context would be	North Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire County Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, further consultation was undertaken with NKDC and LCC to agree the final viewpoint selection. An additional image has been provided in **ES Volume 4 [EN010149/APP/6.4]** to illustrate the view further to the right of Viewpoint 30.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	useful to include within the view.			
Light pollution	Comments about impacts of light pollution during construction and operation, including those lights used to illuminate solar panels, and substation could cause the following effects: • Disruption to ecosystems and wildlife (inc. nocturnal animals) • Impact on visibility of stars • Sleep disturbance and feelings of stress and anxiety for nearby residents.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	There would be no permanent lighting to illuminate the solar panels and therefore it is not anticipated that there would be any impact on the visibility of stars or sleep disturbance, stress or anxiety for nearby residents. Consideration has been considered to minimise light spill to prevent disturbance to sensitive receptors including bats and other nocturnal animals. Throughout construction and operation, the use of motion detection or manually operated lighting would be used to avoid constant lighting. There would be no permanent (continuous) lighting for security purposes except for at emergency exits. Security lighting would use infra-red which is not on the visible spectrum for bats. Details of lighting design to limit effects on sensitive receptors is secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149APP/7.4]** and **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Limestone Heath	Comment that the Limestone Heath character area within which Springwell West is located in is characterised by its elevation, openness, rurality, with a feeling of relative elevation and exposure. The east/west aligned ridges and dips cutting across it are particularly apparent when travelling along the A15 which undulates with the topography.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted. An assessment of landscape effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The assessment confirms that Springwell West is located within LCA 7: Limestone Heath. The assessment considers the sensitivity of the character area to the type of development proposed taking account of factors such as landform, openness and land cover amongst other things. The design of the Proposed Development has been developed to respond to the distinctive and unique local character of the Site, informed by relevant local studies such as North Kesteven Landscape Character Assessment. This is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and is one of the Project Principles (Principle 2.2) which has been used to guide the design. The assessment in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** acknowledges that there would be some significant effects on landscape character within tightly defined tracts of this character area.	Y
Methodology	Comment that the information collated as part of *The Historic*	North Kesteven	The *Historic Character of The County of Lincolnshire (2011)* has been reviewed and is referenced in **ES**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Character of The County of Lincolnshire (2011) should be utilised to ensure the Proposed Development is sensitive to the historic landscape.	District Council Lincolnshire County Council	**Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** as appropriate.	
Methodology	Comment that the methodology set out in Appendix 9.1: LVIA Methodology and Assessment Criteria of the PEIR (PEIR, Volume 3: Appendix 9.1) is commensurate to what is expected to be used.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	This has been noted.	N
National Character Areas	Comments on National Character Areas, including acknowledgement that NCAs are not expected to be a receptor as they are at	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted. National Character Areas are referenced as appropriate in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The design of the Proposed Development has been developed to respond to the distinctive and unique local character of the Site, informed by relevant studies including National Character Area profiles. This is set out	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	a large scale and typically provide context only, but where possible the Proposed Development should avoid impact to and where possible enhance local distinctiveness.	Lincolnshire County Council Natural England	in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and is one of the Project Principles (Principle 2.2) which has been used to guide the design.	
Nationally designated landscapes	Agreement that impacts on the Lincolnshire Wolds AoNB are unlikely.	Natural England	This AoNB is scoped out of the LVIA as noted in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Overhead lines	Request for further detail to understand potential visibility of above ground cabling between modules and inverters, above ground lines and associated poles, if these are proposed.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	There would be no above ground pole mounted cables between solar modules and inverters. Cabling would be laid underground, except for the cabling between the Solar PV modules and string inverters which are fixed to the Mounting Structure within the parameters of Work No. 1 (see **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**). A full description of the Proposed Development is set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Planning policy	Comment that CLLP policies S53 and S59 should be included within the relevant policy section of the LVIA in the ES.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	Policies S53 and S59 are referenced in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Residential properties	Comment that the solar panels would be visible from Scopwick Mill despite assurances from the Applicant that solar panels would be pushed back behind the ridgeline.	Land interest	Following Phase Two Consultation, an area of solar PV development proposed south of the B1191 (Heath Road) between RAF Digby and Scopwick was drawn further south away from Scopwick Mill. However, it is recognised that there may remain some glimpses of the Proposed Development. An assessment of landscape and visual effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	Y
Residential properties	Comments that some residential properties would be surrounded by views of the Proposed Development. Specific references made to Scopwick Mill, Thompson's Bottom	Land interest	The impact of the Proposed Development on residential visual amenity has been assessed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. [EN010149/APP/6.3].** • In the case of Scopwick Mill, the nearest above ground infrastructure in the Proposed Development would be located over 200m away, in a single direction to the south.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Farm and Toll Bar Cottages.		• In the case of Thompson's Bottom Farm, the nearest above ground infrastructure in the Proposed Development would be located approximately 200m away, in a single direction to the east. • In the case of Toll Bar Cottage (and the adjacent Lupus Lair), following Phase Two Consultation, an additional field has been omitted from the Proposed Development directly to the west of these properties. The Applicant considers that appropriate buffers have been proposed around these residential properties such that the Proposed Development would not have an overbearing impact on views. Nevertheless, with specific reference to these properties and residential visual amenity: • Scopwick Mill: This property has not been assessed in detail as following design iteration it would no longer lie within 200m of any above ground infrastructure. Visual effects would be significant during construction but not during operation. At the adjacent property (The Windmill) it is recognised that there would be a significant effect on visual amenity in both years 1 and 10 as a result of views from elevated windows.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• Thompson Bottom Farm: The farm itself would not lie within 200m of any above ground infrastructure and visual effects would not be significant during any phase. At Thompson Bottom Cottages there would be a major (significant) effect on visual amenity in year 1 reducing to moderate (not significant) at year 10. • Toll Bar Cottage: There would be a major/moderate (significant) effect on visual amenity in year 1 reducing to moderate (not significant) at year 10. At the adjacent Lupus Lair, there would be a moderate (significant) effect on visual amenity in year 1 reducing to moderate (not significant) at year 10.	
RVAA	Comment that individual/isolated residential properties likely to experience a substantial magnitude of change and significant effects after mitigation should be clearly identified and addressed as part of the ES.	North Kesteven District Council	The impact of the Proposed Development on residential visual amenity has been assessed for individual properties in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
RVAA	Comment that the RVAA study area is narrower than presented for the Heckington Fen NSIP, acknowledging there is no standard criteria for defining the study area. Request for the RVAA to link TGN 02/19 guidance, solar development and the Proposed Development, providing a clear statement on the justification for the final study area.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	A justification for the RVAA study area is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N
RVAA	Comments expressing concern about the degree to which certain properties or zones might have limited visual relief	North Kesteven District Council	The impact of the Proposed Development on residential visual amenity has been assessed for individual properties in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The Applicant considers that appropriate buffers have been proposed around these residential properties such	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	from the Proposed Development even with amendments to the zonal masterplan and buffers adopted, noting that there are a number of properties less than 200m from proposed areas for solar development. Reference to design mitigation measures applied to the Heckington Fen NSIP including an average buffer of 240-70m and TGN 02/19 guidance which gives an outer range of 250m albeit for road and housing projects.	Lincolnshire County Council	that the Proposed Development would not have an overbearing impact on views. Each property has been considered on an individual basis and buffers/mitigation have been proposed that are specifically tailored to the individual circumstances of the property. Meaningful comparisons cannot be drawn to another project.	
RVAA	Request that more detail is provided to justify scoping out 6 of the 23 named	North Kesteven District Council	A justification for the RVAA study area is presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	properties/ groups of properties identified in the draft RVAA.			
RVAA	Comments stating that a Residential Visual Amenity Assessment should be done and should have been included in the PEIR as this could demonstrate that impact on visual amenity outweighs the need for the Proposed Development.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The impact of the Proposed Development on residential visual amenity has been assessed for individual properties in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The assessment presented in the PEIR (see **Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) reflected the proposals at the time of Phase Two Consultation.	N
Screening	Comment supporting provision of new planting to screen views.	Anglian Water Services	This has been noted. Green infrastructure proposals have been further developed and embedded into the Proposed Development following the Phase Two Consultation.	N
Screening	Comments that screening along footpaths need to be considered, including that hedgerows could	North Kesteven District Council	The effect of mitigation planting on existing views has been taken into account in the LVIA presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The approach to mitigation	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	be overbearing if maintained at 3.5m and that concerns set out in NPS EN-3 that screening could impact on ability of users to appreciate the surrounding landscape.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	alongside PRoW is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be offset by at least 15m from either side of existing and proposed PRoW. Even allowing for growth, any hedgerows adjacent to perimeter fencing would maintain a wide pedestrian corridor, enabling the continued ability to enjoy the route even where views from it would be altered. The LVIA presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** acknowledges that in some locations new planting would foreshorten existing views but the alternative would be views of the new infrastructure which would have the same effect in any case. Feedback from Phase Two Consultation indicated a strong preference for hedgerow planting. The green infrastructure proposed would complement existing vegetation in the landscape and in all areas of the development, there would remain regular gaps between fields containing development.	
Screening	Comments on the efficacy of proposed screening. Specific concerns raised	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	The LVIA presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** recognises that new planting takes time to establish and therefore effects are assessed in year 1 (before planting	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	included that it would take too long to grow, would not be able to screen taller elements of the Proposed Development, would only be effective in the summer and that screening close to power lines would not be able to grow very tall. Query if the screening would be maintained at a certain height.	Parish Council Land interest	has established) and year 10 (by which time it is assumed that new planting would have reached semi-maturity and hedgerows at least would have fully established). Where the new mitigation planting would not fully screen the Proposed Development, this is acknowledged as such in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. No mitigation planting is proposed or required under overhead power lines. Hedgerows would be maintained at the height outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This would be delivered under commitments outlined in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The assessment in the above chapter also takes account of reduced leaf coverage in winter months.	
Screening	Comment that any additional planting would alter the open heathland aspect of the area with its valued long views.	Land interest	The effect of mitigation planting on the existing landscape character has been taken into account in the LVIA presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The approach to mitigation planting in this landscape is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. Although the relevant North Kesteven Landscape Character Assessment describes the character area	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			within which Springwell West and Springwell Central are located as LCA 7: Limestone Heath, there is no notable heathland within the Order Limits. Nevertheless, the assessment above acknowledges the openness of the landscape in this character area. The design of the Proposed Development has been developed to respond to the distinctive and unique local character of the Site, informed by relevant local studies such as North Kesteven Landscape Character Assessment. It is considered that the planting proposed is an appropriate design response to the character of the baseline landscape.	
Security measures	Comments on the proposed security measures, including: • The proposed height of mesh fencing is relatively high, with preference for a lower maximum height or 2.4m or lower.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the height of proposed fencing around the Solar PV development across the majority of the Order Limits has been reduced from 3m to 2.5m high. It is confirmed that this would be timber post and wire mesh 'deer-proof fencing'. More secure fencing is required around the Springwell Substation, Main Collector Compound, BESS and Satellite Collector Compounds. The Satellite Collector Compounds and BESS would be surrounded by 2.75m high security fencing which would comprise steel rails attached to horizontal-running rails connected to vertical steel joints.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Request that palisade fencing is avoided or minimised in favour of less visually intrusive fencing. • Weld-mesh security fencing proposed around operational areas can be urbanising and affect the rural character of the landscape. • Welcome proposals to reduce the height and space of pole mounted CCTV and design solutions to ensure that these are less visible. • Field boundaries would be changed by the security fencing and CCTV		The Springwell Substation and Main Collector Compound would be surrounded by mesh fencing up to 2.75m in height with a pulse monitoring security system up to 3.4m height inside the mesh fence. Pole-mounted internal-facing closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems would be installed at a height 1.5m above the Solar PV modules around the perimeter of the Solar PV field. The landscape and visual effects of the fencing and CCTV have been taken into consideration in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Springwell Central	Comment that the revisions made to the zonal masterplan in Springwell Central is acknowledged.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted.	N
Springwell East	Comment that it is acknowledged that parts of Springwell East benefit from an extant planning permission (14/0937/FUL), and landscape and visual effects have already been assessed through that planning application; albeit that the scale and layout of development now proposed in this zone is different.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been noted, although for clarification, the extant planning permission has not been taken into account as part of the baseline in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Discussions with the landowner are taking place to confirm that, should the Proposed Development receive consent, it would be built instead of the consented scheme. Currently, Article 6 of the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** includes provisions which would apply to this planning permission to manage any inconsistency between this planning permission and the DCO (if made). This drafting is intended to respond to the Supreme Court's ruling in Hillside and to clarify matters for the local planning authority from an enforcement perspective. However, the Applicant may amend this drafting during examination depending upon the discussions referenced above.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Springwell West	Comment that LVIA impacts in Springwell West is of particular concern with the Proposed Development (including larger elements such as the substation and cumulative effects from the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation) currently shown in close proximity to visual receptors (particularly the A15) within an open landscape. Comment that established mitigation planting would likely foreshorten views, which would be a conspicuous change to the baseline and the mitigation solution	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	An assessment of landscape and visual effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This assesses amongst other things the effects on views from the A15. The approach to mitigating visual effects from the A15 is outlined in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. Following Phase Two Consultation, the proposed siting zone for the BESS and Springwell Substation was drawn back from the A15 such that the Proposed Development now incorporates a 250m buffer from the A15. This would maintain a sense of openness along the road and limit the effect on long distance views. In Springwell West, tree belt planting is proposed to extend and connect with existing blocks of woodland such as Bloxholm Wood and Gorse Hill Covert. The precedent for new hedgerow planting on either side of the A15 is evident along sections of the A15 to the north and south of the Order Limits. Feedback from Phase Two Consultation expressed a preference for hedgerow planting along the A15.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	along the A15 needs to be fully considered, with a balance struck between screening and integration.			
Vegetation	Request for the Applicant to illustrate and include all vegetation works (including removal or pruning/trimming to facilitate sight lines/swept path requirements etc) within any assessment due to the potential to remove existing landscape features which makes up the character area and open up views into or across the proposed site. Other comments request for vegetation	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	Vegetation removal required during construction (including sight lines/swept path highways works) is illustrated in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.5 [ES010149/APP/6.2].** The LVIA presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** takes account of this vegetation removal. Vegetation removal would be limited to that which is essential for the construction and operation of the Proposed Development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	removal to be minimised where possible due to potential visual effects.			
Viewpoints	Comment that while receptors and viewpoints have been agreed with the Applicant, additional viewpoints and scoping in of receptors may be required depending on the final location of elements and any changes to the design parameters, as well as more information that could be made available about the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	There has been extensive engagement with AAH Consultants (on behalf of NKDC/LCC) in relation to the viewpoint and photomontage locations following Phase Two Consultation. Confirmation of agreement to the final selection of viewpoints was provided by AAH Consultants on behalf of NKDC and LCC on 11 July 2024. No further receptors were requested to be scoped in.	N
Visualisations	Comment that a clear Visualisation Methodology should	North Kesteven District	A clear methodology for production of the visualisations has been presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.1: Landscape and Visual Methodology and**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	be included within the LVIA, providing full details/ parameters of the elements that have been modelled. Request further consultation to agree the number (location) and Type of Visualisations to be included within the LVIA that would be most appropriate to illustrate the Proposed Development. It is expected there to be a number of Type 3 and possibly Type 4 visualisations provided within the LVIA and ES.	Council Lincolnshire County Council	**Assessment Criteria [EN010149/APP/6.3].** There has been extensive liaison with AAH Consultants (on behalf of NKDC/LCC) in relation to the viewpoint and photomontage locations following Phase Two Consultation. Confirmation of agreement of the final selection of viewpoints and type of visualisation was provided by AAH Consultants on behalf of NKDC and LCC on 11 July 2024. Type 3 visualisations are provided in the ES. It was not considered necessary to provide Type 4 visualisations as the level of accuracy provided by Type 3 is more than adequate for the proposed type of development.	
Land, soil and groundwater				

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Agricultural land classification	Comment that significant areas of the site (north and north-west) have not been subject to an ALC survey and more discussion on this would be welcomed to agree approach.	Natural England	Agricultural land classification surveys were carried out between March 2022 and October 2024, covering the entire area of the Order Limits. The surveys used a combination of intrusive investigatory works and records published online in order to grade the agricultural land. The grading was performed in accordance with the ALC system as per the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food guidance, 1988. The survey was initially based on observations at intersects of a 200m grid, giving a sampling density of one observation per four hectares. Subsequently, further observations were conducted at 100m spacing, giving a final sample density of one per hectare throughout the Order Limits. The survey was undertaken in line with the Natural England 'Technical Information Note TIN049: Agricultural Land Classification: protecting the best and most versatile land', 2nd edition (2012). During the survey, soils were examined via a combination of auger borings and soil description pits to a maximum depth of 1.2m. A number of mini pits were also dug ad-hoc to confirm soil and stone content and bedrock characteristics, from which it has been possible to map the distribution of land quality and soil types. The survey covered the underground cable routes as well as the Grid Connection Corridor. The results of the surveys are split into three reports comprising Springwell West (including the Grid Connection Corridor), Springwell East and Springwell	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Central which are presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 11.1A: Springwell Central Agricultural Land Classification, Appendix 11.1B: Springwell East Agricultural Land Classification** and **Appendix 11.1C: Springwell West Agricultural Land Classification [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. It should be noted that not all fields had been surveyed at the time of Phase Two Consultation and publication of the PEIR, which is why this comment has been received, but subsequent survey work means that the entire area covered by the Order Limits has now been surveyed using the same survey methodology.	
Alternatives	Comment that the ES should set out under the consideration of 'alternatives' the reasons for areas of Grades 2 and 3a land being proposed for development (inc. construction compounds and as areas for mitigation/enhancement) and why areas	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant's approach to design is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This includes Project Principles which have been applied to limit the use of BMV. It is important to recognise that there is often more than one constraint present when considering appropriate locations for various uses within the Proposed Development and that BMV, while important, is not the determining factor. The NPS EN-3 states that the use of lower-grade agricultural land is preferred to the use of BMV, with the position in EN-3 being that applicants should seek to utilise, where possible, "*suitable previously developed land, brownfield land, contaminated and industrial land*".	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	classed as Grades 3b and 4, for example C7, Md04 and Md05 remain outside the proposed panelled areas.		The significant caveat is that paragraph 2.10.29 of EN-3 states that "*land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of the site location*". A **Site Selection Report** has also been prepared. It is included in **Appendix 1** to the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**. It explains the Applicant's approach to the selection of an appropriate site to take forward as part of an application for an NSIP scale solar project. The report explains that initially, there are three fundamental attributes required to develop NSIP scale solar: suitable irradiance and topography, a connection to the National Grid, and available land. The Applicant's understanding of the land in and around the Order Limits was supplemented by initial conversations with Blankney Estate regarding the quality and viability of the Order Limits for agriculture. This understanding helped direct the availability of the land within the landholding and subsequent site selection at a micro level during design development. The information which has been provided to the Applicant sets out yield data across the Order Limits on a field-by-field basis from the last 13 years, as well as the landowner's own consideration of the productivity of individual parcels and its preference for continued agricultural use, whilst acknowledging that there would be a balancing of	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			continued use for farming purposes versus the need to deliver a commercially viable project. At a site design level, the Applicant has sought to, where possible, reduce the use of BMV land within the Proposed Development. However, due to the nature of the land quality within the Order Limits and the general classification both locally and at a wider scale in Lincolnshire it has not been possible to avoid it entirely. The Applicant has sought to reduce the amount of BMV used for Solar PV and other built elements of the Proposed Development. Out of the 1280ha of land within the Order Limits, 541.2ha is classed as BMV (42.3%). Of this, 231.7ha (42.8%) is proposed to be used for built elements of the Proposed Development i.e., collector compounds, Springwell Substation, Solar PV development and BESS. With specific reference to areas proposed for Solar PV development, 35.6% of BMV land within the Order Limits is proposed to be used for Solar PV development. While recognising the amount of BMV included which would remain free from development, it has not been possible to remove all BMV land from the Order Limits. To do so would reduce renewable energy generation capability in a location where there is available grid capacity, and at a time when the need for such	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			development is urgent. This is a critical point and is consistent with Paragraph 2.10.30 of EN-3 which explains that solar farm developments are not prohibited on *'best and most versatile*' agricultural land and that "*it is recognised that at this scale, it is likely that applicants' developments may use some agricultural land*". This point is further demonstrated by the limited availability of poorer grade land in the areas surrounding the Site. It is also important to recognise that BMV is one of several factors which influence the way design develops in the same way it is one of several criteria used in site selection. As set out earlier in this section the NPS EN-3 is very clear that land type should not be a predominating factor in site selection. The Applicant considers this is relevant in both the site selection and design development process. Neither EN-1 nor EN-3 place a higher policy emphasis on the use of agricultural land in comparison to other environmental considerations but require the Applicant to justify its use. The other critical factor in the consideration of impacts on BMV is the degree of impact which it is deemed to have. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, after which time all hard infrastructure above ground and below ground to a depth of 1metre, with the	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			exception of cabling, would be removed from the land (as secured within the **oDEMP [EN010149/APP/7.13]**).	
Approach to assessment	Disagreement that the impact magnitude should be based on permanent loss of one or more soil functions or soil volumes as this does not account for loss of agricultural/ food production over the lifetime of the Proposed Development. Recommendation that assessment of loss should include both permanent and temporary losses in line with the CLLP.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant has considered the impacts to soil and BMV in line with industry guidelines (Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA) Guide: A New Perspective on Land and Soil in Environmental Impact Assessment (2022)) and has presented justification for the methodology in the Scoping Report and within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Policy S14 of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan has been taken into consideration, and careful positioning of elements of the Proposed Development has been a part of the design process, to minimise impacts on higher quality (BMV) agricultural land. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11 Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** covers both temporary and permanent land use (Section 11.9.16), and it should be noted that the only land considered to be undergoing a permanent land use change would be the land used for permanent landscaping. This permanent land take for landscape structural planting affects a total area of 166.2ha, of which 77ha are classified as BMV land. This land would not be occupied by permanent hardstanding, buildings or other	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			infrastructure associated with the Proposed Development, but would comprise landscaped areas that are to be incorporated into the Proposed Development in order to provide beneficial attributes in terms of biodiversity mitigation and enhancement. Therefore, although this area of permanent landscaping does result in the lack of availability of a small proportion of agricultural land (and a smaller area of BMV land), this is considered to be offset by the positive impacts associated with the provision of biodiversity mitigation and enhancement areas. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, after which time all hard infrastructure above ground and below ground to a depth of 1 metre, with the exception of cabling, would be removed from the land (as secured within the **oDEMP [EN010149/APP/7.13]**). Decommissioning would include removing any permissive paths and the land would be returned to the landowner. Landscape structural planting, including tree planting, hedgerows, scrub created to deliver biodiversity mitigation and enhancement associated with the Proposed Development would be left in situ when the Site is handed back to landowners, except for the planting within Tb2, which would be removed to facilitate	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			the releveling and removal of the earth bund to allow the field to be returned to agricultural use. Otherwise, it is assumed that the landowner would return the land to agricultural use when it is handed back. It would not be possible to advance with this project without the use of some BMV land, and the Applicant has provided further justification for this, as referenced in Section 11.9 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and within the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**. Food security is not an issue which is raised within the suite of Energy NPSs, the NPPF or Local Development Plan policies, though it is recognised to be a source of national debate and has been raised in response to consultation. It is, however, referred to in the 2024 Written Ministerial Statement which sets out that food security is an important part of our national security. The existing agricultural land use for the Proposed Development is predominantly for growing a wide range of arable crops for human consumption, animal feed and energy production. Given the absence of any specific policy requirement no further consideration of this matter is provided.	
Approach to assessment	Request that the ES includes an overlay	North Kesteven	**ES Volume 2, Figure 11.2: Zonal Masterplan overlaid with the Agricultural land classification results**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	drawing/illustration of the zonal masterplan, field numbers and ALC zones to show where areas of Grade 1 and 2 have been removed from areas of development.	District Council	**[EN010149/APP/6.2],** presents the ALC survey results against the extent of development shared at the Phase Two Consultation to show the areas of Grade 1 and 2 that have been removed from the development.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that the PEIR assigns a 'high sensitivity' to 'Soils and agricultural land' whereas the IEMA guidance relied upon by the Applicant refers to grade 2 land as being 'very high sensitivity' and therefore this should be corrected.	North Kesteven District Council	This has been corrected for the ES. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** assesses soil of very high (grade 1 and 2), high (grade 3a) and medium sensitivity (grade 3b). The assessment conclusions indicate that there is a likely significant adverse effect with respect to very high sensitivity soils (in terms of availability of agricultural land), and the effect is not significant with respect to high and medium sensitivity soils.	Y
Approach to assessment	Comment that the Applicant has placed great weight on effects being 'temporary' (and that permanent	North Kesteven District Council	The term 'sealing over' is taken to relate to areas where there would be a permanent use of land for non-agricultural uses. For the Proposed Development, the only land to be permanently changed in terms of land use is the area where permanent landscape planting	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	‘sealing over’ is limited).		(green infrastructure) is proposed. There are no locations where permanent hardstanding would be located, as all above-ground infrastructure would be removed on decommissioning (including buildings and hardstanding associated with substations, etc). This permanent land take for landscape structural planting affects a total area of 166.2ha, of which 77ha are classified as BMV land. Therefore, although this area of permanent landscaping does result in the lack of availability of a small proportion of agricultural land (and a smaller area of BMV land), this is considered to be offset by the positive impacts associated with the provision of biodiversity mitigation and enhancement areas. The Applicant has approached the assessment of effects in line with industry guidance for land and soils (IEMA Guide: A New Perspective on Land and Soil in Environmental Impact Assessment (2022)), which sets out guidelines for determining the magnitude of the impact. The project parameters (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 3.1: Project Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) indicate a 40-year lifetime per phase for all areas of the Proposed Development (except permanent landscaping), and these are the factors that have been used in completing the land, soil and groundwater assessment, as detailed in **ES Volume**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1].	
Approach to assessment	Disagreement with the Applicant's conclusion that the overall operational impact on soils and agricultural land, which states that the magnitude of impact is minor and therefore that the significance of effect is considered to be slight or moderate adverse – albeit it is noted that the Applicant concludes that this is 'potentially significant'.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant has undertaken the assessment in soils in line with the Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA) Guide: A New Perspective on Land and Soil in Environmental Impact Assessment (2022), and draws attention to how the assessment approach has changed since Phase Two Consultation, where: Grade 1 and Grade 2 land are regarded as very high sensitivity in terms of the methodology, and therefore this results in a moderate effect, which is considered to be significant in EIA terms (see Section 11.9 in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**).	N
Approach to assessment	Agreement that a site investigation is not needed to inform the ES and welcome the level of detail and opportunity to review the ALC survey.	Environment Agency Natural England	Engagement with the Environment Agency and Natural England has been beneficial in developing elements of the Proposed Development relating to land, soil and groundwater and the Applicant intends to continue working alongside these bodies as the project progresses. Full details of engagement and consultation	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			undertaken is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
BMV land	Comments on use of BMV land, including that the commitment to avoid use of BMV land where possible is meaningless as most of the site is BMV, and that the true quality of the soil is being dismissed.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The Applicant has sought to reduce impacts on BMV land and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality except where this would be inconsistent with other sustainability considerations. This has influenced both the initial site selection process and the subsequent design evolution of the Proposed Development. This includes retaining fields for arable production that comprise solely of Grade 1 or 2 land. The quality of the soil would not be adversely affected by the Proposed Development (and may undergo improvement due to a period of not being used for agricultural purposes), despite the temporary time scale over which it would not be available for agricultural use. NPS EN-3 states that the use of lower-grade agricultural land is preferred to the use of BMV, with the position in EN-3 being that applicants should seek to utilise, where possible, "*suitable previously developed land, brownfield land, contaminated and industrial land*". The significant caveat is that paragraph 2.10.29 of EN-3 states that "*land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of the site location*". A **Site Selection Report** has also been prepared. It is included in **Appendix 1** to the **Planning Statement**	N

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			[EN010149/APP/7.2]. It explains the Applicant's approach to the selection of an appropriate site to take forward as part of an application for an NSIP scale solar project. The report explains that initially, there are three fundamental attributes required to develop NSIP scale solar: suitable irradiance and topography, a connection to the National Grid, and available land. The Applicant's understanding of the land in and around the now Order Limits was also supplemented by initial conversations with Blankney Estate regarding the quality and viability of the Order Limits for agriculture. This understanding helped direct the availability of the land within the landholding and subsequent site selection at a micro level during design development. The information which has been provided to the Applicant sets out yield data across the Order Limits on a field-by-field basis from the last 13 years, as well as the landowner's own consideration of the productivity of individual parcels and its preference for continued agricultural use, whilst acknowledging that there would be a balancing of continued use for farming purposes versus the need to deliver a commercially viable project. At a site design level, the Applicant has sought to, where possible, reduce the use of BMV land, however, due to the nature of the land quality within the Order Limits and the general classification both locally and at a wider	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			scale in Lincolnshire it has not been possible to avoid it entirely. The steps which the Applicant has taken, therefore, to avoid, reduce and subsequently mitigate impacts on BMV are explained below. The Applicant has sought to reduce the amount of BMV used for Solar PV and other built elements of the Proposed Development. Out of the 1280ha of land within the Order Limits, 541.2ha is classed as BMV (42.3%). Of this, 231.7ha (42.8%) is proposed to be used for built elements of the Proposed Development i.e., collector compounds, Springwell Substation, Solar PV development and BESS. With specific reference to areas proposed for Solar PV development, 35.6% of BMV land within the Order Limits is proposed to be used for Solar PV development. While recognising the amount of BMV included which will remain free from development, it has not been possible to remove all BMV land from the Order Limits. To do so would reduce renewable energy generation capability in a location where there is available grid capacity, and at a time when the need for such development is urgent. This is a critical point and is consistent with Paragraph 2.10.30 of EN-3 which explains that solar farm developments are not prohibited on 'best and most versatile' agricultural land and that "*it*	

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			is recognised that at this scale, it is likely that applicants' developments may use some agricultural land". This point is further demonstrated by the limited availability of poorer grade land in the areas surrounding the Site. It is also important to recognise that BMV is one of several factors which influence the way design develops in the same way it is one of several criteria used in site selection. As set out earlier in this section NPS EN-3 is very clear that land type should not be a predominating factor in site selection. The Applicant considers this is relevant in both the site selection and design development process. Neither EN-1 nor EN-3 place a higher policy emphasis on the use of agricultural land in comparison to other environmental considerations but require the Applicant to justify its use. The other critical factor in the consideration of impacts on BMV is the degree of impact which it is deemed to have. The Proposed Development has an operational life of 40 years per phase after which time all hard infrastructure above ground and below ground to a depth of 1metre, with the exception of cabling, would be removed from the land (as secured within the **oDEMP [EN010149/APP/7.13]**). The **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** provides a detailed consideration	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			of the construction methodology, and the methods by which soil would be managed to ensure that the quality after construction, or after decommissioning, would be the same or improved from the current soil quality.	
BMV land	Comment that the Proposed Development comprises approximately 43.5% BMV which conflicts with local and national policy as it has not been evidenced that insufficient lower grade land is available. Request confirmation that the figure includes all plant and equipment, including the BESS and Springwell Substation.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The percentage of BMV land within the Order Limits is calculated to be 42.3%, based on ALC surveys that have been undertaken. This includes land that would be used for all plant and equipment, including the BESS and Springwell Substation. Further detail on the ALC surveys is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 11.1: Agricultural Land Classification Surveys [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The Proposed Development is located in a county where BMV is the predominating quality of agricultural land, with 71.2% of agricultural land considered to be BMV (Grades 1 to 3a). The Site is located within an area which, according to the provisional Natural England mapping, is a general mix of Grades 2 and 3. ALC undertaken as part of the ES reports that the total amount/proportion of BMV within the Order Limits is 541.2 ha (42.3%). The total amount of BMV proposed to be used for Solar PV development is 210.7ha (35.6%). This is important context because the Applicant has	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			demonstrated that although there is a predominance of BMV quality land within Lincolnshire, it has both selected a site and developed a design that utilises a proportion of BMV (35.6%) for built infrastructure which is half that of the county-wide figure (71.2%). This demonstrates the Applicant's rigorous approach to reducing the amount of BMV land used within the Proposed Development, particularly built infrastructure. As set out in **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**, a large quantity of the BMV land within Order Limits is proposed to be retained in arable use, including land proposed for cable corridors. Indeed, over 40% of the BMV land within Order Limits would not be subject to any above ground development or proposed Green Infrastructure and could remain in arable use. An assessment of soil, agricultural land and management of soil resources is provided in Section 11.9 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, after which the land can be returned to agricultural use, and the soil quality would be either the same or better than the current situation.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
BMV land	Support for the Applicant's commitment to reduce and remove areas of BMV, but further explanation for why only partial removal of BMV land has been carried out is needed and has not been applied to Grade 3a land. Query whether the 'majority field removal' approach is based on guidance or is a bespoke position.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant has sought to minimise impacts on BMV land and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality except where this would be inconsistent with other sustainability considerations. This has influenced both the initial site selection process and the subsequent design evolution of the Proposed Development. Fields comprising of solely Grade 1 or 2 land within the Site would remain available for arable production. The Applicant notes that Grade 3a land is also classified as BMV land, however, given the large areas of Grade 3a land within the area being considered for the Proposed Development, it would not be a viable scheme on smaller land parcels, or without the use of some BMV land. By using Grade 3a land in preference to Grade 1 or Grade 2 land, the Applicant has attempted to reduce impacts to very high sensitivity soils. The Applicant provides a detailed consideration of the construction methodology, and the methods by which soil will be managed to ensure that the quality after construction, or after decommissioning, will be the same or improved from the current soil quality, as given in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and detailed in the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11].** The quality of the soil will not be adversely affected by the Proposed	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Development (and may undergo an improvement due to a period of not being used for agricultural purposes). At a site design level, the Applicant has sought to, where possible, reduce the use of BMV land, however, due to the nature of the land quality within the Order Limits and the general classification both locally and at a wider scale in Lincolnshire it has not been possible to avoid it entirely. The steps which the Applicant has taken therefore to avoid, reduce and subsequently mitigate impacts on BMV are explained below. The **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** sets out Project Principles which have framed the development of the design of the Proposed Development to date. • Principle 8.1 All fields comprising solely of Grade 1 or 2 land within the site will remain available for arable production. • Principle 8.2 Prioritise the use of BMV land for arable production where practicable. • Principle 8.3 Prioritise the use of non-BMV land for habitat creation where practicable. Section 6 of the Design Approach Document explains in greater detail how design measures were incorporated, and changes were made during design development in	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			relation to each of the Project Principles. It explains that the Applicant discounted all fields comprising solely Grade 1 or Grade 2 agricultural land from the proposed built development. Fields By18 (Grade 2) and By27 (Majority Grade 1 approximately 25% Grade 2) are retained in the Order Limits and remain available for arable production and are included primarily to allow for underground cable routes and/or use of existing access tracks as indicated on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**.	
BMV land	Request for confirmation that where BMV land is being prioritised for agricultural production within the Proposed Development, whether this includes Grade 3a land, and whether areas would remain within the site boundary. Comment that the draft DCO should specify how this could be delivered.	North Kesteven District Council	Land intended to be retained for agricultural production within the Order Limits includes Grade 1, 2, 3a and 3b land is included for the purposes of the temporary installation of the cabling as shown on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.1: Zonal Masterplan [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and following construction will be remain as arable use.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
BMV land	Comment that information should be presented on points/proportions of BMV avoidance that would result in the Proposed Development not being viable to justify use of BMV.	North Kesteven District Council	Details are provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** to cover the use of BMV and non-BMV land within the Order Limits. A specific assessment of what level of balance would result in the Proposed Development being viable/not viable has not been undertaken. However, the Applicant believes sufficient details have been provided to demonstrate the viability of the Proposed Development with the current project parameters (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 3.1: Project Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.3]**). At a site design level, the Applicant has sought to, where possible, reduce the use of BMV land; however, due to the nature of the land quality within the Order Limits and the general classification both locally and at a wider scale in Lincolnshire, it has not been possible to avoid it entirely. The steps which the Applicant has taken, therefore, to avoid, reduce and subsequently mitigate impacts on BMV, as explained in the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2].** The Proposed Development's impact on the wider BMV resource, the Applicant notes that in England, agricultural land represents between 69-70% of the total land within the country. Natural England estimates that around 42% of agricultural land within England is of BMV quality (with a roughly even split of 21% as Grades 1	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			and 2 and 21% Grade 3a) with the proportion of BMV in Lincolnshire rising to 71.2%, which is significantly above the national average. Therefore, in the context of the county, BMV land is abundant. The 'county scale' BMV soil maps available are the Provisional ALC maps, which do not differentiate between Grade 3a and Grade 3b. Therefore, accurately estimating the BMV for Lincolnshire is difficult. As such, a review of the available maps and the other cumulative solar DCOs progressing within Lincolnshire has been undertaken to provide a consistent number against which to assess; some refer to total agricultural land (e.g. Heckington Fen Solar Park), whilst others provide an estimate of BMV from the mapping available (e.g. Beacon Fen Energy Park). The area of BMV agricultural land within Lincolnshire is, therefore, estimated to be over 410,000ha. In this context, the Proposed Development occupies approximately 0.13% of the BMV land in Lincolnshire, of which 0.002% is assessed as being permanently used as green infrastructure.	
BMV land	Comment that BMV land shouldn't be used for solar before lower grade farmland and	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	An assessment of alternatives for the Proposed Development is covered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives Considered [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The Applicant has considered	N

<table>
<tr><th>Topic</th><th>Summary of comments</th><th>Consultee</th><th>Response</th><th>Change (Y/N)</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>alternative methods of generating energy.</td><td>Parish Council</td><td>reasonable alternatives with regard to all relevant issues, including the BMV value of the land.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>Land interest</td><td>The Applicant considered whether sufficient previously developed land would be available to develop a utility scale solar development, however, as the North Kesteven District Council brownfield register illustrates, there are currently only five available sites, none of which would have the capability of meeting the project objectives. Four of these sites have either full planning permission or outline planning permission for housing development. The list of these sites, their size and status is set out below:
<table>
<tr><th>Site Name</th><th>Size (ha)</th><th>Status</th></tr>
<tr><td>The Hoplands Depot, Boston Road, Sleaford</td><td>1.84</td><td>No planning permission</td></tr>
<tr><td>Land off Moor Lane, Swinderby</td><td>8.29</td><td>Outline permission for residential development</td></tr>
</table></td><td></td></tr>
</table>

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response			Change (Y/N)
			Land off West Street, Billinghay	1.4	Outline planning permission for residential development	
			Land at Former Lafford School	0.98	No planning permission	
			Land at former Orchard House, Rauceby Hospital, Greylees	1.95	Full planning permission for residential development	
			None of the above sites were pursued given the inability to meet any of the project objectives. Of the landholdings identified by the Applicant with sufficient acreage to deliver project objectives, all were predominantly rural and agricultural in nature, with no differing land types available that had a lesser agricultural grade than the Order Limits. That is to say, nothing was identified by the Applicant that presented non-agricultural, for example, contaminated or industrial, characteristics. All sites identified by the Applicant were			

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			identified on the provisional ALC (DEFRA) mapping as Grade 2 or 3. At a local level, according to the provisional and predictive ALC mapping (DEFRA and Natural England), this area (i.e. in proximity to the Order Limits) of Lincolnshire has a mixture of largely Grade 2 and Grade 3 land. The Applicant has taken into account agricultural land quality when identifying the Solar PV Site, based on publicly available information and the extent to which this played a part in site selection decision making. This approach to considering ALC values, in terms of the use of provisional and predictive mapping, has been considered as both satisfactory and proportionate by the Examining Authorities in relation to, for example, the Gate Burton Energy Park Order 2024 and Mallard Pass Solar Farm Order 2024. Notwithstanding the predictive mapping experience elsewhere in developing/identifying sites for ground based solar it is important to carry out detailed site-specific assessment work to inform design development. The wider Lincolnshire area is not mapped, therefore for an indication of the distribution the Applicant also considered the 1970s 'provisional' maps. The Applicant undertook a systematic process to determine suitable sites. A range of technical,	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			environmental, and economic factors are considered when investigating and assessing any potential site for large-scale solar developments. A Site Selection Report has been prepared and forms **Appendix 1** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2],** which provides an overview of the site selection process undertaken by the Applicant to identify the location of the Proposed Development. The Site was selected because it presents the physical characteristics which are highly supportive in terms of the ability to deliver a NSIP scale solar development. The Site: • has a grid connection offer which will see energy transported to the national transmission network by 2030 • lies within an area of suitable irradiance and favourable topography • includes a proportion of BMV land which is characteristic of the predominating mix in the general locality and less than the Lincolnshire average • has sufficient land to enable the grid connection offer to be maximised while maintaining sufficient offsets to sensitive residential receptors	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• is located away from key environmental and cultural heritage related designations • is on land which is available and may be voluntarily acquired with a single landowner enabling efficiencies in delivery • is accessible from the road network and has suitable access to land not immediately adjacent the strategic road network. In considering a site that meets these requirements, a range of technical, environmental and economic factors are considered when assessing any potential site for large scale solar developments, including the Application.	
Cable route	Comment welcoming commitment to undertake ALC survey along the proposed cable route, but noting surveys will commence once the route has been defined, rather than prior to determination of the final route which would	Natural England	Prior to Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant received information from National Grid regarding its preference for the location of the new National Grid Navenby Substation, into which the Proposed Development would connect. As such, the Applicant included a potential Grid Connection Corridor within the proposed Site boundary presented at Phase Two Consultation, noting any relevant assessments on the land would be undertaken and presented in the ES. An ALC survey was undertaken on the western and eastern side of the fields and the results of the survey	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	provide an opportunity to avoid high-quality land.		alongside other environmental considerations helped inform the decision to locate the Grid Connection Corridor to the eastern edge of the field. The results of the ALC survey including the Grid Connection Corridor are detailed within the ALC report presented in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 11.1: ALC survey report [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and illustrated in **ES Volume 2, Figure 11.1: Agricultural Land Classification [EN010149/APP/6.2].**	
Construction	Comment that there is potential for damage and deterioration of high-quality soils through construction activities, including through vehicle movements. Comments that it is possible that this could cause long-term drainage issues on site.	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council	The potential for damage to soils as a result of construction activities and vehicle movements is included in the assessment undertaken in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. There are significant numbers of measures that are defined in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** which will ensure that soil quality and soil structure are protected during all phases of the Proposed Development. These include stripping of topsoil where appropriate, with storage in managed stockpiles for the required timescale, followed by managed reinstatement to preserve soil. The potential for damage to existing drainage regimes is also considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1], and the measures required to be followed by the management plans referenced above will also prevent damage to existing field drainage and prevent compaction of soils (minimising potential subsequent impacts on land drainage).	
Contamination	Comment noting very low risk to controlled waters or widespread contamination being present since the site is identified as Greenfield land. Advice to refer to guidance should any localised or previously unidentified sources of contamination be identified.	Environment Agency	This has been noted. The **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]** incorporate measures to be adopted in the instance of unexpected contamination being encountered, or of contamination events occurring as a result of construction, operation (including maintenance) or decommissioning activities. Engagement has been undertaken with the Environment Agency, and the referenced documents to control or manage contamination sources are included within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13].	
Decommissioning	Comment that consideration should be given to removing underground cabling upon decommissioning so that the land can be cultivated.	Lincolnshire County Council	This has been noted. At decommissioning all below-ground infrastructure, including cabling, within 1m of the ground surface would be removed. This would allow cultivation of land after the Proposed Development has been decommissioned. The reason to leave in situ any infrastructure below 1m is to reduce unnecessary handling of soil (details are provided in the **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]** and **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**).	N
General	Comment that the full ALC report has not been provided as part of the PEIR and therefore comments are relatively high level at this stage.	North Kesteven District Council	The full ALC report is provided as an appendix to the ES (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 11.1A: Springwell Central Agricultural Land Classification, Appendix 11.1B: Springwell East Agricultural Land Classification and Appendix 11.1C: Springwell West Agricultural Land Classification [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) and was provided to North Kesteven District Council following the Phase Two Consultation which informed further engagement. Details of engagement undertaken relating to soils and agricultural land are provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Guidance	Advice that an environmental permit may be required if there is a need for dewatering.	Environment Agency	This has been noted.	N
Impact on soil quality	Comments about the impact of construction on soil, including that soil would be degraded leaving it vulnerable to wind and water erosion and that soil compaction could cause natural tunnels and pores to compress threatening underground habitats and nutrients, leading to desertification.	Land interest	An assessment of potential effects on soil quality has been undertaken as part of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, which has been completed in line with the IEMA Guide: A New Perspective on Land and Soil in Environmental Impact Assessment (2022). Measures to ensure that effects on soils are minimised are provided in the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** which would apply during construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning work. This includes details of methods to maintain and, where possible, improve on quality of soil during the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning stages of the Proposed Development. This includes the methodology for removal and stockpiling of topsoil, with vegetation to be established to prevent erosion or damage to the soil.	N
Impact on soil quality	Comments on impact of solar panels on soil quality, including that	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	The **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** includes details of methods to maintain and, where possible, improve on quality of soil	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	soil husbandry by crop rotation practices to replenish the soil could not take place and that soil would become barren as there would be no direct sunlight or moisture. Other comments suggest that rainwater would be unable to disperse rendering it unsuitable for biodiversity.	Parish Council Land interest	during the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning stages of the Proposed Development. This includes the methodology for removal and stockpiling of topsoil, with vegetation to be established to prevent erosion or damage to stockpiled material. Soil beneath the Solar PV modules would be vegetated to maintain soil quality, and due to the size of the individual panels, it is possible for vegetation to be directly reached by sunlight and precipitation. The overall precipitation received in fields occupied by Solar PV modules would not be affected, and lateral migration of groundwater would allow vegetation to be maintained in a healthy manner. The **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** would ensure that soil beneath and around Solar PV can continue to be used for growing vegetation, and, where appropriate, to support grazing of sheep to help with the maintenance of any vegetation.	
Impact on soil quality	Comment that currently lands are subsoiled to break the pan (consolidation) but during operation the site would become a hard pan as no methods to break up	Land interest	Subsoiling agricultural land is undertaken to remove compaction resulting from field operations using heavy equipment, predominantly tractors. These cultivations break up any compacted layer immediately below the topsoil that may have become a barrier to air, water and plant roots. Once construction of solar infrastructure has been completed, trafficking the soil will be minimal. Any requirement for solar array maintenance, monitoring,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	and aerate the soil to improve natural drainage can take place.		repairs etc. would be undertaken using relatively light weight low ground pressure vehicles only, as detailed in the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**. As no heavy vehicles would traffic over the topsoil during the operation phase of the solar farm, no significant subsoil compaction or 'hard pan' would form. The absence of agricultural land use would minimise the consolidation. Where necessary, it would still be possible to 'break the pan' (for example in the rows between Solar PV, where access for typical agricultural machinery would still be possible), if drainage issues were to occur. After decommissioning of the Proposed Development, standard agricultural methods to break up the soil would be used throughout, and would reverse any temporary negative effects to soil, returning it to its pre-construction condition.	
Land take	Comment that a breakdown of the permanent and temporary land take (and the proportion/amount of BMV land) for each element of the	Natural England	This breakdown is provided at Table 11.12 in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, with the collector compounds, Springwell Substation, BESS and Solar PV development being classified as temporary land take, and the green infrastructure being considered as permanent land take**.** The permanent land take for landscape structural planting affects a total area of 166.2ha, of which 77ha is	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Proposed Development should be provided to ensure the Planning Inspectorate can consider the overall impact of the proposal on soils and agricultural land.		classified as BMV land. This land would not be occupied by permanent hardstanding, buildings or other infrastructure associated with the Proposed Development, but would comprise landscaped areas that are to be incorporated into the Proposed Development in order to provide beneficial attributes in terms of biodiversity mitigation and enhancement. Therefore, although this area of permanent landscaping does result in the lack of availability of a small proportion of agricultural land (and a smaller area of BMV land), this is considered to be offset by the positive impacts associated with the provision of biodiversity mitigation and enhancement areas.	
Location of substation and BESS	Comment that the avoidance of BMV land for the location of the substation and BESS would be preferable and, where this is not possible, justification and rationale should be provided.	Natural England	The Springwell Substation is proposed to be sited on land which is grade 3a (6.9 ha) and grade 3b (8.7 ha). BESS is proposed to be sited on land which is grade 3a (12.6 ha) and grade 3b (0.93 ha). The siting of these facilities has considered multiple factors, such as landscape and visual amenity, noise, distance to the point of connection (the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation) and access requirements as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives Considered [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Details relating to the assessment of impact on soil of grades 3a and 3b is	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, soil and groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1].** See **Section 11.9**.	
Minerals safeguarding	Comment that areas of the site are located within a Minerals Safeguarding Area for limestone and that the Minerals Assessment should assess impact on the MSA, ensuring that the resource is not prejudiced.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant agrees with the Lincolnshire Council County and has discussed the need to undertake a Mineral Safeguarding Assessment during the Planning and Communication programmed fortnightly meetings. **Appendix 2: Mineral Safeguarding Assessment** forms part of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** which has been submitted in support of the DCO. The Applicant agrees with LCC and has engaged on the need to undertake a Mineral Safeguarding Assessment as part of its pre-application engagement with host authorities. **Appendix 2: Mineral Safeguarding Assessment** forms part of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** which has been submitted in support of the Application. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, and due to the Proposed Development being decommissioned at the end of its operational life, any minerals would not be permanently sterilised and would be available to exploit if required at a future date. The minerals within the Order Limits will not be permanently sterilised, and post-decommissioning, the land could be	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			worked for minerals. The Proposed Development is reservable by nature, and therefore there is not considered to be any conflict with the M11 mineral safeguarding policy.	
Mitigation	Comment that there are significant concerns that mitigation proposals for the development of 43% BMV land across the site are poorly developed and have not been adequately justified. Request for further engagement on this matter prior to DCO submission.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has sought to minimise impacts on BMV land and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality. This has influenced both the initial site selection process and the subsequent design of the Proposed Development. Fields comprising of solely Grade 1 or 2 land within the Site would remain available for arable production. Section 8 of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** sets out the Applicant's justification for use of BMV land. Further engagement has been undertaken with NKDC to discuss the ALC survey results and design development and principles which have prioritised the use of non-BMV land where practicable. Further detail on engagement is set out within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, soil and groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Outline Soil Management Plan	Comment welcoming the commitment to produce an outline Soil Management Plan, noting that the oSMP should cover all phases of the Proposed Development as well as the soil resource across the site, including areas not directly disturbed by the development (I.e., ecological enhancement areas) as these could still be impacted.	Natural England	The **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** includes all phases of the Proposed Development and provides detail on each works activity (Solar PV installation, cabling trenching etc.) including areas of mitigation and enhancement which form part of the Proposed Development and how the soil would be managed and reinstated after the works have been completed. These include measures such as soil stripping and storage of soil in designated bunds.	N
Outline Soil Management Plan	Comment that the implications of each element of the Proposed Development on agricultural land quality and soil health may differ which should be	Natural England	Section 3 of the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** provides a breakdown of the key principles for minimising damage to soils applicable to each element of the Proposed Development which include the timing of works and conditions, retaining soil profiles, avoiding compaction, ameliorating compaction & storing soils for re-use. Specific methodologies to be employed during each element of the Proposed	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	accounted for and addressed within the oSMP.		Development in order to minimise and ameliorate soil damage are detailed in sections 4 to 9 of the **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]**.	
Policy	Comment that the Proposed Development does not accord with the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan which emphasises need to safeguard arable land.	Land interest	As part of the planning policy assessment, Table 6: Central Lincolnshire Local Plan, within the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents and a comprehensive assessment. Policy S14: Renewable Energy of the CLLP has been reviewed, and the assessment with respect to soil and use of agricultural land has provided significant discussion of the manner in which BMV land would be protected for the duration of the Proposed Development and reinstated after decommissioning. Further details are provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**.	N
Sheep grazing	Comment that the PEIR has not confirmed whether sheep grazing is proposed within the site during the	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant is proposing for the area beneath the Solar PV development to be converted from arable land to grassland managed through a combination of sheep grazing and/or hay/silage production to maintain the field vegetation during the operational phase of the Proposed Development. Further detail on the operational	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	operational period. Comment that if sheep grazing is proposed, the Applicant should develop mitigation measures that align with BRE *Agricultural Good Practice Guidance for Solar Farms* (2014).		management is detailed and secured within the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. Should sheep grazing be undertaken this will be undertaken taking into consideration the BRE *Agricultural Good Practice Guidance for Solar Farms* (2014).	
Soil management	Comment that there is no obvious commitment to mitigate impacts on soils and agricultural land other than through a Soil Management Plan and the remediation of any physical damage stemming from construction, e.g. in the oLEMP.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant is committed to maintaining soil quality and mitigating any potential impacts on soil, by stripping topsoil, storing soil in managed stockpiles, adhering to soil handling procedures when excavating or trenching and undertaking reinstatement works in line with the procedures. These work elements are all secured by the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7], Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10], Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]** and **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**.	N
Soil management	Comment that the host authorities have	North Kesteven	The Applicant thanks North Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire County Council for the engagement	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	provided a suggested structure for the Soil Management Plan which should be adhered to.	District Council Lincolnshire County Council	undertaken to date and appreciates that they have provided a suggested structure and matters of inclusion in the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**. The Applicant has considered and prepared the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** in accordance with the suggested information requirements and structure, noting that there are some instances where the structure differs slightly from the suggested approach or information has been included as a sub-heading of the works i.e. cabling works, to ensure a consistent approach has been taken throughout the document.	
Soil quality	Comment that it is unclear what impact solar arrays will have on soil properties such as carbon storage, structure and biodiversity (e.g. as a result in changes in shading, temperature, vegetation growth) and therefore on soil health. The Applicant should commit to a programme of soil	Natural England	The Applicant has assessed impacts on soil properties as a result of agricultural use being paused for the duration of the Proposed Development, and other elements varying due to the presence of the Solar PV modules. Based on the proposed and anticipated changes to soil use, overall soil health is expected to improve due to the reduction in agricultural use, providing an opportunity for soil nutrient levels to improve, and less stress on soil physical properties. A programme of monitoring of soil health properties has not currently been incorporated into the mitigation measures for the Proposed Development, however, soil will be managed in accordance with the measures	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	health monitoring for the lifetime of the Proposed Development to support development of the evidence base around long-term impacts to soil health from solar development.		detailed in the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**.	
Use of agricultural land	Comments opposing the use of agricultural land for the Proposed Development, including: • That the Proposed Development could impact on the UK's food security. • That the UK should not take any more land out of production due to the impacts of	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Rowston Parish Meeting, Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence that urgent and unprecedented actions are required on a global scale to halt climate change. A rapid increase in the supply of low carbon electricity is needed for the UK to meet its legally binding climate change targets. Solar generation is a critical part of the UK's strategy to achieve net zero by 2050, a key step towards which is the government's national mission for clean power by 2030. The Applicant undertook a systematic process to determine suitable sites. A range of technical, environmental, and economic factors are considered when investigating and assessing any potential site for large-scale solar developments. A **Site Selection Report** has been prepared and forms **Appendix 1** of the	N

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	climate change on agricultural land. • That more food would be imported causing an increase in food imports, costs, poverty and demand on the NHS. • That land in Lincolnshire should not be used for renewable energy generation due to the quality of the land.		**Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2],** which provides an overview of the site selection process undertaken by the Applicant to identify the location of the Proposed Development. The Site was selected because it presents the physical characteristics which are highly supportive in terms of the ability to deliver a NSIP scale solar development. The Site: • has a grid connection offer which will see energy transported to the national transmission network by 2030 • lies within an area of suitable irradiance and favourable topography • includes a proportion of BMV land which is characteristic of the predominating mix in the general locality and less than the Lincolnshire average • has sufficient land to enable the grid connection offer to be maximised while maintaining sufficient offsets to sensitive residential receptors • is located away from key environmental and cultural heritage related designations	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• is on land which is available and may be voluntarily acquired with a single landowner enabling efficiencies in delivery • is accessible from the road network and has suitable access to land not immediately adjacent the strategic road network. In considering a site that meets these requirements, a range of technical, environmental and economic factors are considered when assessing any potential site for large scale solar developments, including the Application. Food security is not an issue which is raised within the suite of Energy NPSs, the NPPF or Local Development Plan policies whilst it is recognised to be a source of national debate and has been raised in response to consultation. It is, however, referred to in the WMS 2024 which sets out that food security is an important part of our national security. Whilst food security is referenced in the 2024 WMS, nothing in that statement changes existing EN-1 and EN-3 policy with respect to BMV, not does it introduce any additional policy tests or requirements with respect to food security. The existing agricultural land use for the Proposed Development is predominantly for growing a wide range of arable crops for human consumption, animal feed and energy	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			production. Given the absence of any specific policy requirement no further consideration of this matter is provided. Reference is further made to the use of BMV in the 2015 Written Ministerial Statement: Planning Update (WMS 2015). The WMS 2015 is now almost ten years old and pre-dates more recent expressions of Government policy, in particular the 2023 NPSs. The Applicant considers that the demonstration of compliance with the EN-3 tests also satisfies the requirements of the 2015 WMS, albeit the WMS should be given very limited weight. Food production could continue at a lesser scale, in areas of retained agricultural land which are to be used temporarily for the installation of the cable route. The impact on quantities of food produced on a national scale would not be considered to be significant, given the temporary nature of the Proposed Development, and the area of land involved compared to the total area of land in agricultural use in the UK. This was stated to be approximately 17 million hectares in 2023 (National Statistics: Agricultural Land Use in England on 1 June 2023, Defra). Even without further consideration of site specifics, the total Order Limits for the Proposed Development is less than 0.01% of the total UK utilised agricultural area.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Location				
General	Comments that the Proposed Development is inappropriate for the location.	Land interest	The Applicant undertook a systematic process to determine suitable sites. A range of technical, environmental, and economic factors are considered when investigating and assessing any potential site for large-scale solar developments. A **Site Selection Report** has been prepared and forms **Appendix 1** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**, which provides an overview of the site selection process undertaken by the Applicant to identify the location of the Proposed Development. It also describes the evolution of the design of the Proposed Development and the main alternatives considered. In summary, the Site was selected because it presents the physical characteristics which are highly supportive in terms of the ability to deliver a NSIP scale solar development. The Site: • has a grid connection offer which will see energy transported to the national transmission network by 2030 • lies within an area of suitable irradiance and favourable topography	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• includes a proportion of BMV land which is characteristic of the predominating mix in the general locality and less than the Lincolnshire average • has sufficient land to enable the grid connection offer to be maximised while maintaining sufficient offsets to sensitive residential receptors • is located away from key environmental and cultural heritage related designations • is on land which is available and may be voluntarily acquired with a single landowner enabling efficiencies in delivery • is accessible from the road network and has suitable access to land not immediately adjacent the strategic road network.	
Location of collector compounds	Query where Collector Compounds would be located in Springwell Central and Springwell East (not shown in the consultation materials), and what visual effects there would be.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The exact location of the Satellite Collector Compounds in Springwell Central and Springwell East would be identified at the detailed design stage and would be within the spatial parameters set out by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. The visual effects of collector compounds are considered as part of the assessment of landscape and visual effects in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			[EN010149/APP/6.1]. The visual impact of the Satellite Collector Compounds in Springwell Central and Springwell East cannot be disaggregated from the visual effects of other components of the Proposed Development which surround them. The Satellite Collector Compounds in both of these locations would be entirely surrounded by Solar PV and set back from PRoW as shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.1: Zonal Masterplan [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. The maximum height of components within the Satellite Collector Compounds would be 6m as compared to 3m for the solar arrays which surround them. Therefore, there is the possibility that the upper sections of the tallest structures within the Satellite Collector Compounds may be just visible over the solar array when viewed from certain PROWs. The visual effect which can be attributed to the Satellite Collector Compounds over and above that which would arise as a result of the other components of the Proposed Development is considered minor.	
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Confirmation that the Proposed Development is located outside of the consultee's operating area.	Northern Powergrid Southern Gas Networks Plc	This is noted and the Applicant thanks the respondents for confirming that their assets are located outside of the Order Limits.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
		Scotland Gas Networks Plc Colt Technology Services Sky Telecommunications Services		
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Comment that the Applicant needs to consider RAF Digby during the construction phase.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Applicant has engaged with the MoD following Phase Two Consultation. Following discussions, additional technical information has been provided to the MoD for further technical assessment within the technical safeguarding zone. The Applicant has additionally removed five fields proposed for Solar PV development south of RAF Digby following Phase Two Consultation (and therefore would no longer need to be constructed). Following the removal of these areas, the Order Limits were able to be reduced away from the southern perimeter of RAF Digby, though two of the identified	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			fields remain within the Order Limits to facilitate the cable route. The Applicant would minimise impacts to RAF Digby associated with construction through the implementation of an **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. Construction impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Comment that the Applicant needs to consider Oil Transport Line during the construction phase.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The design of the Proposed Development has been informed by stakeholder engagement, technical assessments and advice as detailed within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** The Applicant has consulted with statutory consultees and statutory undertakers, including Exolum Pipeline System Ltd, during the pre-application period which has informed the design of the Proposed Development. Ongoing discussions and agreements in place have been detailed in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Exolum Pipeline System Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.25]**. The Applicant also intends to include protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** in order to ensure appropriate protection for Exolum Pipeline System Ltd assets.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Comment that based on the published information, it is assumed that diversions of Anglian Water assets are not required and their protection including crossings during construction would be secured through inclusion of the AWS Protective Provisions, and steps in the oCEMP. Comment that the Applicant should work with AWS network teams to agree plant and vehicle crossing protection.	Anglian Water Services	The Applicant and Anglian Water Services have engaged extensively throughout the pre-application period to discuss and put in place agreements for all interfaces, including crossings, as detailed in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]**. Details of the construction methodology can be found in the **Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. The Applicant is also engaging with Anglian Water on protective provisions for their apparatus. In any event, the Applicant has included standard water and sewerage protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** submitted with the Application.	N
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Comment requesting confirmation that the grid connection route avoids AWS assets	Anglian Water Services	The Applicant and Anglian Water Services have engaged extensively throughout the pre-application period to discuss and put in place agreements for all interfaces as detailed in the **Draft Statement of**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	including buried pipelines.		**Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]**. Currently, there are no identified interfaces between AWS and the Proposed Development along the Grid Connection Corridor.	
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Comment that archaeological geophysical investigation can identify underground utilities. AWS requests that as part of the detailed design work the geophysical investigations inform site design and layout to avoid underground assets and apply the stand-off distances in the provided Protective Provisions.	Anglian Water Services	The Applicant and Anglian Water Services have engaged extensively throughout the pre-application period to discuss and put in place agreements for all interfaces as detailed in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]**. This includes agreements on future investigations to verify asset locations. The Applicant is engaging with Anglian Water on protective provisions for their apparatus. In any event, the Applicant has included standard water and sewerage protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** submitted with the Application.	N
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Comment that Feeder Main 24 – Hatton to Silk Willoughby is near to the site boundary	National Gas Plc	The Applicant has instigated discussions with National Grid Gas PLC (NGG), who have assessed whether or not the Proposed Development is vulnerable to a possible major accident. The conclusion is that the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	and noting that protective provisions will be required where the Applicant intends to acquire land, extinguish rights of interfere with apparatus and that adequate access is maintained at all times. Request for early consultation on protective provisions.		nearest relevant NGG asset is sufficiently distant from the Proposed Development and therefore this alleviates any concerns from NGT. No further action on this interface is necessary.	
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Request for further consideration of and consultation on NGET assets in proximity to the site boundary, including existing overhead lines, cable apparatus and the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. Regard should be had to NGET guidance on development close to	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc	The Applicant and National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc have ongoing discussions and agreements in place as detailed in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - National Grid Electricity Transmission [EN010149/APP/7.23].** This includes agreements on future investigations to verify asset locations, use of existing and future NGET guidance and feedback into design. The Applicant also intends to include protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** in order to ensure appropriate protection for NGET assets.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	overhead lines and underground cables which are protected by a Deed of Easement/ Wayleave Agreement. This includes advice on maintenance of statutory electrical safety clearances, ground levels, approach to planting, excavation works and drilling.			
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Comment that should the Proposed Development be within proximity to Severn Trent Water assets, advice should be sought on safe working conditions and tree planting.	Severn Trent Water	A desktop study of utilities has been conducted and no Severn Trent Water assets have been identified within the Order Limits. Should the Applicant identify that the Proposed Development is within close proximity to Severn Trent Water assets, the Applicant would engage and seek advice as requested. To date only Anglian Water Services have been identified. Discussions and agreements are in place as detailed in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Comment that the site boundary occupies the statutory technical safeguarding zones that surround RAF Digby and the East 1 Wide Area Multilateration (WAM) Network and statutory aerodrome safeguarding consultation zones, surrounding RAF Cranwell, RAF Waddington, RAF Coningsby and RAF Barkston Heath.	Ministry of Defence	The Applicant accepts the site falls within the MoD referenced zones. The Applicant engaged with the MoD following Phase Two Consultation to supply additional technical information. The Applicant has also amended the layout of the Proposed Development within the technical safeguarding zone in response to feedback from the MoD. The Applicant is not aware of any adverse effect from the Proposed Development in connection with the zones identified but will continue to engage with the MoD in this respect.	Y
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Concern that the Proposed Development could impact the effective operation of the receiver installations at RAF Digby and request that the five blocks of PV array	Ministry of Defence	The Applicant has removed the identified five fields proposed for Solar PV development south of RAF Digby following Phase Two Consultation and in liaison with the MoD. Following the removal of these areas, the Order Limits were able to be reduced away from the southern perimeter of RAF Digby, though two of the identified	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	south of RAF Digby's southern perimeter should be removed from the Proposed Development.		fields remain within the Order Limits to facilitate the cable route.	
Proximity to existing infrastructure	Objection to the Proposed Development due to its close proximity to Exolum apparatus which would restrict access to the pipeline. Development and intrusive activity is prohibited within easement strips (6m) without consent from Exolum. Confirmation that guidance can be provided for entering into a Works Consent and confirm permitted development and intrusive activities. No work with the potential to damage assets	Land interest	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant has continued to engage with Exolum Pipeline System Ltd. A **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Exolum Pipeline System Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.25]** has been submitted as part of the Application. The Applicant recognises the need for the protection of retained apparatus and has included measures to ensure this in the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. The Applicant intends to continue discussions regarding appropriate protections and any impacts to its apparatus and rights, including adequate Protective Provisions. Details of these can be found in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	should be carried out without consultation, even if works are more than 3m away.			
Proximity to public footpaths	Comments that the Proposed Development is too close to public footpaths.	Land interest	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to consider the views and experience of people using the local PRoW network in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This has included discounting Solar PV development from fields within the Order Limits to break up the amount of development along the footpaths, and proposals to create green infrastructure corridors aligned to existing footpaths. The Proposed Development would include a 15m offset from PRoWs to the edge of the Solar PV development with appropriate screening planting to manage the amenity of PRoWs.	Y
Proximity to residential properties	Comments that there are ambitions to redevelop Warren Cottages (s.	Land interest	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and includes the provision of appropriate offsets to local	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Thompson's Bottom, se. of Temple Bruer Church) for residential use and the Applicant should be sensitive to this receptor and respect their amenity.		settlements and dwellings on a case-by-case basis (Principle 1.2). An assessment of potential effects on residential properties is set out within the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. At the time of submitting the Application, no planning application for the redevelopment of Warren Cottages has been registered and therefore it has not been subject to a full Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. Existing hedgerows are present to the south of Warren Cottages that would provide some screening of the Proposed Development. These hedgerows would be managed in accordance with the **oLEMP [EN010149/APP/7.9]** for visual screening and biodiversity benefits for the duration of the Proposed Development. This could include filling in gaps in the hedgerow with new planting and allowing it to grow out more fully.	
Proximity to road network	Comments that the Proposed Development is too	Land interest	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	close to the local road network.		include the consideration of views and the experience of people using the local road network (Principle 1.3). A summary of how the design of the Proposed Development has responded to each of the Project Principles is provided in **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and includes a variety of mitigation measures. This includes the provision of offsets and screening which would be secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** A summary of the mitigation measures proposed for the A15, B1191 and B1188 (the main routes within the Proposed Development) is provided as follows. • Along the A15, Solar PV development would be offset by a minimum of 25m from the road. This would ensure that the proposed built development is not overbearing on the A15 and enable the retention of long-distance views from the road. Gaps in the Solar PV development are proposed to break up the view and experience of the Proposed Development when travelling along the road. This includes no Solar PV development in Field Bcd082, between Fields Bcd106 and Bcd114 and between Fields Bcd107 and Bcd115. Within Field Tb2, the Springwell Substation and BESS compound would be offset by	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			250m from the A15, and an Earth Bund would partially screen the lower lying elements of the compound from the road. New structure planting, in the form of tree belts and hedgerows, would soften views of the Proposed Development from the A15 and screen it in some locations. This would include new hedgerows (or improvements to existing hedgerows where they are present) alongside the A15 for the full length of the road where it passes through Springwell West. • Along the B1191 (Heath Road), extensive blocks of vegetation are proposed where Solar PV development is proposed adjacent to the road. Elsewhere Solar PV development is set well back from either side of the road. • Along the B1181 (Lincoln Road), Solar PV Development would be set well back from the road (approximately 300m) in both Springwell Central and Springwell East and would be screened by existing mature hedgerows for the vast majority of the road. It is assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that there would be some significant visual effects on users of the A15 during construction, operation and decommissioning and on users of the B1191 (Heath Road) during construction	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			only. There would also be some significant visual effects on users of the minor roads leading from the A15 to Temple Bruer and Thompson Bottom Farm. Effects on other roads would not be significant.	
Springwell Substation	Comments objecting to the location of the Springwell Substation, including a suggestion for it to be in a more discrete location within the Proposed Development, or within the grid connection corridor. Other comments queried the rationale for positioning the Springwell substation adjacent to the pylons and battery storage.	Land interest	Following Phase Two Consultation, the location of Springwell Substation was reviewed and revised to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. This resulted in the siting zone for the Springwell Substation and main collector compound being refined to a single field (compared to 3 fields shown at Phase Two). Under the Application, the siting zone for the Springwell Substation and main collector compound is secured by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and is located entirely within Field Tb2 to the north of Springwell West. Locating Springwell Substation close to the BESS in the north-west of the Proposed Development reduces the distance between the Springwell Substation and BESS, and the distance to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. This has benefit in reducing the extent of cabling required and any associated impacts on the local environment. It also has benefit in reducing the electrical transmission losses between these locations.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Environmental appraisals indicated that Field Tb2 would be less visually exposed than central land parcels in Springwell West and would have reduced impacts on users of PRoW, Bloxholm Wood Nature Reserve, and biodiversity compared to southern parcels in Springwell West. Siting of the substation within Field Tb2 allows for landscape and visual mitigation of the Proposed Development from the A15 and surrounding residential receptors. The Springwell Substation and main collector compound would be offset by 250m from the A15 and an Earth Bund which would partially screen the lower lying elements of the compound from the road. New structure planting, in the form of tree belts and hedgerows would support with screening and integration of the substation compound. This would include tree belt planting to the west, south and east of the compound, while existing woodland (Gorse Hill Covert) would provide screening to the north. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** It is acknowledged in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that some	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			adverse effects on landscape and visual amenity would remain even with mitigation in place but this would be the case wherever this infrastructure was located within Order Limits or the wider landscape.	
Need				
Comment	Comment stating that it is important not to be blinded by the Net Zero narrative.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence that urgent and unprecedented actions are required on a global scale to halt climate change. A rapid increase in the supply of low carbon electricity is needed for the UK to meet its legally binding climate change targets. Solar generation is a critical part of the UK's strategy to achieve net zero by 2050, a key step towards which is the government's national mission for clean power by 2030. Solar facilities are already among the cheapest form of electricity generation in the UK and Government forecasts indicate that costs will continue to reduce in the future. By generating low carbon electricity at a low marginal cost, large-scale solar power reduces the energy generated by more expensive and more carbon intensive forms of generation. Solar therefore decarbonises the electricity system and lowers the market price of electricity.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Energy generation	Query about how many megawatts the Proposed Development is expected to generate in light of the updates made to the design.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Applicant has accepted a connection offer from National Grid to connect the Proposed Development to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at the proposed National Grid 400kV Navenby Substation. The grid connection offer is for up to 800MW of capacity. The Applicant is bringing forward a proposal which optimises use of the available grid connection capacity while respecting local environmental constraints. Initial studies suggest that an average annual load factor at the Proposed Development is sufficiently high to support the development of a large-scale ground mounted solar facility at the proposed location. At the detailed design stage, opportunities would be investigated to increase the lifetime generation output of the Proposed Development and the benefits arising from its development, within the parameters of development secured at consent.	N
Energy generation	Comment that the projected number of homes powered is based on best case guesses and aspirations and should not be believed.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The projected number of homes powered (180,000 homes) represents a conservative assessment on the potential output of the Proposed Development. This is based on the maximum feasible export capacity of the Proposed Development (800MW) and the average domestic electricity consumption per home (temperature corrected) per the Energy Consumption in the UK	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			(published September 2021, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables).	
Energy usage	Query what percentage of the energy generated would be made available in the UK.	Land interest	The Applicant is seeking a DCO for a large-scale solar plus battery storage development, connecting to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. All of the energy generated from the Proposed Development would be made available for UK consumption. Market conditions, including local and regional supply and demand, and market prices in the UK and abroad, determine whether the UK imports or exports electricity to neighbouring countries at any particular time. NPS EN-1 (para 3.3.3) states that: *"Demand for electricity is likely to increase significantly over the coming years and could more than double by 2050 as large parts of transport, heating and industry decarbonise by switching from fossil fuels to low carbon electricity"* and this explains why the government seeks to double onshore wind, triple solar power, and quadruple offshore wind by 2030.	N
General comment	Comments supporting renewable energy in principle but not when	Land interest	The NPSs explain that the availability of a grid connection, suitable irradiance levels and local topography are key considerations in the selection of sites suitable for large-scale solar generation developments. The number of locations within the UK at	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	communities are impacted.		which large-scale solar generation is suitable is therefore likely to be limited, and this is a material issue when considering how the UK is to meet the urgent need for low-carbon generation as is set out in the NPSs. The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence on the urgent need for the Proposed Development. The proposed location is a highly suitable location for large-scale solar because of the combination of solar irradiation and suitable land at the site, coupled with an available new grid connection, located and sized to accommodate multiple new schemes. The Applicant is bringing forward a proposal which optimises use of the available grid connection capacity while respecting local environmental constraints.	
Principle of development	Comment that the development of renewable energy and decarbonisation of the UK's grid infrastructure is supported, and that the Proposed Development is in common with Anglian Water's own activities	Anglian Water	The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant is engaging with Anglian Water on protective provisions for their apparatus. In any event, the Applicant has included standard water and sewerage protective provisions in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** submitted with the Application.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	to reduce its environmental impact.			
Noise and vibration				
Approach to assessment	Agreement that further consultation is required to review results of baseline noise monitoring and seek agreement on appropriate design targets at sensitive receptors during the operational phase.	North Kesteven District Council	Appropriate operational design targets were discussed with NKDC's Environmental Health team on 16 January 2024 and are detailed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. These are 40dB $L_{Ar,1hour}$ during the daytime and 35dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$ at neighbouring properties. The Applicant continued to engage with host authorities following Phase Two Consultation. This included confirmation that no further engagement on noise was required and that the Applicant had engaged directly with NKDC's EHO during Phase Two Consultation.	N
Approach to assessment	Agreement that no further surveys are required in relation to baseline measurement for the site and with the locations used, noting there could be potential issues with	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with NKDC on noise matters throughout the pre-application stage. **Table 12.1** within the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** summarises how the Applicant has engaged with NKDC and other consultees to shape the approach to assessment. This includes agreement on operational upper noise thresholds of 40 dB $L_{Ar,1hour}$ during the daytime and 35	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	operational noise from ancillary equipment.		dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$ during the night-time, which are not exceeded at surrounding homes.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that noise modelling and a BS4142 assessment should assist with planning the site layout/mitigation to reduce the likelihood of negative impacts and to inform mitigation.	North Kesteven District Council	Operational noise has been assessed using noise modelling and a BS4142 assessment, presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Results of these assessments have helped to refine the design and layout of the Proposed Development to ensure that surrounding receptors would not be adversely impacted by noise. Surrounding noise sensitive receptors would not be exposed to levels higher than 40dB $L_{Ar,1hour}$ during the daytime and 35dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$ during the night-time. These levels are adhered to through suitable selection of Balance of Solar System equipment, and acoustic barriers around the proposed Springwell Substation and the BESS Compound.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that further work should be completed to assess for negative impacts from construction and decommissioning works with modelling and mitigation	North Kesteven District Council	Construction and vibration impacts (with decommissioning noise expected to be similar to construction impacts) have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Potential noise and vibration impacts during the construction phase have been identified at properties in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	technologies agreed with host authorities.		the vicinity of the Order Limits. Though elevated noise levels associated with construction may be observed for short periods of time, mitigation measures would reduce effects such that these would not be significant, resulting in a minor adverse impact. Construction vibration works are anticipated to be located far away enough from properties (at least 20m), to not cause significant impact. This has been agreed with NKDC's Environmental Health team on 18 September 2024. Should proposed construction methods change, which would be louder than those presented within the noise and vibration chapter, then re-assessment would be undertaken and discussion had with the host authorities.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that a sensitivity has not been assigned to users of PRoWs.	North Kesteven District Council	Sensitivity has not been assigned to users of PRoWs due to their transient nature in comparison to properties located around the Proposed Development. Little guidance is provided for noise assessments of PRoW, and it is considered that noise levels at dwellings is a more suitable and onerous assessment for noise impacts. Noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, which has identified that with	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			embedded mitigation, such as acoustic barriers, no significant adverse impacts are anticipated.	
BESS location	Request that flexibility on the location of the BESS is retained, and the BESS position (and associated noise impact assessment) is not fixed given concern about LVIA implications of locating the BESS in Springwell West.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant is proposing to locate the BESS within Field Tb2. The exact layout of the BESS within Tb2 would be determined as part of the detailed design stage, should the Application be granted consent. This would take into account environmental factors which are presented in the **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]**. The Applicant would continue to engage with the host authorities throughout the detailed design of the Proposed Development. Field Tb2 is considered a suitable location for the BESS due to the distance away from, and relatively low number of, surrounding homes. More detail is available in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
BESS location	Request that the ES should assess alternative options which take account of construction and operational noise and the degree to which compliance with noise	North Kesteven District Council	Options for distributed or consolidated BESS were presented during Phase One Consultation, but exceedances of noise criteria were anticipated at a number of locations. Due to a variety of possible significant impacts including noise, the proposed location of the BESS has been refined to a single field to the north of Springwell West.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	policy and guidance could be achieved, with and without mitigation, in Springwell Central or East.		Construction and operational noise impacts have been assessed in line with a variety of noise policy and guidance documents, as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This sets out the reasonable worst-case scenario effects that are comply with noise policy and guidance once embedded mitigation and additional mitigation is applied.	
Construction noise	Comment that the Applicant needs to consider Heath Farm – Autism Care (UK) during construction phase.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The nearest noise sensitive receptor assessed to Heath Farm in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** is The Lodge (approx. 200m east). No significant noise impacts are anticipated for The Lodge during the construction, operational (including maintenance), and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development. Due to the proximity of The Lodge to Heath Farm, it is considered that the results of the assessment for The Lodge can be applied to Heath Farm. The closest construction activity assessed is the BoSS frame installations, located approximately 200m from The Lodge, which is anticipated to result in a negligible impact. The increased distance between The Lodge and Heath Farm is expected to provide an additional attenuation of around 6dB. As a result, the impact on Heath Farm is anticipated to be lower compared to The Lodge.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Electrical noise emissions	Comment that the Proposed Development could produce electrical noise emissions that might adversely affect the operation of technical installations located at RAF Digby and the East 1 WAM network. Comment that the Applicant should ensure that the Proposed Development is designed, installed, and maintained to prevent detrimental electrical noise emissions.	Ministry of Defence	The Applicant accepts that the Order Limits falls within the MoD technical safeguarding zones, with particular reference to the operation of technical installations located at RAF Digby and the East 1 WAM network. The Applicant has engaged with the MoD throughout the pre-application period. Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant provided additional technical information to the MoD, and following further discussions, amended the Proposed Development in response to MOD specific requests for amendments within the technical safeguarding zone. The Applicant is not aware of any adverse effect from the Proposed Development but will continue to engage with the MoD to understand its requirements. The Applicant does not anticipate any significant adverse EMF effects on any receptors. A high-level electromagnetic assessment has been undertaken and can be found within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.5: High-level Electromagnetic Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The study sets out the proposed siting zone for the cabling and an includes an assessment of EMF for underground cabling and transformer and substations. The assessment recommends a minimum clearance distance of 25m relative to public exposure limits for magnetic and electric fields and concludes that there would be no	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			effects to sensitive receptors. With respect to the MoD specifically, whilst the Applicant is not aware of any adverse effect on the MoD from electrical noise emissions, the Applicant is continuing to work with the MoD in this respect to ensure this is the case.	
General comment - noise	Comments that there would be noise from the Proposed Development which would impact the local area.	Land interest	Noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The assessment of the construction, operational (including maintenance), and decommissioning phases has identified that with additional mitigation, no significant impacts are anticipated.	N
General comment - noise	Comments that noise effects would be exacerbated in the summer when residents would be enjoying time in garden and intervening noise is lower.	Land interest	Noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. More specifically, the operational phase has assessed a reasonable worst-case scenario. For example, the assessment assumes that all plant would operate at 100% capacity for both daytime and night-time. Under this worst-case scenario, with embedded mitigation (e.g. acoustic barriers) no significant impacts are anticipated.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The daytime criteria of 40dB $L_{Ar,1hr}$ free field at building facades is not exceeded at any receptors assessed and considered suitable within gardens.	
Impact on Rowston Top	Comments that noise is amplified at Rowston Top, and this should be investigated further.	Land interest	Noise impacts have been assessed, including at Rowston Top, and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The noise models use digital terrain mapping to model the Proposed Development at the current terrain. Additionally, noise level calculations assess against ISO 9613-2, which assumes the worst-case scenario of wind directions from noise sources to receptors. The operational assessment has identified that with embedded mitigation, such as acoustic barriers, no significant impacts are anticipated at Rowston Top.	N
Impact on Toll Bar Cottage	Comments expressing concern about noise pollution from battery storage on Toll Bar Cottage.	Land interest	Noise impacts have been assessed at Toll Bar Cottages, with reasonable worst-case scenario impacts detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The most onerous operational noise criterion is night-time, 35dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$, including the BESS and all plant operating at 100% capacity. This is not exceeded at Toll Bar Cottages.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Inverters	Concern about noise from the inverters (audible noise being above 40dB at 800m distance) and request for this to be addressed and mitigated as part of the DCO application.	Land interest	No exceedance of the night-time operational noise criteria of 35 dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$ (considered to be the most onerous criteria) is reported within the noise assessment detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The noise assessment considers all equipment, including the BoSS, BESS, and Springwell Substation operating at 100% capacity, and downwind propagation from source to receiver for all equipment (considered to be worst-case propagation). Embedded mitigation is discussed within the chapter, as well as specification of specific solar fields only having string inverters, as noise levels from string inverters is slightly quieter than from central inverters, to not exceed the operational night-time criteria.	N
Inverters	Comment that inverters can overheat in extremely hot weather which would require the use of noisy fans.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Noise impacts have been assessed, presenting reasonable worst-case scenario impacts, and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The most onerous Operational noise criterion (night-time, 35dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$), which is not exceeded at noise sensitive receptors assessed, and accounts for all plant operating at 100% capacity, such as inverter cooling fans operating.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Mitigation	Query about how noise and vibration would be mitigated.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Noise and vibration impacts are mitigated through a variety of measures which are discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The Applicant has embedded mitigation measures within the design of the Proposed Development, including acoustic barriers around the substation transformers and BESS compound during operation. Additional mitigation measures are also proposed to reduce noise effects. For example, during the construction phase, the Applicant would employ a hierarchy of reverse sounds for vehicles, and quieter forms of pilling closer to surrounding homes to help reduce noise levels. Vibration impacts are not anticipated to be significant and have not been assessed in detail, due to the distance between the Proposed Development and receptors.	N
Operation				
Lifespan	Comment that no specific time limit is referenced in the PEIR, and it is expected that a time limit to be included	Natural England	The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, which is to be controlled by Requirement 19, Schedule 2 in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	within the DCO Application.			
Lifespan	Comment that 40 years cannot be viewed as temporary.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The Applicant is seeking time limited consent for the Proposed Development. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, and the land within the Order Limit would be returned to the Landowner, expected to return to agricultural use.	N
Maintenance activity	Comment that the impact of maintenance activities during operation should be assessed, stating within the DCO any allowances or flexibility sought to enable maintenance and component replacements to be carried out, mindful that the Applicant may wish to upgrade panels to reflect latest technologies and	North Kesteven District Council	During the operational (including maintenance) phase of the Proposed Development, on-site activities would include routine servicing, maintenance, and replacement of solar or BESS equipment as and when required, as well as solar panel cleaning and vegetation management. The Applicant proposes to have permanent onsite personnel to manage and maintain the Proposed Development in a safe and responsible manner. This includes maintenance personnel to actively monitor operations to ensure: • safe and secure operation of the Proposed Development	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	designs during operation.		• delivery of the Proposed Development's environmental policy • any necessary environmental issues and control measures are in place, they are effectively communicated, appropriate and implemented on site. • good practice is being followed to minimise impact on the environment. • regular site inspections, maintaining a record of environmental monitoring and performance and then reporting on performance. • appropriate liaison with the local authorities, other statutory bodies and members of the public • solar PV, BESS and all supporting infrastructure are operating optimally • assets are maintained and replaced as required to support safe and optimal e.g. solar PV panel cleaning or end of life replacement The Applicant's proposed approach to the long-term management of the Proposed Development during operation is further set out in the **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3:**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1].	
Policy				
Local planning policy	Comment that the Proposed Development has been designed to bypass the local planning process to be decided by people with no connection or understanding of the area as it contradicts local planning policy.	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The Proposed Development is classified as a NSIP as it has a proposed generating capacity of over 50MW. As an NSIP, the Applicant must apply for a DCO and the decision maker for this Application is the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. NPS EN-1, NPS EN-3, and NPS EN-5 provide the primary policy basis for deciding the DCO Application. Paragraphs 4.1.12 – 15 of NPS EN-1 confirm that the SoS may consider development plan documents both important and relevant to their decision-making. This notwithstanding, NPS EN-1 confirms that the NPSs constitute the primary policy documents and would take precedence in the event of a conflict between the NPSs and other matters, given the national significance of the infrastructure. The Applicant has conducted an iterative programme of consultation and engagement to inform the design of the Proposed Development. This includes seeking the views of local people and host authorities as part of formal consultation on the Proposed Development, as	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			described in the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**. As part of the examination process, Local Impact Report(s) prepared by the host and neighbouring authorities would typically be informed by the relevant local planning policy context.	
Local policy	Comment drawing the Applicant's attention to the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (2016).	Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant has undertaken a Mineral Safeguarding Assessment which is set out in **Appendix 2** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation. Any impacts caused by the Proposed Development related to land use are considered reversible and temporary. The minerals within the Order Limits would not be permanently sterilised, and post-decommissioning, the land could be worked for minerals.	N
Local policy	Comment that while it does not form part of the Development Plan for the area (and this should be referenced in the Application), the	Lincolnshire County Council	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 1: Background and Context [EN010149/APP/6.1]** outlines relevant local planning policies within the adopted local development plans for each of the host planning authorities (NKDC and LCC) that have been considered as part of the assessment.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	consideration of other Council policies such as the Green Masterplan, Flood Risk and Water Management Strategy and Local Transport Plan is welcomed.		**Appendix 3: Policy Compliance Assessment Tables** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents and a comprehensive assessment.	
Local policy	Comment drawing the Applicant's attention to the Council's Energy Infrastructure Position Statement (December 2023) which seeks to protect high quality agricultural land from development.	Lincolnshire County Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The Applicant notes the Council's position in regard to BMV land and reiterates its general approach to limiting the use of BMV in line with its Project Principles (set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**). However, the Council's position is not consistent with the policy set out in the suite of Energy National Policy Statements with which the Proposed Development is required to be determined in accordance. Of particular importance in this regard are the following paragraphs in EN-3: Paragraph 2.10.29 which sets out a preference for the use of non-agricultural and lower grade agricultural land but states that "*land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of site locations*". Paragraph 2.10.30 which advises that "*the development of ground mounted solar arrays is not prohibited on Best and Most Versatile agricultural land*", and.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Paragraph 2.10.31 which states that it is "*recognised that at this scale, it is likely that applicants' developments will use some agricultural land*". These provisions are set in the context of the Applicant being required to robustly justify the use of agricultural land but clearly do not prohibit its use, which is contrary to LCC's Energy Infrastructure Position Statement. **Appendix 3: Policy Compliance Assessment Tables** within the Planning Statement **[EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents.	
Local policy	The Applicant should note the specific local plan policy on habitats of principal importance i.e. Policy S60 (part two).	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	As part of the planning policy assessment, Policy S60: Protecting Biodiversity and Geodiversity has been included within Table 6 of **Appendix 3: Policy Compliance Assessment Tables** which forms part of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**. This Appendix provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents.	N
National policy	Comment that the updated NPSs should be utilised by the Applicant in preparing the DCO Application and by the Secretary	North Kesteven District Council	The comments received in respect of legislation and planning policy have been addressed through the inclusion of policies highlighted, and through the provision of additional detail relating to the issues raised in the ES. For more information, please see the **ES**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	of State in determining it.		**Volume 1, Chapter 2: Location of the Proposed Development [EN010149/APP/6.1].** **Appendix 3: Policy Compliance Assessment Tables** within the Planning Statement **[EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents. This includes the draft amendments to NPPF (2024).	
National policy	Comment that the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is relevant national policy, and the Applicant should reference the last version in preparing the Application. This includes discussion of para. 181/footnote 62 with reference to the use of land for food production.	North Kesteven District Council, Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant has considered the most recent policies of the NPPF in the preparation of the Application. **Appendix 3: Policy Compliance Assessment Table** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents. Table 4 provides an assessment of both the current and consulted NPPF.	N
Neighbourhood Plan	Comment stating that the Proposed Development is not compliant with the	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	While the primary basis for making decisions on applications for development consent is the relevant NPSs, other matters that the SoS may consider important and relevant in decision making may	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan.	Parish Council	include the Neighbourhood Plan of the host local authorities. The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence on the urgent need for the Proposed Development. The proposed location for is a highly suitable location for large-scale solar because of the attractive combination of solar irradiation and suitable land at the site, coupled with an available new grid connection, located and sized to accommodate multiple new schemes. The Applicant is bringing forward a proposal which optimises use of the available grid connection capacity while respecting local environmental constraints. **Appendix 3: Policy Compliance Assessment Table** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents. This includes consideration of the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan.	
Population				
Approach to assessment	Request that the ES includes a freestanding chapter on socio-economic effects. Comment that the	North Kesteven District Council	In the EIA Regulations, the title of the environmental factor is 'population.' Population in this sense refers to the potential impacts on the population which primarily relate to socio economic change. Therefore, whilst the chapter title is	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	chapter should contain the content recommended by NKDC in its response to EIA Scoping.	Lincolnshire County Council UK Health Security Agency	not 'Socio Economics', the potential for effects relating to socio economics has been assessed in full within this chapter. This chapter assesses the potential significance of effects relating to employment, gross value added, uptake in occupancy rates in local hospitality, and agricultural land holdings (see **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**). An assessment of the cumulative loss of best and most versatile land associated with other proposed solar NSIPs within the county of Lincolnshire is included in **Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1**]. The scope of the assessment is in accordance with comments from NKDC included in the Scoping Opinion (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**). No significant effects have been identified within the relevant assessments on the topics recommended by NKDC.	
Approach to communities	Comments that the Applicant has a disregard for the community.	Land interest	While the PA 2008 requires pre-application consultation, the Applicant viewed gathering feedback from the local community as critical to developing its proposals for the Proposed Development. The Applicant has had regard to all comments received through pre-application consultation and ongoing meetings and feedback from consultees. This is demonstrated and reported in the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]. The evolution of the design of the Proposed Development, including how feedback has helped to shape the proposals is summarised in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. The Applicant intends to promote economic benefits for the community through the activities set out in the **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20].** The plan describes activities that would promote access to employment, upskilling and re-skilling opportunities for local people. These could include work experience placements, access to jobs, and joint Apprenticeships across industry partners. The Plan also includes provision for working with schools to promote career opportunities available to young people within renewable industries, including, importantly, those available local to their place or residence. This would support the objective, shared by regional and local stakeholders, to encourage young people to invest their careers and futures within Lincolnshire rather than seek opportunities in other parts of the UK. The Applicant is proposing to enhance approximately 2km of existing PRoW and provide approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and 8.58km of permissive	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			paths to improve connectivity within the area and around the Order Limits. These are secured by the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. A new community growing area of up to approx. 2ha is proposed to the north of Scopwick in response to stakeholder feedback, adjacent to existing community facilities along Vicarage Lane. This would be available to the public and could include areas for growing of fruit, vegetables and wild foraging. More detail is available in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. In addition, the Applicant is proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The Applicant held initial discussions with the Lincolnshire Community Foundation as outlined in **Appendix B-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	
Employment	Comment that information on the number of agricultural jobs lost and total net employment should be developed as part of the DCO Application. Other comments state that the loss of agricultural operations should be assessed in light of changes to the NPPF with regard to food production.	Lincolnshire County Council North Kesteven District Council Land interest	An assessment of employment including agricultural jobs and agricultural land holdings is addressed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. There are currently two agricultural operations occurring within the study area. During the construction and operational phases, these current operations would be moved to nearby agricultural fields and therefore there would be no net agricultural job losses. There would be no significant effects on agricultural land holdings and the agricultural economy as a result of the Proposed Development. More broadly, the Proposed Development represents 0.3% of the agricultural land available in Lincolnshire. The chapter concludes that there would be no significant impacts to agricultural land holdings and the agricultural economy as a result of the Proposed Development. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]** assesses cumulative impacts of	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land in Lincolnshire. Lincolnshire has a higher-than-average provision of best and most versatile land in England and therefore due to the small amount that would be lost as a result of the Proposed Development, it is concluded that the cumulative impact on agricultural land is minimal and not significant. **Appendix 3** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** sets out the Applicant's response to relevant policy, including draft amendments to the NPPF (2024).	
General comment	Comments that the area has been targeted because it is an area of low population.	Land interest	Population density was not a consideration as part of the Applicant's site selection process. The Applicant's site selection criteria are set out in Section 3 of **Appendix 1: Site Selection Report** to the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**. These criteria were designed to help the Applicant find a site which avoided key sensitive receptors. The nature of the requirements of NSIP scale solar development is that it is often suited to locations where there is less population. Where the Proposed Development is in proximity to residential receptors, it has sought to address potential impacts through good design. These design responses are set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The Applicant has also sought feedback from the local community through a multi-phase consultation process on the Proposed Development. This has included two formal phases of consultation and a targeted consultation, alongside a continuous programme of stakeholder and community engagement. The Applicant has had regard to all comments received through pre-application consultation and engagement. This is demonstrated and reported in the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**. The evolution of the design of the Proposed Development, including how feedback has helped to shape the proposals is summarised in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
Impact on local businesses	Comment that there would be a negative impact on local businesses during construction and operation which has not been considered. Specific concerns include: • Impact on the appeal of holiday lets	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Land interest	Potential impacts on businesses as a result of the Proposed Development were scoped out of the EIA. This approach was verified by PINS in its Scoping Opinion (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**). • Impacts to businesses are indirectly assessed through the consideration of agricultural land holdings, occupancy and tourism as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. No significant effects on the occupancy rates of local accommodation providers during the construction or operational phases of the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Impact on businesses (tourism and hospitality) that thrive on easy access to local walks and open countryside • Impact on equestrian businesses due to noise sensitive horses. • Impact on local agricultural businesses.		Proposed Development are expected, and therefore no impact on hospitality and tourist businesses is anticipated. • The Population chapter acknowledges that there could be a reduction in the use of PRoW network and the Stepping Out Network during the construction phase due to visual impacts associated with construction and project infrastructure. However, as these footpaths form part of a wider connected network, alternative paths could continue to be used and therefore there would be no impacts on businesses that rely on tourism. • The type of noise associated with the Proposed Development is relatively consistent and steady, which is considered to not spook horses, compared to noise which is impulsive or intermittent. There is little guidance on assessing noise levels to horses, although “Protecting horses from excessive music noise – a case study” by Cornelius (Neil) Huybregts, Marshall Day Acoustics Pty Ltd, recommends levels not to exceed 65 dB LAeq, which is significantly higher than the operational noise levels reported at residential receptors and the adopted criteria of 40 dB LAr,1hour daytime and 35dB LAr,15minute night-time which is secured in Requirement 15 of the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**. An assessment on	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			operational noise is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** at residential receptors in the vicinity of the Order Limits. The assessment confirms that there would be no significant noise effects during construction, operation and decommissioning. Best practice measures such as fitting vehicles with noise reduction modifications, erection of temporary hoardings to screen activities close to receptors are detailed and secured in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]**. • There would be no significant adverse effects on agricultural operations or land holdings as a result of the Proposed Development. There are two agricultural operations within the study area. Engagement with the agricultural operators has confirmed that during the operational period the employment supported by the agricultural activities within the Site would continue and be redistributed on the operator's other sites nearby. The temporary	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			reduction of agricultural land would not result in the net loss of employment.	
Impact on local economy	Comment that there would be limited increase to / negative impact on the local economy during construction and decommissioning and any economic benefits have not been proven. Request for more information about local economic benefits.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	During the construction phase, a gross peak number of 650 construction staff could be onsite at one time. It is expected that the workforce would spend in the local economy which would help sustain to jobs across various sectors during the construction phase. Based on the average Gross Value Added per construction worker of £67,823, it is estimated the gross value added during the construction phase of the Proposed Development would equal around £27.1 million per year of construction. The decommissioning phase is anticipated to give rise to similar effects as those experienced during the construction phase. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]** presents a full analysis of Gross Value Added to the local economy as a result of the Proposed Development. The Applicant has also prepared an **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** which sets out how the Applicant would promote employment and skills opportunities for local people and opportunities for businesses to engage	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			in the supply chain, which could result in economic benefits for the local and wider community. These could include work experience placements, access to jobs - from entry-level to skilled positions - and joint Apprenticeships across industry partners. Training and upskilling opportunities would be provided both for new entrants to the construction and renewable industry sectors and those seeking in-work progression. The Plan includes provision not only for opening up access to employment and skills opportunities as part of the Proposed Development, but also within the Applicant organisations, including Apprenticeships and Graduate Entry positions. The Plan suggests that a process could be introduced whereby residents closest to the site are targeted, as a priority, for proactive awareness raising and recruitment drives. The Plan includes provision for working with schools to promote the career opportunities available to young people within renewable industries, including, importantly, those available local to their place or residence. This would support the objective, shared by regional and local stakeholders, to encourage young people to invest their careers and futures within Lincolnshire rather than seek opportunities in other parts of the UK.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Impact on residents	Comments that the Proposed Development would negatively impact local residents, including that it would ruin community spirit, that it would change the dynamics of the local community due to new residents in the area, that it is forcing people out of the area, that it would affect people's enjoyment of the countryside, and it would spoil the peace of the area. Query what plans are in place to support affected communities.	Land interest	• During the construction phase of the Proposed Development, it is not expected there would be a long-term change in the population level in the local area. There could be a requirement to procure some construction and/or operational staff from beyond the local area. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]** states that approximately 6% of construction staff (equivalent to 39 people) are anticipated to be from beyond a commutable distance and thus would need stay in temporary accommodation whilst working on site. The assessment concludes that there would be no significant effects, and it is anticipated that the local community would largely remain as it is currently. In addition, there may be economic benefits associated with the increased use of hospitality venues such as cafes and hotels, by non-local construction staff, especially during winter months when tourism levels are reduced. • The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local environment and reduce potential impacts in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** For example, the Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Development to maintain the rural separation between local villages, incorporating amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV Development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings. As a result of the design changes that have been incorporated into the Proposed Development **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** concludes that the development would not impact the character of local villages and would not be visible from any locations within them except for potentially glimpsed views from RAF Digby. • An **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** has been submitted as part of the Application sets out how the Applicant would promote opportunities to generate potential economic benefits for local communities and business. The Plan suggests that a process could be introduced whereby residents closest to the Order Limits are targeted, as a priority, for proactive awareness raising and recruitment drives, with the objective of creating as many employment and skills opportunities as possible for people close to their home. The Plan also includes provision for working with schools to promote the career opportunities available to young people within renewable	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			industries, including, importantly, those available local to their place or residence. This would support the objective, shared by regional and local stakeholders, to encourage young people to invest their careers and futures within Lincolnshire rather than seek opportunities in other parts of the UK. The Plan would, therefore, be an important mechanism for contributing to building and maintaining strong, sustainable, healthy local communities. • The Applicant has engaged with the agricultural operators which confirmed that employment supported by the agricultural activities within the Site would continue and be redistributed on the operator's other sites nearby. Therefore, the temporary reduction of agricultural land would not result in the net loss of employment in the local area.	
Impact on residents	Comments that the Proposed Development would reduce enjoyment of properties as rural aspects would be compromised by the Proposed Development.	Land interest	It is acknowledged that there would be some significant visual effects at a number of properties located close to the Order Limits. The impact of the Proposed Development on residential visual amenity has been assessed for individual properties in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The Applicant considers that appropriate buffers have been proposed around these residential properties such	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			that the Proposed Development would not have an overbearing impact on views. Each property has been considered on an individual basis and buffers/mitigation have been proposed that are specifically tailored to the individual circumstances of the property.	
Impact on Toll Bar Cottage	Comment that the scale of the Proposed Development would consume living, working and social lives of residents at Toll Bar Cottage due to the proximity to residential property and business.	Land interest	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant continued to refine the design of the Proposed Development in order to reduce potential effects on nearby properties. With reference to Toll Bar Cottage, the following changes have been made to the design of the Proposed Development since Phase Two Consultation which would reduce potential effects experienced at this property: • The Primary Construction Compound to the west of the A15 has been reduced in size to reduce potential impacts on residential properties and users of the A15. This has been achieved by discounting the compound from land adjacent to New England Lane (Field Tb1) and land opposite Toll Bar Cottage (Field Bcd082). As a result, the compound would be located approximately 250m further away from Toll Bar Cottage.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			• Construction access on the road between the A15 and Thompson's Bottom that was approximately 450m from Toll Bar Cottages is now approximately 800m away. • The location of the cable corridor to the north of Toll Bar Cottage has been revised to move the corridor approximately 60m further away from this property. This has been achieved by removing an area of land to the north of Toll Bar Cottage from the Order Limits and would be secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. • An additional field proposed for solar PV development has been omitted from the Proposed Development directly to the west of Toll Bar Cottage. • The siting area for the BESS and Springwell Substation has been refined to mitigate potential impacts and increase the distance between these elements of the Proposed Development and Toll Bar Cottage. An earth bund is proposed to reduce the potential scale of impact and minimise visual impacts • New hedgerow planting has been proposed to the east of Toll Bar Cottage, along the western boundary of Field Bcd093, to screen views of Solar PV development.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			An assessment of potential effects on residential properties is set out within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. With specific reference to Toll Bar Cottage, there would be a major/moderate (significant) effect on visual amenity in year 1 reducing to moderate (not significant) at year 10.	
Property market	Comments that the Proposed Development would negatively impact on the local property market. Comments include loss of property value and reduction in the saleability/appeal of properties. Other comments suggest that there has already been an impact with an increase in local properties up for sale	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Rowston Parish Meeting Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Land interest	Published research and evidence to date in consideration of property values and large-scale solar development has not provided any conclusive evidence that large-scale solar development negatively affects the property market. The Applicant has sought to minimise likely significant effects, in particular visual effects and impacts to residential amenity in relation to properties in closest proximity to or within the Proposed Development. The approach to limiting visual effects is reported in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. An assessment of potential effects on residential properties is set out within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and summarised in **ES Volume 1,**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	since the Proposed Development was launched and reductions in value/loss of sales reported by residents. Request that the Applicant provides a plan to compensate homeowners should the value of properties in the area be adversely affected.		**Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. A compensation plan is not proposed, however the Applicant has sought to limit impacts on properties close to the Proposed Development. More information about how the Proposed Development has been designed to limit visual effects can be found in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. Should any parties believe that their property has decreased in value as a direct result of the physical impacts from the operation of the Proposed Development such as noise and vibration, they may be eligible to claim for compensation under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973. Compensation is not payable for loss of value as a result of diminished a view/visual amenity related impact.	
Property value	Comments that the Applicant may have access to resources which suggest property values/ attractiveness is not diminished by developments of this nature but the overwhelming nature of the Proposed	Land interest	Published research and evidence to date in consideration of property values and large-scale solar development has not provided any conclusive evidence that large-scale solar development negatively affects the property market. The Applicant has sought to minimise likely significant effects, in particular visual effects and impacts to residential amenity in relation to properties in closest proximity to or within the Proposed Development. The	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Development in relation to some properties in the area is exceptional.		approach to limiting visual effects is reported in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. An assessment of potential effects on residential properties is set out within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Socioeconomic benefit	Comment that education, skills and supply chain are mentioned in consultation materials and information on these points should be developed in more detail as part of the DCO application.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant has submitted an **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** as part of the Application. The Outline Plan includes: • A summary of the socio-economic baseline analysis and local policy context that has informed the Plan. • The underpinning conditions required to successfully promote economic benefits. • A set of core objectives, which would form the basis for marshalling collective action by the Applicant, its Tier 1 contractors and regional stakeholders with a role in promoting access to employment, workforce development and business prosperity. • Key stakeholders that the Applicant would need to collaborate with to successfully promote opportunities	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			and translate these into employment, skills and business benefits. • A suite of actions, which the Applicant would drive forward, in collaboration with partner stakeholders; and • How the Applicant would engage with stakeholders to produce a final Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan if the DCO is granted and deliver and monitor the activities set out within the Plan.	
Public Rights of Way and permissive footpaths				
Active travel	Comment stating that on the basis of the information available, Active Travel England is content with the Proposed Development.	Active Travel England	This has been noted. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to create an enhanced and better-connected footpath and cycle network which would promote Active Travel. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths, as shown on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Plan [EN010149/APP/6.2].** The Proposed Development would also include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of the PRoW to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather'	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users. The surface enhancements would be secured via the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**.	
Approach to assessment	Comment that the PEIR does not identify PRoWs as being sensitive receptor locations and this is assumed that this is due to surveys continuing. Recommendation that the 'Stepping Out' and 'Spires and Steeples' walking routes are assigned greater sensitivity than other PROWs for assessment purposes given their local importance.	North Kesteven District Council	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** includes assessment of PRoW. Sensitivity of these routes is assigned as 'low', unless it is considered a popular recreational route (such as the Spires and Steeples Trail). It is considered that any potential adverse impacts during construction could be managed via crossing points or temporary closures as outlined in the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**.	N
Approach to assessment	Comment noting that the ES will include an assessment of	North Kesteven	An assessment of pedestrian amenity is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	pedestrian amenity taking into account any diversions that may increase journey times.	District Council	**[EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This includes assessment of temporary diversions to limit increases to journey times. The Applicant has produced an **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** which sets out how the Applicant is proposing to manage PRoW and permissive pathways to ensure they are safe and accessible throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. Any diversion requirements would be outlined at detailed design, in line with the potential routes identified within the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**. The Applicant has engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW officers on requirements for PRoW crossings and temporary closures during construction and potential diversion options in Springwell East.	
Enhancement	Comment that the Applicant should investigate how it can deliver or accommodate elements of the Scopwick/ Kirkby Green to Metheringham Railway	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant has considered relevant policies within Appendix A of the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan as part of the design of the Proposed Development. In line with the objectives in the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan, the Proposed Development would include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Station Community Project detailed in Appendix A of the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan.		2,090m). This would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of the trail to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users as secured by **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**, improving access in a north south alignment for non-motorised user travel towards Metheringham. These proposed upgrades include sections of the proposed route(s) detailed in Appendix A of the Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan. This is outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]**	
Enjoyment of footpaths	Comment that the Proposed Development would reduce use and enjoyment of public footpaths / bridleways as people use them to be in the countryside, irrespective of the new routes provided. Specific comments raised that the aesthetics of Gorse Hill	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network, including the three routes identified, and protect the cultural heritage of the landscape in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes developing the design to retain all PRoW in their existing alignment during operation (Principle 5.1); protecting the amenity of the Spires and Steeples Trail (Principle 5.2); considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3); conserving the significance of heritage assets (Principle 2.4); and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Lane, Bloxholm Wood and the Spires and Steeples Trail should not be impacted by the Proposed Development.		Protect the setting of the Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Area (Principle 2.5). This includes discounting Solar PV development from fields within the Order Limits to break up the amount of development along the footpaths, and proposals to create green infrastructure corridors aligned to existing footpaths. The exclusions of fields from Solar PV development are secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be offset at least 15m from either side of existing and proposed statutory PRoW. In addition to this, Independent Outdoor Equipment (transformer, switchgear and central inverters) and ITS would be offset at least 50m from all existing and proposed statutory PRoW. Both of these offsets would be secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**. New planting, in the form of hedgerows and tree belts, would provide screening and integration of the Proposed Development where it is located close to PRoW. The location of new planting is secured in **Appendix 1**, of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** and includes approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Examples of where new planting has been used to screen views from PRoW include new hedgerow planting along the Spires and Steeples Trail and other PRoW in Springwell East. As a result of the mitigation measures summarised above the level of visual change for PRoW users would be reduced and would ensure that PRoWs can continue to be used in the same manner as pre-development of the Site. Further details on the operational design of the Proposed Development and how it has responded to the each of the Project Principles is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. The LVIA presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** includes an assessment of impacts to visual amenity of PRoW as a rest of the Proposed Development. The assessment of potential impacts to recreation associated with walkers, cyclists and horse riders has been assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The Applicant has also sought to create an enhanced and better-connected footpath and cycle network. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths, which are secured by the **Streets, Rights of Way and**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]. The Proposed Development would also include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of the PRoW to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users. The surface enhancements would be secured via the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**.	
Existing footpaths	Comments on the existing footpath network, including that the footpath network should be left as it is, that all permissive footpaths should be retained, and welcoming the retention of all Public Rights of Way during operation.	Natural England Land interest Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	All existing permissive pathways and PRoW would be retained during the operation of the Proposed Development. In addition, the Applicant has developed the design on the Proposed Development to create an enhanced and better-connected footpath and cycle network. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths. These are secured by the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. Alongside providing new routes, the Proposed Development would include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			the trail to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users as secured by **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**. All paths would be managed in accordance with the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** and include waymarking and signage in accordance with the **oLEMP [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. During the construction phase there may be a requirement to temporarily close PRoW for a duration of up to six months. Any closure or diversion requirements would be outlined at detailed design, in line with the potential routes identified within the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**. The Applicant has engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW officers on requirements for PRoW crossings and temporary closures during construction and potential diversion options in Springwell East.	
Existing footpaths	Comment that consideration should be given to closures/ diversions of PRoW during construction	Natural England	During the construction phase there may be a requirement to temporarily close PRoW for a duration of up to six months. Any closure or diversion requirements would be outlined at detailed design, in line with the potential routes identified within the **Outline Public**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	and decommissioning as there may be opportunity to develop increased understanding of, or association with, the Proposed Development where routes with visual access into the site are retained so users are able to see the progress of the Proposed Development.		**Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**. The Applicant has engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW officers on requirements for PRoW crossings and temporary closures during construction and potential diversion options in Springwell East. In some areas it may be possible for PRoW users to view the progression of the Proposed Development during the construction phase. For example, where PRoW remain open adjacent to the Proposed Development, or at crossing points controlled by bankspersons. However, as set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** the Applicant has generally sought to reduce visibility of the Proposed Development from PRoW.	
General	Comment that proposed footpaths within the Proposed Development being able to link different settlements together serves to highlight the vast scale of the Proposed	Ashby de la Launde Parish Council	The **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** and **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** set out the rationale for the Proposed Development including its size and location. The Proposed Development has sought to make the most efficient use of land reflective of the grid connection capacity secured and the urgent need to for renewable, clean energy. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Development and enclosure of villages.		PRoW network and protect the cultural heritage of the landscape in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes developing the design to retain all PRoW in their existing alignment during operation (Principle 5.1); considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3); and maintaining the rural separation between the villages of Ashby de la Launde, RAF Digby, Scopwick, Kirkby Green and Blankney (Principle 2.3). Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development was reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of environmental assessment. This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings and to provide a sensitive response to sequential views and the experience of people using the PRoW network between settlements. This has included additional offsets to Scopwick, Blankney, Ashby de la Launde and RAF Digby which would be secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			As a result of the design changes that have been incorporated into the Proposed Development **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** concludes that the development would not impact the character of local villages and would not be visible from any locations within them except for potentially glimpsed views from RAF Digby. Along the B1191 (Heath Road) and B1181 (Lincoln Road) Solar PV development would generally be set well back or screened by existing vegetation and new planting. Along local footpaths, offsets and new hedgerows would help to screen and integrate the Proposed Development with the rural landscape Opportunities to improve connectivity between local settlements are set out under Project Principle 5.4 and have included extending the Order Limits to provide specific enhancements arising from consultation feedback. For example, extending the Order Limits in Springwell West to provide a link between Bloxholm Wood and Brauncewell Medieval Village, or in Springwell East to enhance the PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney. More information is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
General	Comment supporting the potential to	Natural England	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to enhance the local footpath and cycle	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	improve Public Rights of Way and footpaths, including: • Adding interpretation at points of interest along walking routes (including interpretation of the Proposed Development) • Improvement of mapping and waymarked routes • Improvement of associated infrastructure		network in accordance with the Project Principle 5.4, as set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** New PRoW and permissive paths would be secured by the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]** and have been developed in liaison with the Local Highway Authority and PRoW officers. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths. The new routes are located across the Order Limits and include provision of a new off-road link between RAF Digby and Scopwick. In addition to the creation of the new routes identified above, the Proposed Development would include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of the PRoW to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users. The surface enhancements would be secured via the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]** and all paths would be managed in accordance with the **Outline Public Rights of Way and**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]. The Proposed Development would also provide waymarking, signage and interpretation along the existing and proposed network of footpaths within the Order Limits. This would be secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** and agreed in consultation with the Community Liaison Group. It would include the provision of informal, low-key interpretation boards at appropriate, strategic points across the Order Limits that would allow the local community to learn and engage with nature. Information will also be provided on the solar farm, climate change, local history and ecology and the benefits of renewable energy.	
Maintenance	Query if the Applicant would maintain the cycleways and footpaths and if so, whether a budget would be set aside for this.	Land interest	New PRoW and permissive paths would be secured by the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]** and have been developed in liaison with the Local Highway Authority and Public Right of Way Officers. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths. The Proposed Development would also include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of the PRoW to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users. The surface enhancements would be secured via the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]** and all paths would be managed through the duration of the Proposed Development in accordance with the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**. Should consent be granted, details and specifications (including maintenance agreements for the new paths and signage) would be agreed between the Applicant and the relevant planning authorities as part of the detailed Public Rights of Way and Permissive Path Management Plan prior to the operational phase as secured by Requirement in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1**	
Monitoring	Comment that the effect of the development on the PRoW network across the Proposed Development should be monitored.	Natural England	The Applicant has produced an **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** which sets out how it is proposing to manage PRoW and permissive pathways to ensure they are safe and accessible throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
New footpaths	Comment that the grid connection corridor could provide opportunities for linear green spaces or corridors to increase biodiversity and create longer-distance paths.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Grid Connection Corridor is required to connect the Springwell Substation and the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. It would primarily consist of an underground cable route located within the spatial extents secured by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** Following Phase Two Consultation, the western section of the Grid Connection Corridor was discounted and removed from the Order Limits to increase the distance from Gorse Hill Covert and reduce potential impacts on high priority hedgerows and trees. The Grid Connection Corridor is proposed at the eastern edge of existing field boundaries, adjacent to the A15 to reduce impact on farming activities and enable the land to remain available for agricultural use. The corridor is not included for biodiversity mitigation for this reason. New PRoW and permissive paths proposed as part of the Proposed Development have been developed in liaison with the Local Highway Authority and PRoW officers. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths. The new routes are located across the Order Limits and includes provision of a new off-road link between RAF Digby and Scopwick.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			A publicly accessible route already exists along Gorse Lane track (between Gorse Hill Lane and Heath Lane) and forms part of the Stepping Out route 'Navenby and the Viking Way'. The Grid Connection Corridor provides limited opportunities to enhance this existing route and therefore it has not been included as part of the proposed PRoW improvements.	
New footpaths	Comments on the proposed new permissive footpath to link RAF Digby and Scopwick. Supportive comments welcomed the proposals, stating that it would be well used. Other comments opposed the route, including that the route would have limited benefit due to access limitations. Comment noting that the footpath would need to be on the	Lincolnshire County Council Ashby de la Launde Parish Council Land interest	The Applicant considers that the introduction of a new PRoW between RAF Digby and Scopwick would improve accessibility for non-motorised users in this location, providing a dedicated, safe off-road route between these two settlements that does not currently exist. In response to feedback from Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant is proposing to provide a new PRoW between RAF Digby and Scopwick behind the existing hedgerow, connecting to the existing footpath at Scopwick and 30mph zone with a speed limit reduction extension included within the DCO. This was subject to a targeted consultation between 17 July – 16 August 2024 (see Chapter 7 of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**). The proposed PRoW would mostly be off the carriageway, behind the hedgerow connecting at both ends. The proposed PRoW is shown	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	other side of the hedge due to insufficient verge space, and continue further east to connect to the existing tarmac footway and 30mph zone		on the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**.	
New footpaths	Request that the permissive walking route loop proposed in Springwell Central is explained as the loop is not clear.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The alignment of the proposed permissive routes in Springwell Central are clearly shown within the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. The proposed permissive routes would improve provision of non-motorised user travel in this location not previously available, including new routes linking the B1191 to Bloxholm Wood and Brauncewell village respectively. The PRoW shown on the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]** between RAF Digby and Scopwick is proposed to the west and behind the existing hedgerow, with new asphalted footway sections in front of the hedgerow at the northern and southern extents where it meets existing footways.	N
New footpaths	Comments that improvements to recreation and amenity are welcomed,	Land interest	New PRoW and permissive paths are shown on, and would be secured by, **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4].** They have been developed in liaison with LCC Highways and Public	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	including provision of new permissive footpaths and rights of way. Comment that further benefits could be delivered as part of the Proposed Development and the host authorities would welcome further engagement on this matter.	Anglian Water Services Lincolnshire County Council Natural England National Trust	Right of Way officers, and in response to consultation feedback (including from host authorities). The Proposed Development includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths. A number of suggestions for new walking routes received at Phase Two Consultation have been incorporated as part of the design of the Proposed Development which are listed below. The Applicant engaged with the host authorities following Phase Two Consultation to confirm where suggestions had been incorporated and agree where suggestions were no longer required or were not possible. • A new PRoW connecting the existing PRoW (AshL/4/1) west of the A15 (near Navenby Lane) to New England Lane. (approx. length 830m). • A new PRoW from Temple Road (north of Brauncewell) to the Bloxholm Woods Car Park to provide a connection across the A15 (approx. length 990m) would link AshL/11/1 and Brau/8/1. • A new PRoW linking RAF Digby to Scopwick (approx. length 1,670m). • New permissive pathways to provide increased connectivity to Brauncewell. This includes a new	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			permissive path along the western edge of the Proposed Development linking New England Lane to Temple Road, north of Brauncewell (approx. length 4,130m) and a new permissive path linking Bloxholm Wood to Brauncewell Village (approx. length 1,120m). • A new permissive path connecting the B1191 (Heath Road) with the existing PRoW between RAF Digby and Rowston (Rows/5/1) (approx. length 1,610m). • A new permissive path linking Bloxholm Wood to Brauncewell Village (approx. length 1,120m). • A permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m).	
New footpaths	Comments that the Applicant thinks that it is doing people a favour in offering new public footpaths after the devastation of the environment.	Land interest	The Applicant recognises that the Proposed Development would impact the local environment and has sought to balance these impacts against the urgent need to provide secure, domestic sources of renewable energy required by Government policy to address climate change and energy security. The **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** demonstrates how the design of the Proposed Development has evolved in response to technical design studies, environmental assessment, consultation	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			feedback and engagement with statutory consultees and the local community via an iterative design process. It demonstrates how the Applicant has sought to reduce potential environmental impacts and provide opportunities for enhancement of the local environment. A full **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]** is provided as part of the Application.	
New footpaths	Comments that the proposed new footpaths should not be sited near to residential properties. Specific concerns raised included antisocial behaviour.	Land interest	The design of the Proposed Development has evolved in response to environmental assessments, consultation feedback and engagement with stakeholders as set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. The Applicant has refined its proposals for new footpaths to locate them away from existing residential properties. For example, the proposal to create a new footpath linking RAF Digby to Scopwick was revised to join the existing footpath on the B1191 to avoid being located to the rear of residential properties. Proposals to provide footpaths to the rear of properties at RAF Digby and Glebe Farm were also removed and revised based on consultation feedback and discussions with the LCC Highways.	Y
Recreation	Comment advising the Applicant to seek advice from the Council's PRoW officer	Lincolnshire County Council	Engagement with Lincolnshire County Council Highways and PRoW officers was undertaken throughout the pre-application period on these matters. An **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	in relation to any proposed diversions and/or stopping up of PRoW and the proposed PRoW Management Plan prior to submission of the Application.		**Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** has also been developed in this regard, with management measures agreed with the Local Planning Authorities. Any diversion requirements would be outlined at detailed design and agreed with the Local Planning Authorities, in line with the potential routes identified within the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**. The Applicant has engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW officers on requirements for PRoW crossings and temporary closures during construction and potential diversion options in Springwell East.	
Offsets	Comment welcoming provision of 15m buffers implemented along all PRoW, and encouraging the creation/ enhancement of habitats within the buffer areas to develop strong ecological corridors and visual interest for users.	Natural England	This has been noted. All buffer zones are documented in and would be secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals have been designed to improve connectivity across the Order Limits, such as strategic planting of 15,563m of new hedgerows and 16ha of new tree belts. Proposals are detailed in and would be secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Spires and Steeples Trail	Comment that the Applicant should demonstrate that disruption to the Spires and Steeples Trail is kept to a minimum as it provides important health and wellbeing benefits and linkage between villages.	Lincolnshire County Council	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by the Project Principles set out within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes developing the design to protect the amenity of the Spires and Steeples Trail, avoiding any Solar PV development between the route and the B1188 (Principle 5.2). Specific regard has been made to the Spires and Steeples Trail during construction to maintain the use of this route and facilitate safe construction via crossing points including provision of a banksperson. Following Phase Two Consultation, the siting zone for the Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East was relocated to Field C8 as shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. Relocating the compound and the associated access reduces potential impacts on the Spires and Steeples Trial by reducing the potential extent of the compound adjacent to the PRoW from 900m to 150m. It would also reduce the requirement for operational and construction vehicles to use the route. Engagement with LCC Highways and PRoW officers has been undertaken throughout the pre-application period, including on the Spires and Steeples Trail. An **Outline**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12] has also been developed, with management measures within the Plan agreed with the Local Planning Authorities.	
Springwell Central	Recommendation that new walking routes within Springwell Central delivered as part of the Proposed Development include: • Complete missing section of Rows/5/1 onto B1191 • Extension of Rowston PF 5 to connect to road • Consider new section of permissive path from edge of RAF Digby to connect into Scop/12/1 at field BcD066 (behind hedge line)	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW Officers on the suggestions for new walking routes within Springwell Central. Where possible and practicable, the Applicant has sought to include the suggestions within the proposals. With specific reference to the suggested routes: • Complete missing section of Rows/5/1 onto B1191: A new permissive path connecting the B1191 (Heath Road) with the existing PRoW between RAF Digby and Rowston (Rows/5/1) (approx. length 1,610m). • Consider new section of permissive path from edge of RAF Digby to connect into Scop/12/1 at field BcD066 (behind hedge line) with verge improvement and possible TRO 30mph speed limit change: A new PRoW is proposed to link RAF Digby to Scopwick (approx. length 1,670m) behind the existing hedgerow, connecting to the existing footpath at Scopwick and 30mph zone with a speed limit reduction extension included within the DCO. This is	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	with verge improvement and possible TRO 30mph speed limit change.		also considered to address “extension of Rowston PF 5 to connect to road.”	
Springwell East	Recommendation that new walking routes within Springwell East delivered as part of the Proposed Development include: • Potential new bridleway or cycleway provision to link Scopwick and Blankney, either as a parallel route to the road or through upgrades to existing Prow 737 to cycling/horse riding • Consider new Bridleway on inside edge of hedge line	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW Officers on the suggestions for new walking routes within Springwell East. Where possible and practicable, the Applicant has sought to include the suggestions within the proposals. With specific reference to the suggested routes: • Potential new bridleway or cycleway provision to link Scopwick and Blankney, either as a parallel route to the road or through upgrades to existing Prow 737 to cycling/horse riding: The Proposed Development would include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of the PRoW to better allow user access and enjoyment to ‘all-weather’ standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users. These proposals were deemed acceptable to PRoW officers meaning the other suggestions were not considered necessary (a new	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	running parallel with B1188 • New short section of PROW inside fence line or along verge to link Blan/4a/1 with Blan/3/1 near Whip Cottages		Bridleway parallel to B1188, suggestions for links between Blan/4a/1 and Blan/3/1).	
Springwell West	Recommendation that new walking routes within Springwell West delivered as part of the Proposed Development include: • Realignment of Temp/2/1 onto Gorse Lane • Suggestion that Ashby de la Lande PF/4 should be diverted and the potential historic	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW Officers on the suggestions for new walking routes within Springwell West. Where possible and practicable, the Applicant has sought to include the suggestions within the proposals. With specific reference to the suggested routes: • Realignment of Temp/2/1 onto Gorse Lane: This was not included due to access requirements of the Proposed Development. • Diversion of Ashby de la Lande PF/4 and potential historic continuation extinguished: This was not progressed as alternative provisions have been agreed across the Order Limits.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	continuation extinguished. • Diversion of Ashby de la Launde PF/2 • Complete missing section of AshL/4/1 • Link Brau/5/1 with AshL/11/1 • Consider whether AshL/11/1 can be linked with Brau/8/1. • Extension of Ashby de la Launde PF/11 can be linked to B1191 • Create new path along Cuckoo Lane south of RAF Digby towards New England Lane for the benefit of MOD personnel.		• Diversion of Ashby de la Launde PF/2: Following Phase Two Consultation, further engagement with LCC Highways and PRoW officers confirmed that this was not required. • Complete missing section of AshL/4/1: The Applicant is proposing to create a new PRoW connecting the existing PRoW (AshL/4/1) west of the A15 (near Navenby Lane) to New England Lane. (approx. length 830m). • Link Brau/5/1 with AshL/11/1: The Applicant is proposing new permissive pathways which would provide increased connectivity to Brauncewell. This includes a new permissive path along the western edge of the Proposed Development linking New England Lane to Temple Road, north of Brauncewell (approx. length 4,130m) and a new permissive path linking Bloxholm Wood to Brauncewell Village (approx. length 1,120m). • Consider whether AshL/11/1 can be linked with Brau/8/1: A new PRoW from Temple Road (north of Brauncewell) to the Bloxholm Woods Car Park to provide a connection across the A15 (approx. length 990m) would link AshL/11/1 and Brau/8/1. This is also considered to address request: Extension of Ashby de la Launde PF/11 can be linked to B1191.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Continuation of Cuckoo Lane at the eastern end to meet the adopted highway to the east. • New route linking Ten Acre Planation and Brauncewell (PF11 and PF6) is considered to be a positive enhancement to the Proposed Development.		• Create new path along Cuckoo Lane south of RAF Digby towards New England Lane for the benefit of MOD personnel: This suggestion has not been progressed due to the MoD having alternate proposals for this location not concerning the Proposed Development. • Continuation of Cuckoo Lane at the eastern end to meet the adopted highway to the east: This suggestion has not been progressed due to the MoD having alternate proposals for this location not concerning the Proposed Development. • New route linking Ten Acre Planation and Brauncewell (PF11 and PF6) is considered to be a positive enhancement to the Proposed Development: This is noted. The Applicant is proposing a number of new permissive pathways to provide better connectivity between Ten Acre Plantation, Bloxholm Wood and Brauncewell Village (approx. length 1,120m).	
Traffic and transport				

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
A15	Comments that there are safety concerns on the A15, and this would be exacerbated by construction traffic. Specific comments raised the A15/B1202 which is felt to be an accident blackspot. Query how safety issues on the A15 would be managed.	Land interest	The Applicant has assessed the likely significant effects arising from the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Proposed Development on traffic and transport, including in relation to the A15. In undertaking its assessments, the Applicant has followed the IEMA 2023 guidelines outline assessment requirements pursuant to road safety. This included assessment of accident clusters in consultation with LCC as the Local Highways Authority and review of the most recent Personal Injury Collision (PIC) data available as provided by the Authority. Both **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** outline these assessments. The assessments show that, with the proposed embedded mitigation (including junction improvements at the A15/B1191 and A15/Gorse Hill Lane, and management across the Order Limits) in place, there would be no significant effects in relation to road safety along the A15. The assessments also acknowledge road safety concerns at the A15/B1202 junction and highlight that it is a priority for the Local Highways Authority to improve this junction. In the event that this improvement is not	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			implemented before construction of the Proposed Development commences, the Applicant would commit to provision of a worker commuter bus service to cover the Lincoln area to significantly reduce the construction worker traffic using the A15.	
A15	Comments that the A15 is already busy and would not be able to cope with extra traffic. Other comments felt that there should be minimal traffic impacts on A15 junctions.	Land interest	The A15 forms part of the primary road network for Lincolnshire and is the most appropriate route to accommodate the majority of construction traffic for the Proposed Development. The Environmental Statement considers assessment against IEMA 2023 guidance regarding traffic impact, notably severance and driver delay. Additionally, the Transport Assessment **ES Volume 3 [EN010149/APP/6.3] Appendix 14.1** considers detailed junction analyses within the study area, including junction mitigation, where appropriate. These assessments have concluded that there are no significant effects in relation to road safety arising from the Proposed Development.	N
Abnormal loads	Comment that transporting abnormal loads via National Highways network can be arranged in	National Highways	This has been noted. An Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) routing assessment has been undertaken and a preferred route identified utilising National Highways approved routes and in liaison with Lincolnshire Highways AIL team. Details of the proposed AIL route	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	consultation with National Highways.		are included in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
Access points	Comment that existing breaks in field boundaries should be utilised for both construction and permanent access to minimise vegetation loss.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	Existing breaks in the hedgerows along the highway boundary have been prioritised as locations for site access points. Where not feasible due to the visibility requirements to/from the access, proximity of tree roots or other environmental impacts, alternative locations for accesses are proposed. All access points would be permanent and would be used for maintenance access during operation. Details of the access locations are included in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N
Access points	Comment that National Highways has no specific comments to make on access points as these would be via the local road network managed by the local highway authority.	National Highways	This has been noted. The Applicant has undertaken engagement with LCC Highways in relation to the local road network as part of the Proposed Development.	N
Access tracks	Comments that some of the existing farm tracks should be resurfaced during	Land interest	Existing farm tracks are proposed to be utilised for construction tracks. No resurfacing or changes to tracks solely used for residential properties are proposed. Construction tracks close to residential properties have	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	construction, including access tracks to properties around the site.		been removed from the Proposed Development where feasible, such as near Glebe Farm. The construction of new access tracks within the site would be made from compacted stone which is a sustainable solution to reduce the impact of the works. Permeable surfaces reduce the impact of surface water flooding and allow the water to soak into the ground through the surface as per the existing situation. Existing access tracks would be improved with compacted stone where the track requires improvement to support the Proposed Development activities. During operation the tracks would be kept in a suitable condition to accommodate operational traffic. For details of the proposed access tracks please see **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**	
B1188	Comments that the B1188 is already very busy, and more traffic on the B1188 would increase the likelihood of road accidents.	Land interest	The proposed routes to be used for HGV construction traffic have been considered in detail and, following consultation feedback and further assessment, the Applicant is proposing to use a relatively short section of the B1188 between the B1191 and the site access for Springwell East. This would be controlled via the Principal Contractor through monitoring and enforcement measures secured within supplier contracts, as outlined	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. The Environmental Statement considers assessment against IEMA 2023 guidance regarding traffic impact, notably severance, driver delay and road safety. Additionally, the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) considers detailed junction analyses within the study area. These assessments have concluded that there would be no significant effects on the local road network or its users, including road safety impacts.	
B1202	Comments that the B1202 is already in disrepair, and this would be exacerbated by construction traffic. Other comments raised its suitability for two-way traffic.	Land interest	The routes proposed to be used for HGVs during construction have been considered in detail following Phase Two Consultation. Following feedback from consultation and further assessments, HGVs are no longer proposed to utilise the B1202. Monitoring and enforcement measures to restrict its use would be secured within supplier contracts, as outlined within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. While construction workers (LGVs) are likely to travel along the B1202 to reach the Springwell East Primary Construction Compound, this is predicted to be a low number, with the majority of these travelling along the B1188 from the north. This is outlined within the **ES**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Volume 3, Appendix 14: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3] which concludes that there would be no significant effects on the local road network or its users. It is also understood that the B1202 has recently been resurfaced.	
Bloxholm Lane	Comments that more traffic on Bloxholm Lane would damage the road which is not fit for purpose.	Land interest	The routes proposed to be used for HGVs during construction have been considered in detail following Phase Two Consultation. Following feedback from consultation, changes to the design of the Proposed Development and further assessments, HGVs are no longer proposed to utilise Bloxholm Lane. Monitoring and enforcement measures to restrict its use would be secured within supplier contracts, as outlined within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	Y
Condition of road network	Comment that vehicles in the construction phase would cause damage to local road networks (e.g. potholes and road verges) that would increase damage to vehicles and road safety issues.	Land interest Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	As part of the construction phase of the Proposed Development, there would be a requirement for highway condition surveys to be undertaken before and after construction as well as at regular intervals during the construction phase to help identify damage caused by vehicles associated with the Proposed Development. This would be used to commit the Principal Contractor to rectify any damage to the highway. Further detail is provided within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Construction compound	Query why a construction compound has been placed near where solar panels are proposed.	Land interest	Siting areas for the construction compounds have been proposed to facilitate equipment delivery and transfer across the site, reduce the use of public highways by construction traffic and reduce construction impacts on receptors such as residential properties. The construction compounds would be temporary and would be removed with surface conditions reinstated, unless repurposed if required for the operation of the Proposed Development.	N
Construction compound	Comments that the locations of the secondary construction compounds would create high volumes of traffic outside of the delineated construction routes on unsuitable roads.	Land interest	Internal haul roads are proposed to carry most construction traffic associated with Secondary Construction Compounds, reducing the use of the local highway network. Where internal haul roads are not possible, construction traffic would either use roads that have been assessed as being suitable or require highway works as mitigation to accommodate the proposed traffic. Details of these works and management of roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N
Construction route	Comment requesting assurance that traffic would not go through the village of Scopwick to reach construction	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Applicant has considered the proposed routes to be used for HGV construction traffic in detail. HGV construction traffic would only be allowed to use specific routes which would be controlled via the Principal Contractor through monitoring and enforcement	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	compounds to the south of Scopwick.		measures secured within supplier contracts, as outlined within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. In relation to HGV use of the road network in the vicinity of Scopwick, HGVs would only use a section of the B1181 at the northern extent of Scopwick and, from there, along the B1191 to the west of Scopwick, thereby avoiding passing through the centre of the village. The assessments predict that the volume of worker traffic travelling through Scopwick would be low, indicating no significant environmental impacts associated with the construction phase. Detail of this is found in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and the Transport Assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**).	
Construction Traffic Management Plan	Comment that a separate CTMP should be prepared with the following details: • Hours of working and start/completion dates.	National Highways	An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** has been developed which includes all of the information noted in this comment, where available at this stage, inclusive of the following: • Hours of working and start/completion dates – included in the oCTMP.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	• Anticipated average two-way daily traffic numbers during the construction phase. • Confirmation of the intended construction access arrangements to and from the site from the A1 and A46 Trunk Roads. • The arrangements for routing of construction vehicles. • Details of any special or abnormal deliveries or vehicular movements utilising the SRN. • Site Contact Details responsible for ensuring Health &		• Anticipated average two-way daily traffic numbers during the construction phase – included in the oCTMP. • Confirmation of the intended construction access arrangements to and from the site from the A1 and A46 Trunk Roads – detail included within the oCTMP, but no significance anticipated on these links. • The arrangements for routing of construction vehicles – included in the oCTMP. • Details of any special or abnormal deliveries or vehicular movements utilising the Strategic Road Network (SRN) – included in the oCTMP. • Site Contact Details responsible for ensuring Health & Safety and handling of complaints – procedure for this information requirements within the oCTMP but further detail to be provided post-appointment of the Principal Contractor. Commitment to provide included within the oCTMP. Should consent be granted, a detailed version of the oCTMP would be prepared by the Principal Contractor before commencement of construction which would be agreed with relevant stakeholders, including National Highways, LCC and NKDC. The detailed CTMP would be approved by LCC as the Local Highway Authority.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Safety and handling of complaints.			
Decommissioning	Comment that the ES should present measures for early decommissioning in case of early cessation of energy generation, including future baseline traffic flows that aren't solely based at year 40.	North Kesteven District Council	Decommissioning is considered within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, noting that any requirements from a traffic movement perspective would not be greater than those within the construction phase, where future baseline traffic flows are not solely based at year 40. The assessment of decommissioning impacts within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** also states that mitigation measures would be similar to that implemented during construction. Baseline traffic data is not provided for decommissioning at this stage as it is too far in the future to reasonably predict those levels, however decommissioning measures are controlled through the **oDEMP [EN010149/APP/7.13]**. Decommissioning must also be in accordance with Requirement 19 of the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** which requires that decommissioning be no later than 40 years after the date of final commissioning. Any early decommissioning would be expected to require the same measures and mitigation as that for planned decommissioning.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
General comment – construction	Comments that there would be disruption and damage to villages from construction traffic.	Land interest	The Applicant has considered the proposed routes to be used for HGV construction traffic in detail to avoid villages where practicable. Construction traffic would only be allowed to use specific routes which would be controlled via the Principal Contractor through monitoring and enforcement measures secured within supplier contracts, as outlined within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (oCTMP) [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. The **oCTMP [EN010149/APP/7.8]** also includes measures to reduce disruption to road users and nearby receptors, including residential receptors in villages. Highway condition surveys would also be required to be undertaken on specified HGV routes before and after construction as well as at regular intervals during the construction phase. This would help to identify damage or disruption caused by vehicles associated with the Proposed Development, with the Principal Contractor required to rectify any damage. Full details are presented within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N
General	Agreement with the methodology set out in the PEIR.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with Lincolnshire County Council as the Highways Authority throughout the pre-application period. Assessments presented in the ES pay due regard to items outlined in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			the PEIR, with additional elements or changes included as a result of ongoing engagement following Phase Two Consultation.	
Gorse Hill Lane	Comment that records suggest that Gorse Hill Lane is classified as a 'Green Lane' and any proposed modifications should be discussed with the Highways Authority to see if they would be acceptable. Other comments query the use of 'Gorse Hill Road' in the PEIR and whether this is an error.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Applicant and Local Highways Authority recognise that Gorse Hill Lane is classified as a Green Lane, specified as being used by non-motorised users (e.g. cyclists and pedestrians). Improvements to Gorse Hill Lane were developed with and communicated to the Local Highways Authority (LCC) in several meetings including 12/10/2023 and at consultation events. Any reference to Gorse Hill Road within the PEIR should be read as Gorse Hill Lane.	N
Guidance	Comment that the Application should be supported by a Transport Assessment prepared in accordance with Planning Practice Guidance on Travel	National Highways	All assessments have been prepared in accordance with Planning Practice Guidance on Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements (March 2014) alongside the DfT Circular 01/2022: The Strategic Road Network and the Delivery of Sustainable Development. Impacts on the SRN are noted within the Transport Assessment prepared in accordance with the relevant	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements (March 2014). In addition, as there could be a potential impact on the SRN, the Transport Statement should be produced in accordance with DfT Circular 01/2022: The Strategic Road Network and the Delivery of Sustainable Development.		guidance listed, which is provided within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
Impact on local roads	Comment that roads, bridges and utilities would be adversely impacted during the construction phase causing additional cost and safety risk for road users.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	No bridges are located within the Order Limits. Some utilities could be affected by the proposed works, with local diversions of utilities, cables and ducts required. This would be fully investigated during the detailed design stage, should consent be granted. No service outages would be anticipated as a result of these works. Highway condition surveys would also be required on specified HGV routes before and after construction as well as at regular intervals during the construction phase. This would help to identify damage or disruption	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			caused by vehicles associated with the Proposed Development, with the Principal Contractor required to rectify any damage. Full details are presented within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. The Applicant has assessed the likely significant effects arising from the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Proposed Development on traffic and transport within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This assessment considers traffic impact, notably severance, driver delay and road safety. The assessment concludes that there are no significant effects on the local road network or its users, including for road safety.	
Impact on Navenby	Comment that there is concern about the impact of construction traffic on Navenby, as a major east-west transit route with considerable traffic along Green Man Road and Church Lane, in terms of	Navenby Parish Council	Roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. This does not include the use of Green Man Road, Church Lane or any other roads through Navenby. This was also the case in the assessment within the PEIR. The volume of worker traffic travelling through Navenby is predicted to be low and would not result in significant changes in traffic volumes. Sustainable travel and car sharing has been considered to further reduce worker	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	volume of traffic and road safety impact and that this has not been acknowledged in the PEIR.		traffic, as outlined in the **Transport Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), which notes the majority of construction workers would likely route via the A15 north and south.	
Impact on residents	Comment that the increase in traffic means the local population would not be able to travel freely.	Land interest	The IEMA 2023 guidance pays due regard to the potential for adverse impacts on all road users, including assessment of road safety, driver delay and pedestrian amenity. This is applied and assessed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. No significant adverse impacts are anticipated on the free movement of the local population, considered within the severance, driver delay, pedestrian delay, non-motorised user amenity, fear & intimidation assessments. Enhancements, including the provision of new PRoW and permissive pathways included with the design of the Proposed Development would also enable free travel by the local population.	N
Impact on the Strategic Road Network (SRN)	Comment that the SRN has not been included in any traffic impact assessments and if trips generated at any SRN junction	National Highways	Impacts on the SRN are noted within the Transport Assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), which concludes that the 30-vehicle two-way threshold would not be exceeded during the peak hours, meaning no further assessment was	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	exceed 30 two-way trips during the peak hour, then further assessment on these junctions is likely to be required, based on the traffic generation from the Proposed Development and cumulatively with other nearly developments.		undertaken and cumulative development impacts do not arise on the SRN relative to the Proposed Development.	
National Highways	Comment that National Highways' principal interest is in safeguarding the A1 and A46 trunk roads, located approximately 27km (17 miles) to the west of the site.	National Highways	The volumes of traffic predicted to occur on the A1 and A46 are reported within the **Transport Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**). The predicted volumes of traffic would be well within the daily variation of baseline traffic flows set out in correspondence with National Highways and are therefore not considered further. In relation to transportation of Abnormal Indivisible Loads, which avoids the A1 and A46 trunk roads, the Applicant acknowledges all practices and procedures required in preparation, and the carrying out, of AIL traffic movements.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Operational traffic	Comment that National Highways is content that the impact of operational traffic on the SRN would be negligible.	National Highways	This has been noted and agreed.	N
Phasing	Comment that each site could take a year to build meaning there would be protracted traffic and disruption across the local area.	Land interest	Analysis and assessments undertaken within the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** consider the impacts of the construction phase as robustly as possible across the local area and highway network. These assessments are based on the construction phasing shown in the Indicative Construction Programme set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Due to the phasing of the Proposed Development and the routing of construction traffic, the study area assessed would experience varying increases in all vehicle types across four years.	N
Planning policy	Comment that the Sleaford Transport Strategy will be relevant in considering	North Kesteven	Elements within the Sleaford Transport Strategy, including the A17 corridor and Holdingham Roundabout have been considered as part of the **ES Volume 1 Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	construction impacts on the A17 corridor and Holdingham Roundabout area (including cumulative effects).	District Council	but did not meet the long or short-list of cumulative developments for further consideration presented within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The long and short-list of cumulative developments to be considered for cumulative assessment was agreed in liaison with the Local Highways Authority.	
Road safety	Comment that there are existing road safety concerns for junctions in Scopwick and this would be exacerbated during the construction phase.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** consideration of road safety aligning to the IEMA 2023 guidance, and collision clusters has been undertaken. There are no collision clusters in Scopwick, and consideration of any existing safety concerns has been discussed with LCC as the Local Highways Authority.	N
Road safety	Comments that there would be an increase in traffic during the construction period and this would be unsafe, leading to accidents. Specific reference made to	Land interest	All assessments within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** align with the IEMA 2023 guidance, considering all users and receptors (including vulnerable/elderly people and equestrians) and road safety of those users indicating no significant impact is anticipated. Further to this, the Applicant is committed to managing safety and has set	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	impact on elderly people, and equestrian users.		out a series of measures in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
Speed limit	Comment that the PEIR is incorrect as the speed limit through Blankney is 30 mph not 40 mph as stated.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	This has been noted. The Applicant can confirm this would not have affected any of the assessments outlined within the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Suitability of local road network	Comment that the local road network is unsuitable for the volume of construction traffic and is already stressed by daily HGV movements.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	A detailed assessment of the suitability of the local road network for construction traffic, including HGV movements, has been undertaken in consultation with the Local Highways Authority. Where necessary, and following discussions with the Local Highways Authority, junction mitigation and other minor works are proposed. The location of improvements include the A15/B1191 junction, A15/Gorse Hill Lane junction, provision of two passing bays on Temple Road, widening the carriageway on B1191 south of Ashby de la Launde, road marking improvements at B1191/Navenby Lane junction and B1191/RAF Digby junction and are outlined in the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. Assessments presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3] conclude that there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic.	
Temple Road	Comments on the impact of the Proposed Development on Temple Road, including that it is unsuitable for increased traffic and that private verges would be trespassed on to accommodate passing vehicles.	Land interest	A detailed assessment of the suitability of the local road network for construction traffic, including for Temple Road, has been undertaken in consultation with the Local Highways Authority. Following discussion with the Local Highway Authority, improvements to the junction with the A15 and the introduction of passing bays within the adopted highway along Temple Road are proposed. Assessments set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** indicate that there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic and no private verges would be affected. Highway condition surveys would also be required on specified HGV routes before and after construction as well as at regular intervals during the construction phase. This would help to identify damage or disruption caused by vehicles associated with the Proposed Development, with the Principal Contractor required to rectify any damage. Full details are presented within the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].	
Traffic estimates	Comment disagreeing with PEIR which states that there would not be a significant effect on the B1191 through Scopwick due to additional vehicle movements, when there is a 41% increase in traffic expected (880 vehicle movements per day for 4 years).	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	A detailed assessment of the suitability of the local road network for construction traffic has been undertaken in consultation with the Local Highways Authority. HGV construction traffic would only be allowed to use specific routes which would be controlled via the Principal Contractor through monitoring and enforcement measures secured within supplier contracts, as outlined within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. In relation to HGV use of the road network in the vicinity of Scopwick, HGVs would only be using a section of the B1181 at the northern extent of Scopwick and, from there, along the B1191 to the west of Scopwick, thereby avoiding passing through the centre of the village. All assessments, which align with IEMA 2023 guidance, predict that the volume of worker traffic travelling through Scopwick would be low, indicating there would be no significant environmental impacts associated with the construction phase. More detail is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			The assessments consider impacts across construction phasing, with the reasonable worst-case scenario of assessing all traffic movements occurring simultaneously. Therefore the 880 vehicle movements referred to in the PEIR is a 'worst-case', whereas in reality many locations would experience a peak with lower volumes due to phasing. Additionally, where baseline traffic flow is very low, a small increase in vehicles is noted as relatively large in percentage terms, however it is still not considered to result in a significant effect. This is outlined in detail within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Notably, since the PEIR, traffic parameters have been refined and the volume of traffic passing along the B1191 through Scopwick is significantly lower than previously assumed in PEIR. The resultant increase in the volume of traffic passing along the B1191 through Scopwick is assessed to be 8%, which is not considered to result in a significant effect.	
Traffic management	Comment that if the A15 is closed HGVs would be diverted through minor roads and villages which	Land interest	The **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** considers incident management in respect to closure requirements. In the event of an incident along the identified delivery routes, arrangements including communication with suppliers to	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	would be unsafe and cause delays, and that the use of rural roads should be restricted.		divert or hold deliveries would be implemented as outlined in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** to minimise disruption to other road users and construction activities. This encompasses instances where delivery vehicles are already on the highway network and diversion across the local and minor road network is subsequently required, though this would be unlikely and temporary.	
Traffic management	Comment on measures to control traffic during the construction phase, including that there are no penalties proposed for breaches of vehicle movements, that the Applicant would not be able to monitor HGV movements and prevent vehicles taking shortcuts between compounds through villages.	Land interest Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Applicant has considered the proposed construction routes in detail, with HGVs only allowed to use specific routes. These routes would be controlled via the Principal Contractor through monitoring and enforcement measures secured within supplier contracts, as outlined within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. Further detail would be provided upon appointment of the Principal Contractor and within the detailed Construction Traffic Management Plan and Travel Plan.	N
Transport Assessment	Suggestion that the Transport Assessment	National Highways	These elements and information requests are contained in the **Transport Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3,**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	includes the following (construction and operation): • Details of the Proposed Development, inc. any phasing, parking, access points, hours/days of operation, timescales for the construction period, and anticipated year of opening. • Trip generation, including a breakdown of staff commuting trips, and HGV/delivery trip generation. The data should include maximum daily vehicle trips and a separate breakdown for the SRN peak		**Appendix 14.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) covering both construction and operational phases of the Proposed Development, while also being supported by an **Outline Travel Plan** (**Appendix 1** of the **oCTMP [EN010149/APP/7.8]**) which covers the construction phase.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	hours, i.e. 08:00-09:00 (AM peak hour) and 17:00-18:00 (PM peak hour). • Trip assignment – information about traffic routings in relation to the SRN, presented in absolute numbers and percentages. • Depending on the scale and distribution of new trips, it may also be necessary to indicate how traffic associated with the development proposal will impact on the SRN in the peak hours. These impacts should be considered for the site both as a			

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	standalone operation, and cumulatively with other nearby solar farm applications, (plus any wider committed developments), to consider whether the development will result in material implications for SRN junctions. • Where further assessments are deemed necessary these should be carried out for the proposed opening year of the development (or where applicable, the start of construction). • A separate Travel Plan setting out how			

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	staff trips by private vehicle will be minimised.			
Trip generation	Comment that no evidence supporting the assumption that workers will travel as a team (Table 12.3) is given within the PEIR which has informed preliminary assessments. This should be set out in detail as part of the Transport Assessments as this significantly influences overall trip generation.	National Highways	Using information from other sites managed by the Applicant, the assessments are based upon a conservative minimum occupancy of 1.5 people per vehicle. Experience on other major construction projects indicates that this is expected to be higher in reality at 2-3 per vehicle. Further detail is provided in both **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and the **Transport Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**). The **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** includes travel plan measures to encourage car sharing to reduce the number of cars travelling to and from Site.	N
Volume	Comments that the local road network is already under strain, and this would be exacerbated by the volume of construction traffic proposed. Other	Land interest Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	An assessment of all road users has been undertaken, which includes consideration of driver delay impacts, in alignment with IEMA 2023 guidance. Assessment of driver delay is considered in detail within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and the **Transport Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	comments state that the increase in traffic would cause driver delay.		**[EN010149/APP/6.3]**). With proposed mitigation measures (e.g. junction improvements) in place, the assessments show that there would be no significant impacts as a result of the Proposed Development.	
Waste				
Assessment	Request for further assessment of likely waste streams from construction and operation and how they would be managed due to a) the panel turnover forecasted for other sites and b) the current lack of local processing facilities and potential cumulative effects.	Lincolnshire County Council	In its Scoping Opinion (see **ES, Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.2]**), the Planning Inspectorate agreed that material assets and waste can be scoped out of Environmental Impact Assessment. Waste streams expected to be generated during construction are detailed in the **Outline Site Waste Management Plan** which forms an appendix to the **Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. The quantity of anticipated waste arising by the Proposed Development would be confirmed within the Site Waste Management Plan, which would be agreed with LCC prior to construction. Waste arising from construction is not anticipated to consist of substantial amounts of waste electrical or electronic equipment. Where this does arise, this would be recovered and recycled by an authorised reprocessor as required by the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations 2013.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			To ensure that the "Best Available Treatment Recovery and Recycling Techniques" are utilised, a list of up-to-date authorised reprocessors would be established prior to the operational phase of the Proposed Development and kept up to-date throughout the operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development. The Applicant has assumed that solar PV modules would have a service life of 40 years, based on current technology and therefore would not require any replacement unless damaged or faulty. The Applicant has set out the replacement rates for each piece of equipment in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Measures to manage waste during the operation and decommissioning phases are secured through the **Outline Operation Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13**], both of which would be secured by Requirements in the DCO (see **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**). Further detail on the potential cumulative effects for the decommissioning of waste is outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Decommissioning plan	Comment that local recycling facilities for solar waste do not exist and this shouldn't be relied upon for decommissioning. Other comments suggest that cumulative quantities of solar waste from other projects should also be taken into account.	Lincolnshire County Council	Prior to decommissioning, engagement would be held with LCC, local waste facilities and re-processors to ensure that "Best Available Treatment Recovery and Recycling Techniques" would be utilised at the time of decommissioning. This would involve keeping an up-to-date list of authorised re-processors and waste facilities prior to the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Development. Alongside the above, prior to decommissioning approval would be required from LCC on the detailed measures within the Decommissioning Environment Management Plan based on the principles set out within the **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13].** The above measures are secured through the **Outline Operation Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13**], both of which would be secured by Requirements in the DCO (see **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**. The Applicant considers it not possible to assess all the inter-project cumulative effects of decommissioning activities as there is currently no mechanism to identify other existing development and/or approved	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			developments that would be relevant at that time. Further detail on the approach to waste at decommissioning is detailed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Operational waste	Comment that operational waste could be a significant waste stream which should be considered in further detail, and that waste management proposals should follow the waste hierarchy principles.	Lincolnshire County Council	The Proposed Development is anticipated to generate some Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) through operation and maintenance, and a substantive amount of WEEE at decommissioning which would include Solar PV modules, batteries, and substation equipment, as well as other smaller quantities of WEEE from supporting electrical infrastructure. As such, these would be recovered and recycled by an authorised re-processor as required by the WEEE Regulations 2013. To ensure that this is done to "Best Available Treatment Recovery and Recycling Techniques", a list of up-to-date authorised re-processors would be established prior to the operational phase of the Proposed Development and kept up to-date throughout the operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development. This is secured through the **Outline Operation Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]**, both of which would be secured	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			by Requirements in the DCO (see **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**.	
Management Plans	Comment that it is positive to see the production of an Outline Site Waste Management Plan, oCEMP and decommissioning plan produced, despite waste being scoped out as a separate chapter.	Lincolnshire County Council	The **Outline Site Waste Management Plan**, as appended to the **Outline Construction Environment Management Plan (oCEMP) [EN010149/APP/7.7],** and **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]** are provided as part of the Application.	N
Sewerage	Comments expressing concern about removal of sewage from construction sites as the local sewage system is under severe pressure and cannot cope with the projected level of increase.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The drainage design for the Proposed Development is provided within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**). An initial approach to the foul water drainage would be via a form of package treatment works located within the vicinity of the Springwell Substation / BESS. This is in line with the ongoing discussions between the Applicant and Anglian Water Services as detailed in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Water				
Approach to assessment	Agreement that drainage and flood risk can be scoped out of assessment subject to submission of a Flood Risk Assessment and drainage strategy.	North Kesteven District Council	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with NKDC on water matters throughout the pre-application stage. Table 15.1 within the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]** summarises how the Applicant has engaged with NKDC and other consultees to shape its approach to assessment. A **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]** has been submitted as part of the Application. The drainage design is provided within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**).	N
Approach to assessment	Comment that the Applicant should discuss and agree the study area with the Environment Agency.	North Kesteven District Council	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant met with the Environment Agency on 7 March 2024. A written response to questions raised by the Applicant in the meeting was provided by the Environment Agency on 30 April 2024. This response confirmed that the Environment Agency agreed with the extent of the study area, and the principles of placing infrastructure besides Solar PV modules outside of Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3. With regards to the Water Framework Directive classified waterbodies that were scoped in for further assessment based on proximity to the Order Limits, it was agreed with the Environment Agency that a screening study was sufficient to evidence that no further assessment of potential impacts on Metheringham Beck	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			was required due to the low impact nature of the Proposed Development and proximity of the watercourse outside of the Order Limits. This is detailed further in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Assessment	Comment that the proposals for managing water are scientifically impossible.	Land interest	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) is based on established drainage principles and best practice. It is proposed to attenuate surface water runoff from hardstanding areas and provide a restriction on discharge rates to greenfield runoff rates. Supporting calculations for the discharge rate and attenuation volumes are provided as part of the Outline Drainage Strategy. The principles of this drainage strategy have been agreed with the Lead Local Flood Authority. Table 15.1 within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]** summarises engagement undertaken with the Lead Local Flood Authority ('LLFA') and the Environment Agency on water matters to shape the Applicant's approach to assessment. Overall, no concerns with regards to managing flood risk have been raised by either the LLFA or Environment Agency.	N
Assessment	Comment that studies by ADAS show the immediate and long-	Land interest	The Applicant is not aware of these studies. However, the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	term effect solar farms would have on the affected land and land drainage system.		**[EN010149/APP/7.16]**) details how surface water drainage for the Proposed Development would be implemented for its operational lifetime to ensure flood risk is not exacerbated.	
Approach to EIA	Confirmation that Chapter 13 of the PEIR has been reviewed by the Environment Agency in relation to flood risk from a fluvial and tidal perspective only, and advice from flood risk management authorities should be sought on potential flooding from groundwater, drainage systems, reservoirs, canals or ordinary watercourses.	Environment Agency	The Applicant is grateful for engagement with the Environment Agency on sources of flood risk. The **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]** has assessed all potential sources of flooding as part of the assessment, including a review of surface water flood risk, groundwater flood information and sewers.	N
Connections	Comment welcoming discussions on water and foul water requirements for the	Anglian Water Services	Engagement has been undertaken with Anglian Water to outline water and foul water requirements, as set out in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]**. Welfare	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Proposed Development, noting that the least impactful solution would likely to be to use existing drains and SuDS to manage surface water and the use of temporary self-contained welfare facilities during construction and operation.		facilities for the operational stage are covered within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**). Welfare facilities for the operational and construction phases would either drain to package treatment plants or cesspits which would be managed by a licensed operator. There is no indication of a requirement to drain to existing Anglian Water foul sewers. The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) covers the surface water drainage. Following a drainage hierarchy, it is intended that surface water drainage would either infiltrate or discharge to local watercourses via established SuDS principles.	
Drainage	Comment that percussive piling and construction would damage existing land drainage systems and render them inoperative, causing flooding issues and rainwater runoff in	Land interest Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	Given the informal and often unrecorded nature of agricultural piped land drainage below ground, it is considered that piling could impact on existing piped land drainage. This may include land drainage located towards the B1188 and B1191. No remedial action is considered to be required given any potential impacts would be anticipated to be observed within the Order Limits. Any potential damage to existing land drainage pipework within the Order Limits would not increase flood risk to Scopwick or Kirkby Green. If land drains	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	Scopwick and Kirkby Green. Specific reference made to impact on clay drains and on hollow clay pipe land drainage systems present in heavier land below the B1188 and southeast of the B1191.		were damaged this could locally increase flood risk within the Order Limits, where surface water may pond within topographic low spots that were once drained to adjacent open cut field drains. Drainage such as swales and filter drains at the downslope areas of solar PV modules would assist with drainage as described within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) However, regardless of proposed drainage features, the Site would still drain via overland runoff/flow which would follow the topographic falls of the Site towards those existing open cut field drains which are to remain and are secured with a 6m easement.	
Drainage	Comment that the main drain that passes through the respondent's land would carry 3.7m litres per storm at a ratio 75% of rainfall run off from 16 ha (40 acres) of land designated for PV panels.	Land interest	Solar PV modules would not change the rate of surface water runoff from the existing scenario. The guidance provided within NPS EN-3 in Paragraph 3.10.75 concludes that: 'as solar PV panels will drain to the existing ground, the impact will not, in general, be significant'. It is therefore concluded within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) that there is no requirement for surface water drainage infrastructure for	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			areas of Solar PV development (besides for central inverters).	
Drainage	Comment that there are many artesian springs below ground which are drained by existing land drainage systems.	Land interest	If artesian springs are drained into local watercourses and open cut field drains via piped land drainage systems, then this could increase the volume of water discharged into the receiving watercourses compared to an undrained scenario. This would be due to flows from artesian springs being directed more efficiently by piped land drainage systems to the open cut field drains, whereas within an undrained scenario the flows from artesian springs would be less direct with increased opportunity to infiltrate back into the surrounding ground along the flow route along the lowest topography towards an open cut field drain. If a worst-case scenario is assumed and land drainage systems were impacted by the Proposed Development, then the presence of artesian springs could locally increase flood risk within the Site given open cut field drains would intercept overland flows from the surrounding land. There would be no expected change in flood risk outside of the Order Limits. As the Proposed Development is predominantly solar PV modules then it is not considered at risk from the likely shallow overland flows from artesian springs.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Drainage	Comment that the Proposed Development could incorporate conventional land drainage; French drains; interception Swales on the proposed perimeter and pump water into lagoons.	Land interest	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) incorporates a number of SuDS drainage features to intercept, control and limit surface water runoff from the Proposed Development. This includes attenuation basins and flow control devices for hardstanding areas, as well as interception swales downslope of Solar PV modules as a precautionary measure.	N
Drainage	Comment that above ground drainage features should be utilised to be as multi-functional as possible embodying SuDS principles, with design coordinated to exploit opportunities for additional habitat creation as well as surface water retention.	North Kesteven District Council Lincolnshire County Council	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) details that surface water attenuation for the Springwell Substation and BESS areas would likely be provided within basins. Biodiversity would be considered further as part of detailed design of drainage systems, should development consent be granted.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Engagement	Comment welcoming the consideration on the effects on groundwater quality of the underlying aquifer and source protection zone. Request for consultation on the draft CEMP and OEMP prior to submission to agree mitigation strategy in liaison with the Environment Agency.	Anglian Water Services	The Applicant met with Anglian Water Services on 23 September 2024 to discuss and agree mitigation measures relevant to groundwater quality of the underlying aquifer and source protection zone. These measures are included within the **Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **Outline Operational Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10].**	N
Engagement	Request to be consulted on the Surface Water Drainage Strategy (SWDS), potentially as a pre-commencement condition, in the event that a connection to the public sewer may be sought or surface run off is directed to the public sewer	Anglian Water Services	Engagement has been undertaken with Anglian Water Services and the principles of the Surface Water Drainage Strategy (SWDS) outlined and agreed as detailed within the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]**. With regards to foul water drainage methods, this is outlined in the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) which confirms there will be no	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	network, including allowance for climate change. Note that this would not be required if the approach set out in section 2.12.9 of the PEIR is followed (PEIR, Volume 1, Chapter 2).		foul water connection required to Anglian Water sewer system (in line with the PEIR). With regards to surface water, following a drainage hierarchy, it is intended for surface water drainage to either infiltrate or discharge to local watercourses. There is no indication of a requirement to drain to existing Anglian Water surface water sewers. The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) covers surface water drainage.	
Firewater run off	Comment noting that firewater runoff would be collected and tankered offsite and would not require a public sewer connection.	Anglian Water Services	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) confirms that firewater runoff would be prevented from entering the environment via control methods on the surface water discharge mechanisms. Discharge to sewer is not proposed.	N
Flood prevention	Comment that working in partnership with other Nationally Significant projects can secure flood prevention legacy gains.	Anglian Water Services	Cumulative effects on flood risk and the water environment have been assessed as part of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1].** This concludes that there are no expected increases in flood risk when other developments are considered. A **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]** has been submitted as part of the Application which also confirms when the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Proposed Development is considered in isolation of other developments there would be no increases in flood risk. The drainage design is provided within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) which confirms flood risk is not exacerbated offsite as a result of the Proposed Development. The Applicant would continue to welcome further engagement on potential opportunities of the Proposed Development.	
Flood risk	Comment noting that some of the site is subject to higher flood risk and therefore higher solar panels are proposed.	Anglian Water Services	The flood depths have been assessed as part of the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**. From the data available it is determined maximum flood depths within a relatively minor area of the Site are expected to be 700mm, below the level of a Solar PV module when mounted which is designed to be 0.8m above the ground level as standard.	N
Flood risk	Query whether any guarantees or insurance policies would be put in place by the Applicant to ensure any properties that are flooded during operation would be made good.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]** confirms there would no exacerbation of flood risk as a result of the Proposed Development. Sustainable drainage would be provided as per the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**).	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Flood risk	Comment that there are no concerns with the Proposed Development from a fluvial or tidal flood risk perspective.	Environment Agency	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant met with the Environment Agency on 7 March 2024. A written response to questions raised by the Applicant in the meeting was provided by the Environment Agency on 30 April 2024. The response confirms the Environment Agency is in agreement with the approach taken to ensure the Springwell Substation, BESS and Central Inverters remain outside Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3, whilst Solar PV development can go with Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3.	N
Flood risk	Comment that the Project Groundwater is aimed at better understanding flood risk and is led by Lincolnshire County Council. Scopwick is listed as one of the current priorities, where the project will look to investigate, model and mitigate the causes of groundwater flooding impacting sewage infrastructure	Environment Agency	From the information available it is understood that Project Groundwater has so far included the relining of sewers to prevent groundwater ingress into the sewer system. Besides providing SuDS within the Site, as per the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**), no further groundwater flood mitigation strategies were identified which could be implemented within the Order Limits.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	and properties in Scopwick.			
Flood risk	Comment that the NKDC Strategic FRA should be referred to in the preparation of the baseline data in the Flood Risk Assessment and drainage strategy given that parts of the site are shown to be within a combination of flood zones 2 and 3. Request that the FRA incorporates details of the sequential and exception tests which will need to align with the alternative sites and layouts referred to in the ES.	North Kesteven District Council	The application of the Sequential Test is detailed within the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** as agreed with North Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire County Council and the exception test is detailed within the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**.	N
Flood risk	Comment noting that most of the site is within flood zone 1.	North Kesteven	The Site is predominantly Flood Zone 1 as identified within the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
		District Council		
Flood risk	Comment that the Applicant should set out details of dialogue with the EA/LWT in relation to potential flood risk reduction measures relating to Scopwick Beck and whether/ how this has been factored into the site layout.	North Kesteven District Council	Consultation has been undertaken with the Environment Agency and details of the design layout shared as proposals have progressed. This included engagement on 'Project Groundwater' and 'Brining the Becks Back to Life.' However, due to the stage of these scheme and the Scopwick Beck not falling within the Order Limits, there is limited measures that the Proposed Development could support at this time. A summary of engagement with the Environment Agency relating to flood risk is provided within **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**. Engagement has been undertaken with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust in relation to enhancements and mitigation, however engagement on Scopwick Beck has principally been with the EA due to their ongoing scheme: 'Bringing the Beck Back to Life'. Details of engagement with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust are provided within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Flood risk	Comment that the LLFA will require a Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy to	Lincolnshire County Council	A **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]** has been submitted as part of the Application to satisfy this point. The drainage design is provided within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**). The	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	assess surface water flood risk and ensure that run off is kept to greenfield rates.		drainage strategy notes that surface water discharge from the site would be limited to QBAR greenfield runoff rates and discharged to the local watercourses as per the SuDS hierarchy should infiltration be proven to not be a viable method of surface water disposal.	
General	Agreement that residual effects on groundwater are not likely to be significant, subject to agreement on the oCEMP and oOEMP and their implementation.	Anglian Water Services	Residual risks to groundwater have been considered. The procedures covered by **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** would ensure that there is no environmental impact as a result of leaks or spillages during construction works. Further mitigation measures are outlined in these documents. The Applicant met with Anglian Water Services on 23 September 2024 to discuss and agree the mitigation measures relevant to groundwater and no further comments were raised. For more information, see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]**.	N
General	Comment that NKDC defers to the statutory drainage authorities in relation to Water.	North Kesteven District Council	Lincolnshire County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority and Witham First Internal Drainage Board have been consulted on the Proposed Development. This is	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			detailed within Table 15.1 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Pollution	Comment that there is a risk of damage to and pollutants from the panels and lithium batteries entering the aquifer which would affect river systems and drinking water. Other comments note the unique geology and natural limestone aquifer of the Lincolnshire Heath which means it is particularly vulnerable to contamination.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	During construction and operation (including maintenance), procedures would be covered by the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]**, which would include a management plan for dealing with hazardous materials, and actions to follow in the event of any accidental release of potentially contaminative materials. These documents would protect both soil and groundwater from contamination, preventing migration into geological units (see also **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**). The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) provides detail on design principles which would prevent pollution from batteries entering the wider environment. Panels are not assessed as source of pollution risk to the water environment.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
Surface run off	Comment supporting Principle 7.1 within the PEIR to slow the flow of water within the site to improve flood resilience, noting that rainwater harvesting for on-site non potable use could provide a buffer to managing surface water flows.	Anglian Water Services	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) outlines the ways in which the surface water drainage strategy would ensure no exacerbation of flood risk. It is identified within the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that the cessation of agricultural activities may provide benefits and enhancements such as reducing surface water runoff from the Site following harvesting.	N
Surface run off	Comment that any large impermeable areas (BESS and substation) are required to have an outline strategy to deal with surface water runoff in SuDS compliant manner.	Lincolnshire County Council	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) includes details for the attenuation of surface water runoff from the BESS and Springwell Substation.	N
Surface water	Comment that while the solar panels would	Land interest	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	not increase surface run off, they would concentrate the rainwater into spaces within and around them leading to channelisation at the base of the solar panels.		**[EN010149/APP/7.16]**) identifies the opportunity to provide swales downslope of Solar PV modules at field boundaries to intercept surface water runoff and enhance the potential for infiltration. Established vegetation cover below Solar PV modules would reduce the potential for channelisation.	
Surface water	Comment that there would be limited impermeable areas to provide Rural SuDS, and it is assumed that solar panel areas would comprise surface water management techniques to control runoff based on SuDS. Other comments state that the Applicant's proposed SuDS policy would not work on impervious soils east of the B1188 and	Land interest	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) provides the optionality to discharge via infiltration based Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) if further site investigations conclude that infiltration-based SuDS are viable, or to discharge via connection to local watercourses at restricted greenfield runoff rates if deemed appropriate via the SuDS hierarchy.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	southeast of the B1191.			
Surface water	Comment that the Applicant states that surface water would be intercepted by vegetation to limit channelisation, but this would not be sufficient to cope with summer thunderstorms and only a small proportion (25%) would be absorbed.	Land interest	The guidance provided within NPS EN-3 in Paragraph 3.10.75 concludes that 'As solar PV panels will drain to the existing ground, the impact will not, in general, be significant'. It is therefore concluded within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) that there is no requirement for surface water drainage infrastructure for areas of Solar PV modules (besides for Central Inverters).	N
Water Resources Assessment	Comment that if no water connection and wastewater connection are sought than a Water Resources Assessment is not needed.	Anglian Water Services	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) confirms that no wastewater connection is sought. With regards to mains water supply the water requirements for temporary facilities during the construction and decommissioning phases would be met by bringing in raw water using a bowser, rainwater harvesting or private water supply, or a mixture of these where practicable. Anglian Water mains water supply or groundwater abstraction may be used at permanent	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			facilities if available during construction or decommissioning works.	
Water supply	Comment that potable water could be provided by tanker and that rainwater harvesting should be designed in at this stage for non-potable use during construction and operation, supported by the 'serious' water stress classification.	Anglian Water Services	The non-potable water requirements for temporary facilities during the construction and decommissioning phases are to be met by rainwater harvesting where practicable. Anglian Water mains water supply would be used at permanent facilities for potable water if available during construction or decommissioning works. Potable water can be supplied to temporary welfare facilities via water bowsers. The matters pertaining to water supply have been agreed with Anglian Water as part of the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21].**	N
Water supply	Comment that self-contained welfare facilities during construction and operation would likely have a lower carbon impact and, depending on the project's connection needs, may be less costly than new water supply	Anglian Water Services	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) confirms that package treatment works or cesspits managed by licensed operators are the preferred options for sewerage management for the proposed welfare facilities.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	connections/ upgrades.			
Water supply	Comment that water supply and water recycling matters should be agreed in the draft SoCG pre-submission.	Anglian Water Services	The Applicant and Anglian Water Services Ltd have agreements in place that cover the water supply and water recycling matters. The ongoing discussions and agreements can be found in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]**.	N
Water supply	Comment agreeing that on site sewer and water supply networks are more resilient.	Anglian Water Services	The **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) confirms that package treatment works or cesspits managed by licensed operators are the preferred options for sewerage management for the proposed welfare facilities.	N
Water supply	Comment that operational use of an estimated 3.48 cubic metres per day is relatively low and so capable of supply by tanker, supporting the maximisation of water efficiency in potable use and the use of the	Anglian Water Services	There are confirmed to be a maximum of only 24 staff on the site at any given time during the operational phase during normal operation which indicates low usage of water. The permanent welfare facilities would be supplied via Anglian Water mains supply for potable water. This is provided in the **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]**. Non-potable water can be supplied using rainwater harvesting where practicable. The ongoing discussions	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	sites own non- potable supply for appropriate welfare and operational uses.		and agreements can be found in the **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services Ltd [EN010149/APP/7.21]**	
Watercourses	Comment that the Proposed Development would not likely cross land owned or operated by the Canal and River Trust or impact on its interests. Request for further consultation should the Proposed Development be amended to potentially affect the River Witham, River Trent or Grantham Canal.	Canal and River Trust	River Witham, River Trent and Grantham Canal are outside of the 1km Study Area around the Order Limits and have not been considered further.	N
WFD	Comment noting the WFD status of the Metheringham Beck, that are less likely to be significant impacts if the Proposed Development has self-	Anglian Water Services	The Proposed Development would not connect to the existing Anglian Water sewer networks for foul or surface water flows as indicated by the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**). Therefore, there would be no impacts on Metheringham Beck as a result of any potential increase in flows into	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
	contained water and wastewater facilities and does not connect to the public sewer network.		sewers as may have been anticipated when this comment was made.	
Misc				
Applicant	Comment that the Applicant is a French owned company.	Land interest	The Applicant is registered in England and Wales (company number 13484004). The Proposed Development is a joint venture between two companies both registered in England and Wales – EDF Renewables UK (06456689) and Luminous Energy (08416646).	N
Community sentiment	Comment that feedback received from the community and other impacted parishes has been against the Proposed Development.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Rowston Parish Meeting	Throughout the pre-application stage, the Applicant has sought feedback on its proposals from anyone with an interest in the Proposed Development to improve its proposals, irrespective of their overall opinion on the Proposed Development. This has included two phases of formal consultation and a targeted consultation on footpath and highways improvements, alongside a continuous programme of stakeholder engagement. The Applicant has had regard to all responses received to consultation in finalising its proposals, with feedback received throughout the pre-application stage resulting in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			a number of changes being made to the Proposed Development. A summary of changes made due to feedback from consultation, along with how the Applicant has complied with legislation, guidance and advice notes in carrying out pre-application consultation are set out in the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**.	
DCO process	Comments that decision makers should come and visit the area to look at the infrastructure.	Land interest	As part of the examination, it is common for the Examining Authority to conduct site visits (accompanied and unaccompanied) to view areas of the Proposed Development. Should the Application be accepted for examination, the Applicant encourages anyone who would like to be kept up to date with the examination to register as an Interested Party.	N
General	The Proposed Development is suitably far enough away from the local planning authority that it has no comments or observations to make at this stage as it is unlikely to have an impact.	Boston Borough Council Newark and Sherwood District Council	This is noted.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
		Norfolk County Council Peterborough City Council		
General	Comment that the Proposed Development has been examined from a technical safeguarding aspect and does not conflict with NATS safeguarding criteria. Accordingly, NATS (En Route) Public Limited Company ("NERL") has no safeguarding objection to the proposal based on the information supplied at the time of consultation.	NATS	The Applicant thanks NATS for responding to the consultation and would continue to welcome further engagement if required.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
General	Comment that based on the information in the PEIR it is unlikely that HSE would advise against the development.	Health and Safety Executive	The Applicant thanks HSE for responding to the consultation and would continue to welcome further engagement if required.	N
General	Comment stating general objection to the Proposed Development.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council Land interest	Throughout the pre-application stage, the Applicant has sought feedback on its proposals from anyone with an interest in the Proposed Development to improve its proposals, irrespective of their overall opinion on the Proposed Development. This has included two phases of formal consultation and a targeted consultation on footpath and highways improvements, alongside a continuous programme of stakeholder engagement. The Applicant has had regard to all responses received to consultation in finalising its proposals, with feedback received throughout the pre-application stage resulting in a number of changes being made to the Proposed Development. For example, in part to respond to feedback from Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council, the Applicant made a number of changes to the design of the Proposed Development following Phase Two Consultation, including removal of a field (Md02) north of	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			Scopwick from solar development, and proposing a community growing area. A summary of changes made due to feedback from consultation, along with how the Applicant has complied with legislation, guidance and advice notes in carrying out pre-application consultation are set out in the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**.	
Motivation	Comment that the Applicant is only motivated by profit.	Land interest Rowston Parish Meeting	The Applicant is bringing forward the Proposed Development to meet an urgent national need for clean, secure sources of electricity. Further information on this is provided within the **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** submitted as part of the Application.	N
No comment	Statement that the consultee does not have any comments to make at this stage.	NHS Lincolnshire ed Care Board	The Applicant thanks NHS Lincolnshire ICB for responding to the consultation and would continue to welcome further engagement if required.	N
Supply chain	Comment that panels and battery storage are suspected to be imported from China with concerning welfare conditions.	Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council	The Applicant opposes the abuse of human rights and forced labour anywhere in the global supply chain. The procurement process for the Proposed Development has not yet started and would begin should development consent be granted. As part of this process, the Applicant would take a rigorous approach to	

Topic	Summary of comments	Consultee	Response	Change (Y/N)
			ensuring its suppliers comply with relevant legislation (such as the Modern Slavery Act 2015) and its requirements as set out in an ethical procurement policy (for more information, see **Outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]**).	

Appendix J-2 – Consideration of Section 47 responses and consideration by topic

Application Document Ref: EN010149/APP/5.2
Planning Inspectorate Scheme Ref: EN010149

Appendix J-2: Summary of Section 47 responses and consideration by topic[3]

Table J-2: Summary of s47 responses and consideration by topic

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Air quality			
Impact of pollution	Comments that residents would have to drive to quieter areas of the countryside during construction which would cause more pollution.	It is considered unlikely that a large proportion of existing recreational users would drive elsewhere to enjoy the countryside, especially as the Proposed Development would be phased and therefore construction activities would be confined to specific areas. Notwithstanding, the number and frequency of users travelling elsewhere would be negligible when considered on an hourly basis, comfortably within daily fluctuations of traffic and therefore not likely to be perceptible. According to the NKDC 2023 Air Quality Annual Status Report, air quality is considered to be good in the local area. Any effects on air quality during construction of the Proposed Development would be temporary (i.e. during the construction period only). Therefore, it is unlikely there would be a risk of emissions that could result in an exceedance of the Air Quality Standards.	N

[3] Abbreviations and defined terms are included within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 00: Glossary [EN010149/APP/6.1]**

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Emissions during construction phase can be suitably controlled by the employment of mitigation measures documented within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** which have been submitted in support of the Application. More information can be found in **ES Volume 1**, **Chapter 6: Air Quality [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Alternatives			
Alternatives – site selection	Suggestion that the Springwell Substation and BESS should be located to the east of the A15, close to RAF Digby which is more industrialised and away from public housing.	Following Phase Two Consultation, the location of Springwell Substation was reviewed and revised to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. This resulted in the siting zone for the Springwell Substation and BESS being refined to a single field (compared to 3 fields shown at Phase Two). Under the Application, the siting zone for the Springwell Substation and BESS is secured by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and is located entirely within Field Tb2 to the north of Springwell West, and west of the A15. Environmental appraisals indicated that Field Tb2 would be less visually exposed than central land parcels in Springwell West and would have reduced impacts on users of PRoW, Bloxholm	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Wood Nature Reserve, and biodiversity compared to southern parcels in Springwell West. Siting of the substation within Field Tb2 allows for landscape and visual mitigation of the Proposed Development from the A15 and surrounding residential receptors. The Springwell Substation and main collector compound would be offset by 250m from the A15 and an Earth Bund which would partially screen the lower lying elements of the compound from the road. New structure planting, in the form of tree belts and hedgerows would support with screening and integration of the substation compound. This would include tree belt planting to the west, south and east of the compound, while existing woodland (Gorse Hill Covert) would provide screening to the north. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** It is acknowledged in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that some adverse effects on landscape and visual amenity would remain even with mitigation in place but this would be the case wherever this infrastructure was located within Order Limits or the wider landscape.	
Alternatives – site selection	Comment that there are better locations for	The Proposed Development makes use of the land over which the Applicant has negotiated voluntary rights and has certainty	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	solar development owned by BEL e.g. adjacent to the A15 that have not been considered and would be less impactful as they are located away from communities. Other comments felt that the land had been cherry picked to protect the interests of landowners at the expense of the local community.	that it would be available to deliver the Proposed Development by the connection date. The **Appendix 1: Site Selection Report** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** sets out the site selection process, including which criteria was used in site selection and how the site selection process performs against the key requirements of NPS EN-3.	
Alternatives - technology	Comment that a large development makes sense as opposed to multiple smaller schemes.	This has been noted by the Applicant. NPS EN-1 explains that the connection of large-scale generation facilities via high-voltage transmission systems enables the pooling of generation and demand and enables the efficient bulk transfer of power between areas with surplus and areas in deficit [1, Para 3.3.12]. This is a critical benefit of large-scale systems and supports energy security and system operability. For more information, see **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]**.	N
Approach to EIA			

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
EIA process	Comment that the Applicant's approach has to been to identify environmental benefits rather than impacts and has prioritised mitigation over avoiding effects.	The EIA Regulations require an Environmental Statement to identify both positive and negative effects of the development. The ES identifies a range of possible impacts of the Proposed Development, including both beneficial and adverse, together with mitigation measures to prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset adverse effects. Given the approach to assuming a reasonable worst case, rather than understating the likely effects of the Proposed Development, if anything, the adverse effects may be slightly over-stated given the precautionary approach taken to ensure that the effects can be properly considered. The mitigation hierarchy is an established principle in EIA, under which avoidance or prevention is always considered before measures to reduce or offset an effect. This approach is enshrined in the EIA Regulations. The Proposed Development has evolved through an iterative design and assessment process taking opportunities to avoid and prevent likely significant effects before considering mitigation measures. Where measures to avoid or prevent effects embedded into the design these are described in the relevant chapters of the **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
EIA process	Comment on the validity of assessments undertaken of land, soil and groundwater,	The soil survey has been undertaken by soil scientists that have the scientific and technical expertise to provide and translate the results from field-based research and desk-studies into practical solutions for Government, regulators, and land-based industries.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	including that soil testing and information on yields have not been undertaken/produced by independent sources.	They provide complete assessments of the quality and condition of soils to inform development or other activities and design schemes for the manufacture, remediation, and storage of soils. The soil specialists have been undertaking soil surveys since its creation as the advisory and research arm of the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food (MAFF) in 1946. They have extensive experience of undertaking government and corporate research, policy and guidance on the use, classification, and protection of soils. They were involved in the development of the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system, which included regional surveyors testing the 1988 revised methodology before it was published. They work with a range of other organisations including DEFRA, Environment Agency and Natural England on soils matters.	
EIA process	Comment that respondents do not know how the environmental impacts are being assessed or measured.	Each chapter of the Environment Statement (see **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**) includes a detailed description of the methodology used to assess and measure the impacts of the Proposed Development. This methodology was also included in the EIA Scoping Report (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.1: Scoping Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) and PEIR (**Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) as part of the process of agreeing the scope and approach to the EIA.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
PEIR	Comments on the quality of the PEIR. Positive comments felt that the breadth of the PEIR and information available at an early stage was encouraging. Negative comments stated that the detail was inadequate, that it did not meet Planning Inspectorate guidelines, did not provide rationale of statistics and was deliberately misleading.	The Applicant notes that responders were encouraged by the breadth of information available at Phase Two Consultation. By its very nature the PEIR is preliminary. It presents the Applicant's latest understanding of the Proposed Development, the baseline environment and the likely significant effects at the time. This information was used as the basis for the subsequent **Environmental Statement** (see **ES, Volumes 1-4 [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]**). The Planning Inspectorate has not raised concerns around adequacy of the PEIR in relation to its guidelines and it is not considered that the information presented in the PEIR was misleading.	N
Rochdale Envelope	Query if, should the Application be approved, the Applicant needs to stick to the proposed plans or whether the	Should consent be granted, the exact design details of the Proposed Development would be confirmed once the construction tendering process for the design has been completed. The local planning authority would be required approve the detailed design in advance of the Proposed Development commencing (or phase thereof).	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Applicant would be penalised for making changes that may prove to be essential to make the Proposed Development work or if improved materials/ systems become available?	This is of particular importance to maintain flexibility due to the rapid pace of change in solar PV and energy storage technologies, as technologies could be utilised that do not currently exist. Therefore, sufficient flexibility has been sought for the final design within the Application. Establishing the maximum parameters enables a robust assessment of likely significant environmental effects (see **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]**) where the nature of the assessment requires a specific level of detail, such as maximum heights, massing, or noise levels. The assessment parameters are detailed in the works descriptions below which are linked to Schedule 1 within the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** and in full in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 3.1: Project Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.3]**, the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and within a number of Control Documents as listed with the **Guide to the Application [EN010149/APP/1.1]**. The DCO would include requirements setting out how the construction and operation of the project must be undertaken. Breach of these matters would be a criminal offence.	
Surveys	Comment that wildlife monitoring should have taken place at different times over the year –	Ecology surveys have been carried out at appropriate times of the year, where possible in 2022, 2023 and 2024. There is not considered to be any significant limitation with survey findings due to timing of surveys. Survey methods, timings and any	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	the Applicant has done it quickly and not sufficiently.	limitations are detailed in survey reports in **ES Volume 3, Appendices 7.1-7.13 [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Battery storage			
Contamination	Comments that there would be a high risk of contamination from the BESS if a major incident occurred and this should be investigated further to understand potential environmental effects. Other comments expressed concern about the potential impacts on nearby villages from any incident e.g. potential for toxic gases to be released.	The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS" and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 "Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems". The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk. The **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **Flood Risk Assessment: Appendix - Outline Drainage Strategy [EN010149/APP/7.16]** set out methods to collect, contain and manage any firefighting water runoff during a thermal runaway event. It also sets out drainage strategy for normal operation. This helps to avoid, control and mitigate the risk of contamination to nearby receptors. The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Fire risk	Query if the local fire authority is fully supportive, as there is not enough water to sustain firefighting operations.	The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS" and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 "Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems". The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Lifespan	Query how long the batteries would last.	Battery lifetime would vary depending on the specific battery technology installed and the details of how the facility is operated. The Applicant currently expects battery units to have a lifetime of up to approximately 25 years, and that units would be replaced when required.	N
Location	Comments that the BESS should not be located close to	The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance “Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	military facilities. Specific concerns included risk of fire, and potential vulnerability in a conflict.	planning – Guidance for FRS" and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 "Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems". The Applicant and the MOD have actively engaged throughout the pre-application period, including on the proposed BESS. Risk of fire and potential vulnerability in a conflict have not been raised by the MOD as a concern. The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The BESS site and enclosures are designed in a way which ensures that fire would not spread to any nearby receptors, including the MoD site. The Proposed Development includes physical barriers between the BESS and the MoD site, such as an earth bund and the A15. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk. The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Location	Comments that the BESS is proposed too close to villages and residential properties.	The proposed location of the BESS has been refined since the Phase Two Consultation, resulting in a number of potential locations being removed. The proposed location of the BESS is shown in the **Zonal Masterplan [EN010149/APP/6.1 Figure 3.1].** Environmental impact assessments have been carried out as detailed in the **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, which have informed the design of the BESS facility e.g. location, size, possible mitigations like noise attenuation and screening. The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance “Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS” and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 “Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems”. The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents	N

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		set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk. The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable	

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		preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Materials	Query where the lithium is mined for the batteries, and that this is in short supply internationally.	The Applicant's integrators source lithium-ion batteries from various suppliers around the world. The lithium used in these batteries is typically mined from lithium rich brine deposits in countries such as Chile, Argentina, and Bolivia, as well as hard rock deposits in Australia, Canada, and China. The specific location where lithium used by our integrators batteries is mined may vary depending on the supplier and the specific type of lithium-ion battery being produced. They ensure	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		that the materials used in their products are sourced responsibly and sustainably. Whilst the raw material is a finite resource, supply and demand across global supply chains fluctuates over time. Therefore, the Applicant would monitor lead in times for supply of materials with manufactures, in case at the time of procurement, lead in times are prolongated due to supply issues.	
Noise	Comment that the BESS would create noise which would impact on Navenby residents.	Noise impacts have been assessed at The Bungalow, Gorse Hill Lane, which is approximately 600m from the closest noise equipment assessed. No significant impact is assessed at this receptor, as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The nearest dwelling in Navenby appears to be located 2km from The Bungalow, along Long Ridge, which results in around an additional 13 dB attenuation for distance correction. This additional attenuation is considered to result in no impact to Navenby residents.	N
Biodiversity			
Bats	Comment that bats could be impacted due to the Proposed Development, as bat roosts and inset-rich habitats would be	Bats were scoped in and have been assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The design has avoided trees with bat roost potential as identified in preliminary ground level bat tree assessments, as shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 7.2: Bat Ground Level Tree Assessment and Areas Proposed for Vegetation Removal [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. Bat	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	destroyed. Other comments highlighted the number of bat species locally.	activity surveys have also been carried out to inform the assessment as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.5: Bat Activity Survey, 7.6: Addendum Bat Activity Survey** and **7.13: Further Targeted Bat Activity Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].** With mitigation to avoid disturbance and maintain connectivity of key hedgerows throughout construction, there is anticipated to be an adverse effect on bats at the Local Level during construction, but this is not considered significant. There is anticipated to be an overall enhancement of bat commuting and foraging habitat through habitat creation proposals, including planting 15,563m of new hedgerows and 16ha of new tree belts, as detailed in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	
Battery storage	Comment that the battery storage would damage local flora and fauna.	The BESS element of the Proposed Development would be constructed in an arable field which is of low ecological value and therefore there is not anticipated to be any significant adverse effects on flora or fauna. Impacts of the Proposed Development on flora and fauna are assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Birds	Query whether the Applicant has considered to erect swift boxes in the	This was not considered practical as swift nest boxes should be installed at least 5m high and Solar PV modules would be up to 3.5m at their highest point.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	eves/tops of the solar panels.		
Birds	Comment that there are a number of different bird species in the local area which could be impacted by the Proposed Development, including swifts, swallows, owls and red kites. Potential impacts raised included the change of use from farmland to a solar farm, as farmland birds rely on cultivation of the land, as well as the inability for some birds to hunt over fields of solar panels.	Bird surveys identified several important farmland bird species which use the Site, including ground nesting birds and wintering birds such as grey partridge, corn bunting and skylark and also barn owl. Details of the surveys are set out in **ES Volume 3, Appendix: 7.2: Breeding Bird Survey, Appendix 7.3: Wintering Bird Survey,** and **Appendix 7.4: Barn Owl Survey [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Impacts of the Proposed Development on birds is assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].** There is anticipated to be an adverse effect on ground nesting and wintering birds at the Local Level during construction however this is not considered likely to be significant. There is anticipated to be an overall significant beneficial effect due to enhancement of farmland bird nesting habitat and foraging habitat through habitat creation and improvement proposals. These include creation of 100ha of grassland, enhancement of field margins and treatments under panels as well as new hedgerow and tree planting, as detailed in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	N
Bloxholm Wood	Comment that Bloxholm Wood	New tree and hedgerow planting is proposed in Bcd139, and grassland creation is proposed in Bcd140 and Bcd141 which are	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	contains ancient trees, important flora and breeding bird species and is the largest contiguous area of woodland within the site boundary. Request for parcels Bcd139, 140 and 141 to be used for ecological mitigation and enhancements (including provision of linear habitats connecting Bloxholm to Warren Pit Plantation). Request for the buffer zone between Bcd141 and Bloxholm Wood to be used for creation of ecologically productive edge habitat.	adjacent to Bloxholm Wood LWS to enhance woodland connectivity and biodiversity. Habitat creation proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Consultation	Comment expressing concern that feedback	The Applicant has undertaken a programme of continuous engagement with the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust across several	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	from the community and wildlife groups (e.g. LWT) is not being taken seriously, and more information on how the Applicant is responding to feedback is needed.	meetings between 2023 and 2024, to discuss the project design, ecology surveys and habitat creation and enhancement proposals. Details of these meetings are presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Fencing	Comment that mammal gates should be used, with more information provided about how these would work.	'Two-way opening' mammal gates would be installed in fences to allow mammals such as badgers access for dispersal and foraging. Gaps under fences would also allow dispersal for smaller mammals. Field margins would have a 10m buffer from fencing allowing deer to disperse. Details on mammal gates and fencing are included in the embedded design as secured through the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].**	N
Environmental effects	Comment that overall, there would be a negative environmental impact from the Proposed Development and that the proposed mitigation measures	Although there is anticipated to be adverse effects at the Local Level for hedgerows, ground nesting and wintering birds and bats during the construction phase – the effects are not considered likely to be significant due to embedded design and additional mitigation measures. There is however anticipated to be an overall beneficial effect on biodiversity once habitat creation and enhancement proposals are established and maintained through appropriate management. The detailed assessment of impacts of the Proposed Development on	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	are not sufficient to outweigh these. Request for more information to demonstrate that there would be no negative effects on the local environment.	biodiversity is shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are set out in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	
Environmental effects	Query how the Proposed Development would impact on the environment (positive and negative).	Although there is anticipated to be adverse effects at the Local Level for hedgerows, ground nesting and wintering birds and bats during the construction phase – the effects are not considered likely to be significant due to embedded design and additional mitigation measures. There is however anticipated to be an overall beneficial effect on biodiversity once habitat creation and enhancement proposals are established and maintained through appropriate management. The detailed assessment of impacts of the Proposed Development on biodiversity is shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are set out in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	N
Environmental enhancements	Comments that there is not enough detail on environmental	Details on embedded design, mitigation and the assessment of impacts of the Proposed Development on biodiversity is shown in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	considerations and potential enhancement measures. Other comments suggested that biodiversity improvements are small scale/not genuine and are just a marketing tactic.	Habitat creation and enhancement proposals, such as creation of 100ha of grassland, planting of 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts, are detailed in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Great Crested Newts	Comment that there has been a Great Crested Newt sighting within proximity of the site boundary recorded by the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. Other comments note that the impact on amphibian species would be low but there could be opportunities to enhance habitat	Surveys indicate that great crested newt (GCN) are likely absent as no evidence of GCN, from eDNA sampling, was found in ponds within c.500m of the Site. Details of the surveys are provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.1: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal [EN010149/APP/6.3].** No ponds would be affected by works. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals have been designed to enhance habitat networks for wildlife such as amphibians. Habitat creation proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	connectivity with provision for species such as GCN.		
Habitats	Comment that other solar panel developments have not improved habitats but merely increased invasive and weed blown weeds, which require a higher intensity of herbicide in the surrounding area.	Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are anticipated to provide a Biodiversity Net Gain of at least 10% once habitats have established. Habitats would be managed under a management regime throughout the operational phase, including spot treatment of injurious weeds where appropriate. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	N
Habitats	Comment that the area south of RAF Digby has multiple priority hedgerows assessed as opportunities for habitat creation within the Central Lincolnshire Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping,	Habitat creation and enhancement proposals, including areas south of RAF Digby, are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2].** Proposals include creation of 100ha of grassland, enhancement of field margins, herbal ley and grassland treatments under solar PV modules and planting of 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. These measures are detailed in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	and opportunities to enhance biodiversity in this area should be considered e.g. different seed mixes within fields.		
Hares	Comments that there is a large amount of brown hare in the local area which should be protected. Concern that brown hare would be negatively impacted, e.g. through loss of open space.	This has been noted and agreed. Brown hare have been considered in the design of the Proposed Development. Gaps under fences would allow brown hare and other mammals access across the Order Limits for nesting, foraging and dispersal, secured under the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** Grassland creation would provide open space and enhance foraging for brown hare as well as ground nesting birds. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and are also detailed in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Mitigation to avoid harm to nesting hares during construction is detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N
Hedgehogs	Comments that hedgehogs could be impacted by the	Gaps under fences would allow hedgehogs access across the Order Limits for nesting, foraging and dispersal, secured under the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** Habitat	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Proposed Development. Concerns included potential loss of habitat.	creation and enhancement proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and are also detailed in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Insects	Comment that the solar panels would kill insects and cause a decline in their population negatively impacting foraging species.	Legume and herb rich treatments proposed under the solar PV modules are anticipated to enhance insect biodiversity. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and are also detailed in and secured by the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Light pollution	Comment that the bright lights used to illuminate the solar panels could interfere with the natural darkness of the night sky affecting nocturnal wildlife.	The solar panels would not be lit. Consideration has been considered to minimise light spill to prevent disturbance to bats and other nocturnal animals. Throughout construction and operation, the use of motion detection or manually operated lighting would be used to avoid constant lighting. Security lighting would use infra-red which is not on the visible spectrum for bats. Details of lighting design to limit effects on bats is detailed in the **Design Commitments [EN010149APP/7.4]**.	N
Long Plantation	Request for a minimum buffer of 20m between Long Plantation and	There would be a 20m buffer from Bloxholm Wood and Long Plantation. Details of new planting proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	any development to avoid shading of flora and fungi. Support the provision of a tree belt in this area to enhance existing woodland habitat.	**[EN010149/APP/6.2].** The buffer zones would be secured through the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].**	
Noise	Comment that the noise from the Proposed Development would disrupt animals and they would not stay in the area.	There is not anticipated to be significant noise disturbance to wildlife during construction or operation. Mitigation to control noise during construction is detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. Assessment of disturbance is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Surface runoff	Comment that the solar panels would cause surface runoff which would negatively affecting wildlife.	There is not anticipated to be significant run-off from the solar panels as shown in the assessment detailed **in ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Mitigation would prevent pollution of watercourses and groundwater during construction as detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N
Trees and woodland	Query whether the Applicant would cut down trees, and if so	While approximately 1,249m of hedgerow is proposed to be removed, this would be re-instated after construction works where possible or planted elsewhere within the Order limits.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	whether these would be replaced.	New planting proposals include 16ha new tree belts and approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow. Details of new hedgerow and tree planting proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Vegetation	Comment that there would be a loss of diversity in vegetation especially under the proposed solar panels as the soil would be dried out, negatively affecting wildlife.	The proposals for planting of legume and herb rich treatments under Solar PV modules would enhance vegetation diversity as detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** There is not anticipated to be a significant impact to soils as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Vegetation	Comment that surrounding vegetation would have to be kept short to ensure panels are not shaded.	Management of vegetation under and around the Solar PV modules would be required either by cutting or grazing. Management is detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The Solar	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		PV modules would be up to 3.5m high so vegetation would not need to be kept very short.	
Vegetation	Comment that native plants, trees and flowers should be used to encourage nature as much as possible.	The Applicant agrees with this statement. Native flora is proposed in new planting as detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Water resources	Comment that covering open land with paving to make water drain into natural steams, becks and man-made dykes would be impossible and such sources of water are vital for plants and animals. Fish such as minnows and Sticklebacks would not survive once water levels dry up due to lack of drainage water.	The impact assessment on water is detailed **in ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1].** There is not anticipated to be significant run-off from the solar panels and mitigation would prevent pollution of watercourses and groundwater during construction as detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Water voles	Comment that there is some evidence of water voles in Scopwick, having previously been impacted by local mink, and this should be investigated.	There would be a 6m buffer from watercourses which would protect any water vole burrows, if present. This would be secured through the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** The watercourses which are proposed to be affected by internal road crossings or cable were surveyed in 2024 and no evidence of water voles was found. The ditches were dry at the time of the survey, and they were considered not suitable for water vole. Survey details are shown in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.7 Riparian Mammal and Aquatic Habitat Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
Wildlife	Comments that solar farms can benefit local wildlife.	The Applicant agrees with this comment. The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, which are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2],** and detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	N
Wildlife	Comment that the respondent is happy that the Applicant has chosen to propose areas for solar panels	The design of the Proposed Development has been informed by ecology surveys to avoid sensitive habitats and species where possible. Where impact to habitats or species is unavoidable, for example where sections of hedgerow would need to be removed	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	development away from important places for wildlife.	for access, proposed mitigation and compensation measures would ensure there would be no significant adverse effects.	
Wildlife	Comment that wildlife needs to be taken into consideration including wildlife corridors, tree planting and other habitats. These should be properly maintained.	Enhancing habitat connectivity has been considered in the design. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and include 16ha new tree belts and approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow. Habitat management measures are detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N
Wildlife	Comment that the respondent was pleased to see reference to bats, barn owls, hares and other threatened and less threatened species locally within the consultation materials.	This has been noted. Assessment of the sensitive receptors which are considered could potentially be significantly affected is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Wildlife corridors	Comment supporting creation of pathways through the Proposed	Fencing has been designed to maintain a 10m buffer from field margins to allow larger mammals such as deer to disperse and gaps underneath fencing to allow access for smaller animals	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Development for smaller mammals as deer which currently use the trackways and paths around crops.	such as brown hare and hedgehogs to forage and disperse. 'Two-way' mammal gates in fences would also allow badgers access for foraging and dispersal. These measures are secured in the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].**	
Wildlife corridors	Comment that there has been no consideration of wildlife corridors over a large area.	Enhancing habitat connectivity has been a key consideration in the design. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals to enhance habitat connectivity, such as strategic planting of 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts, are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plans [EN010149/APP/6.2]** and detailed in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N
Climate			
General comment - Climate	Comment that crops remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and that the loss of crop production/agricultural land from the Proposed Development is	IEMA's Guide to Assessing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Evaluating their Significance (2022) states: "activities that do not significantly change the result of the assessment can be excluded where expected emissions are less than 1% of total emissions, and where all such exclusions total a maximum of 5% of total emissions; all exclusions should be clearly stated". The carbon sequestration of crops is expected to be less than 1% of the change in total emissions and therefore was not considered further in the assessment.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	harming the environment.	The GHG savings of the Proposed Development outweigh the emissions associated with its construction, operation (including maintenance and replacement), and decommissioning, resulting in net GHG savings of over 9.6 million tonnes of CO_2e.	
Monitoring	Query if the manufacturing process would be governed, regulated and audited to ensure that carbon assumptions are correct?	All assumptions for each phase of the Proposed Development are stated in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1].** These assumptions are either based directly on the guidance or from best knowledge provided by design and engineering teams. The Applicant would embed mitigation measures such as the implementation of a carbon reduction plan, the responsible sourcing of materials, and a review of Environmental Product Declarations (which were the sources of multiple assumptions regarding manufacturing emissions, as shown in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 8.1: Raw Data and Emissions Factors [EN010149/APP/6.3]**).	N
Community benefit			
Community benefit	Comment that the Applicant should fund projects before construction such as school extensions, community halls.	The Applicant is proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		the local area. The Applicant held initial discussions with the Lincolnshire Community Foundation as outlined in **Appendix B-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	
Community benefit	Comment that the provision of free electricity for Lincoln County Hospital should be considered.	It is considered that due to the distance between the Proposed Development and Lincoln County Hospital (in excess of 15km), the negative impacts of installing a cable to facilitate a private wire connection would outweigh the benefits. Electricity from the Proposed Development would feed into the National Grid, forming part of the national electricity supply that powers homes and businesses across the UK. By generating low carbon electricity at a low marginal cost, large-scale solar power reduces the energy generated by more expensive and more carbon intensive forms of generation. Solar therefore helps to decarbonises the electricity system and lower the market price of electricity, as set out in the **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Community Fund	Comment that the community benefit fund is not inflation linked.	The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development.	N
Community Fund	Suggestions for how the community fund could be used to benefit the local community, including: • Employing a full-time fire fighter in Metheringham • Training ex-service personnel to install solar panels • Providing local schools with solar panels • Providing local schools with educational	The Community Fund would be put in place at the start of operation and last throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. This could include the suggestions received in feedback to Phase Two Consultation, should these be community priorities. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	resources on renewable energy.		
Community Fund	Comment that the Applicant has said local schools and business could benefit and there would be a 'pot of money set aside', but when Digby C of E primary school rang to discuss this was not offered up as the case at all.	The Applicant is proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	N
Community Fund	Comments that all funding requests to the community benefit fund should go through an independent organisation /local authority with no affiliation to any particular village that	It is envisaged that the Community Fund would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The Applicant held initial discussions with the Lincolnshire Community Foundation as outlined in **Appendix B-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	has the ability to apply for funding.		
Compensation	Comments that residents should be compensated for disruption and impact on their lives.	A compensation plan is not proposed; however, the Applicant has sought to limit impacts on properties closest to the Proposed Development. More information about how the Proposed Development has been designed to be sensitive to the surrounding communities can be found in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. Should any parties believe that their property has decreased in value as a direct result of the physical impacts from the operation of the Proposed Development such as noise and vibration, they may be eligible to claim for compensation under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973. Compensation is not payable for loss of value as a result of diminished a view/visual amenity related impact. The Applicant is proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	
Connecting to the grid			
Environmental effects	Comment that the Applicant is trying to hide the environmental impacts of the Proposed Development by removing the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation from its proposals. Other comments questioned the motive of the Applicant for giving the Substation to National Grid.	The Applicant has received a grid connection offer from National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited (NGESO) to connect the Proposed Development to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) via the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) operates as the transmission owner, and as such, NGET is the body within the National Grid responsible for constructing, owning and operating the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. This has always been a National Grid asset, however at Phase One Consultation the Applicant allowed for the possibility for consenting the Substation for NGET as part of its DCO. Following Phase One Consultation, NGET confirmed that it will seek planning consent for the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation directly and is in the process of preparing and submitting a Planning Application under the Town and Country	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Planning Act 1990 to NKDC, and section 37 of The Electricity Act 1989 to the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero. More information about how the Proposed Development would connect into the National Grid can be found in the **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6]**. An assessment of potential cumulative effects of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is presented within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Information	Request for more information about various aspects of the proposed NGNS, including the scale, impact of cabling and construction as well as its potential environmental effects.	The proposed National Grid Navenby Substation does not form part of the Application. Aspects of the Proposed Development that interface with the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation, such as the cable corridor and connection, are detailed within the Application (see **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1], Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6]**). An assessment of potential cumulative effects of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is presented within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Where detail regarding the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is not yet known, the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Applicant has utilised similar applications and the National Grid's factsheet on substation construction for its assessment.	
Construction			
Access routes	Comment that the proposed access routes are unsuitable for construction vehicles.	The access strategy for construction traffic has been developed in consultation with LCC Highways. Following Phase Two Consultation, the use of Bloxholm Lane and Metheringham Heath Lane/A15 junction (HGV vehicles turning in and out of Metheringham Heath Lane) has been removed from the routing options for the Proposed Development. Access routes have been assessed within the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and are detailed in **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].** Where necessary, mitigation including alterations to road markings, widths and the development of new junctions, has been discussed and agreed with LCC Highways and is detailed within the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. The principal route for HGVs is proposed to be via the A15 and B1191 which was developed in consultation with LCC Highways. This is detailed in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N
Access routes	Comment that the consultation booklet	The Applicant has assessed impacts of the Proposed Development on traffic and transport within **ES Volume 1,**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	shows a satellite construction compound just to the south of Scopwick but there is no blue line connecting to the site. Query if assurance can be given that traffic would not go through the village of Scopwick to reach this site.	**Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Mitigation measures to reduce impacts during construction are detailed within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. In relation to HGV use of the road network in the vicinity of Scopwick, these would only use a section of the B1181 at the northern extent of Scopwick and, from there, along the B1191 to the west of Scopwick, thereby avoiding passing through the centre of the village. The assessments predict that the volume of worker traffic travelling through Scopwick would be low, indicating no significant environmental impacts associated with the construction phase. Detail of this is found in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
Cabling	Query the level of disruption that laying the cable route would entail. Other comments raised that the cable route should not be close to residential	The Applicant acknowledges that construction can be disruptive. It should be noted that cabling would generally be laid in sections so that the period of disruption in any particular location would be limited. Following Phase Two Consultation, the Order Limits and areas of Solar PV development have been reduced. For example, Solar PV is no longer proposed in areas to the south and north of Scopwick or southwest of RAF Digby, as well as an area of	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	properties to avoid disturbance.	land to the north of Toll Bar Cottage being removed from the Order Limits. This would result in cabling and other works being further from residential properties. Where necessary, the Applicant would apply additional mitigation measures such as temporary hoardings to further mitigate impacts on residential properties. Noise from construction works has been assessed and indicates the magnitude of impact of noise from construction activities is considered low. See **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Management of the construction of the Proposed Development is detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** Possible methods of cable route construction can be seen in **Appendix 2 - Cabling and Grid Connection Method Statement** of the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	
Construction liaison	Comment that the Applicant should work with the community and wildlife groups during construction to ensure minimum disruption.	The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, North Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire County Council extensively between 2023 and 2024 to discuss the development of the design, ecology surveys and potential mitigation measures to reduce impacts on the community and wildlife. Should consent be granted, the Applicant would continue to engage with these parties throughout the construction phase. Prior to construction, a Community Liaison Group would be	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		established up to act as a forum to provide updates on the Proposed Development. Measures to minimise disruption to the local community and wildlife are detailed and secured in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	
Construction technique	Query about the method of panel foundation e.g. would the panels be mounted on concrete pads or drilled poles?	The solar panel foundation type would be either driven or helical piles, or concrete footings, depending on the ground conditions. Details are set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Construction workers	Comment that 600 staff a day on site is an enormous amount.	The peak period for construction staff is expected to be relatively short in comparison with the overall schedule, with an average 400 workers on site. The Applicant has assessed the methods by which staff could travel to the Site and proposed possible mitigation measures to reduce any impacts. For instance, **Appendix 1 – Outline Travel Plan** of the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** sets out the Applicant's objectives to reduce single occupancy car journeys to / from the Site and minimise the impact and frequency of car travel to reduce pollution and congestion in the area and minimise the need for parking.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The Applicant has assessed potential impacts of the Proposed Development during the construction phase across all topic chapters (Chapters 6-17) within the **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, including **Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration** and **Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport.** Measures to manage potential effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].**	
Construction workers	Comment that the respondent has no objection as it would involve a low number of workers.	This is noted. The Applicant has assessed potential impacts of the Proposed Development during the construction phase across all topic chapters (Chapters 6-17) within the **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, including **Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration** and **Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport.** Measures to manage potential effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Construction workers	Comment that Navenby and Cliff Villages cannot accommodate construction workers as local services are oversubscribed and houses are already in demand	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]** sets out the number of construction workers anticipated onsite as a result of the Proposed Development. A peak number of 650 construction workers are anticipated on site at one time during the construction phase. The assessment states approximately 6% of these staff would live beyond a commutable distance to the site and therefore would be required to work in temporary accommodation whilst working onsite. The assessment concludes that there would be no significant effects on occupancy rates as a result of the Proposed Development and that strain on local services would be minimal. It is not anticipated that any additional people would be seeking housing or local services in nearby settlements such as Navenby as a result of the construction phase as it is temporary and only anticipated to last 4 years. Where necessary, construction staff would reside in temporary accommodation during the working week and return to their permanent residence to use services local to them and thus have no impact on services in the local area.	N
Construction workers	Comments expressing concern about conduct of construction workers, including littering, that workers	The construction phase of works would be undertaken in line with the measures set out in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** to manage and reduce impacts on the local community. This includes good practice measures for housekeeping and site	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	would wear dirty clothes, would park large vehicles on local roads and would have no respect for residents. Comment that bringing in workers, while there is a high level of unemployment in Lincoln and the surrounding areas would cause a lot of friction between workers and local communities.	maintenance such as keeping the Site tidy and clean, ensuring that no wind-blown litter or debris leaves the Site, use of skips to prevent wind-blown litter and use of a road sweeper to keep roads free from mud. Further detail on the measures to manage the conduct of construction workers and site management is included in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** Large vehicles would unload and if required, park within the Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds, avoiding any parking on local roads. Further detail on constructing routing and traffic management is set out in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].** The Applicant has submitted an **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** as part of the Application which outlines how the Applicant would endeavour to deliver employment, skills and supply chain benefits that would result in economic benefits for the local community.	
Construction workers	Comment that the Proposed Development should use local contractors. Query about how many construction workers are expected to be	An assessment of impacts to employment is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The Applicant estimates that there would be a peak number of 650 construction staff on Site at one time and approximately 400 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) construction jobs for four years.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	procured from the local/regional area and where remaining staff would come from.	The assessment states approximately 300-360 FTE jobs would be made available for the population living within 50 miles of the Order Limits and approximately a further 140 FTE jobs would be available for the population within a 10 mile radius of the Order Limits. The Applicant has submitted an **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** as part of the Application. The Plan sets out how the Applicant would promote the employment of local construction workers, the recruitment of local people who are new to the industry, and opportunities to re-skill those who wish to transfer careers to construction. The Plan also sets out how the Applicant would promote local contracting opportunities to provide local construction companies and local manufacturers with opportunities to win work related to the development where possible.	
Feasibility	Comment that the Proposed Development is not practical and cannot work as the geography cannot cope with the construction.	The Applicant has undertaken due diligence through the pre-application period, informed by site surveys, desktop studies and interface management as well as all environmental assessments. The **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]** submitted as part of the Application has assessed the potential effects of the Proposed Development across its proposed lifetime, including during construction. Measures to manage the construction of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline Construction**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7] and the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
General comment - construction	Comment that the Applicant should liaise with the local authorities to find better ways of installing the Proposed Development to avoid inconvenience.	Engagement with the host authorities helped to develop the EIA for the Proposed Development. Where meetings discussed EIA development, these are referenced within **Appendix B-2** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]** and covered in more detail within the relevant topic chapters of the **Environmental Statement Volume 1, Chapters 6-17 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. An **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** has been prepared to support the Application, which is secured through Requirement 12 of the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**. The oCEMP sets out the mitigation measures identified through the EIA process to be employed to reduce effects during the construction phase. Should consent be granted, the **oCEMP** would form the framework for a detailed CEMP that would be agreed upon with NKDC as the local planning authority, in consultation with LCC and the Environment Agency, prior to the commencement of authorised development. The Applicant would also seek to reduce impacts to the local community associated with construction through the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		implementation of an **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (oCTMP) [EN010149/APP/7.8].** The **oCTMP** is intended to be an emerging document, such that modifications and necessary interventions can be made following further information and advice from consultees. The **oCTMP** has been informed by extensive consultation and engagement with LCC as the local highway authority and National Highways as the highway authority for the Strategic Road Network.	
Hedgerow	Comment that the removal of hedges during the construction phase should be kept to a minimum.	The minimum amount of hedgerow removal has been proposed. While approximately 1,249m of hedgerow is proposed to be removed, this would be re-instated after construction works where possible or planted elsewhere within the Order limits. Vegetation removal plans have also been informed by surveys to avoid hedgerows of high ecological value where possible. Hedgerow survey and vegetation removal proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 7.4: Important Hedgerow Survey and Areas Proposed for Vegetation removal [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Impact on local businesses	Comment that some local businesses would likely gain from staff working in the area.	There is potential for accommodation providers to see an increased revenue during the construction phase due to a greater uptake in bedspaces and rooms used by construction workers. However, impacts to businesses were deemed not significant at the scoping stage and therefore have not been	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		considered further within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The Applicant has submitted an **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** as part of the Application. The Plan sets out how the Applicant would promote the employment of local construction workers, the recruitment of local people who are new to the industry, and opportunities to re-skill those who wish to transfer careers to construction. The Plan also sets out how the Applicant would promote local contracting opportunities to provide local construction companies and local manufacturers with opportunities to win work related to the development where possible.	
Impact on local businesses	Comment that there would be disruption to local businesses during the construction phase.	The Applicant acknowledges that construction can be disruptive. The Applicant has assessed potential impacts of the Proposed Development during the construction phase across all topic chapters (Chapters 6-17) within the **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, including **Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration** and **Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport**. Measures to manage potential effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Disruption to temporary accommodation providers would not be significant during the construction phase, as occupancy rates are able to cater for the tourist population and the construction workforce. An assessment of impacts to occupancy rates and temporary accommodation businesses are addressed fully in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Location of construction compounds	Comment expressing concerns about proximity of satellite construction compounds to Glebe Farm.	The Proposed Development has sought to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings on a case-by-case basis in accordance with Project Principle 1.2. This is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** together with a summary of how the design has evolved in response to technical design studies, environmental assessment, consultation feedback and engagement with statutory consultees and the local community. The design response to Glebe Farm has additionally been informed by dialogue with near neighbours (see Chapter 3 of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**) and a **Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (see ES, Volume 3, Appendix 10.5 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**). Following Phase Two Consultation, the siting zones for the Construction Compounds were reviewed, including those closest to Glebe Farm.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The nearest Construction Compound to Glebe Farm is a Secondary Construction Compound proposed in Field Bk04. The compound is proposed to be located approximately 1km from Glebe Farm and would not be visible from the property due to intervening vegetation and landform. Also due to the distance between the compound and Glebe Farm, no significant noise impacts are anticipated, as detailed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The property does not require any mitigation from a visual or noise perspective.	
Location of construction compounds	Comments objecting to the proposed location of main construction compound in Springwell East due to proximity to residential properties in Scopwick House, as well as the village of Scopwick. Specific concerns raised include visual impacts, noise and light pollution which it	The Primary Construction Compound proposed in Springwell East is required to construct the Proposed Development as set out within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** The compound would be a temporary feature and has been sited to reduce potential impacts on visual amenity and noise whilst also meeting technical requirements. Following Phase Two Consultation, the siting zone for the Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East was reviewed and the location identified at Phase One Consultation (Fields Md03, Md04 and C7) was discounted to reduce the potential visual amenity and noise impacts. The construction compound has subsequently been relocated to Field C8 as	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	is felt could be mitigated. Suggestion that the main construction compound for Springwell East be moved to the far north of the field alongside the B1188 with a new entrance for the construction site along the B1188 to reduce impact on residents.	shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. Field C8 is located to the east of the Spires and Steeples Trail. This has increased the distance of the proposed compound from the B1188 (Lincoln Road) by approximately 350m, from Scopwick House by approximately 500m and from the village of Scopwick by approximately 350m. Field C8 is located adjacent to existing woodland at Brickyard Plantation and Ash Holt which would provide some visual screening and integration of the compound from users of the Spires and Steeples Trail, local footpaths, and the B1188 (Lincoln Road). Locating the compound in Field C8 would also increase the amount of intervening vegetation between the compound and the B1188 (Lincoln Road) and Scopwick House. This would further reduce the potential visibility of the compound. The proposed access shown at Phase Two Consultation (from the B1188 near to Scopwick House) has also been discounted to reduce potential impacts on residential dwellings and settlements. The proposed access has been relocated approximately 500m further north to the southern boundary of Field C7. Relocating the compound and the associated access also has additional benefit in reducing the potential impacts on the Spires	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		and Steeples Trial by reducing the potential extent of the compound adjacent to the PRoW from 900m to 150m. It would also reduce the requirement for operational and construction vehicles to use the route.	
Location of construction compounds	Comment that delivery areas should be located on site so that vehicles do not cause unnecessary delay to road users.	Deliveries would be received at the Primary or Secondary Construction Compounds. The Applicant has purposely located the compounds in close proximity to highways to reduce impact on the local road network. Where necessary, highways improvements are proposed to improve the safety of the A15 junctions. Further detail on the highways improvements and traffic management measures are detailed in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].** The Principal Contractor would coordinate deliveries and collections to and from the Site to optimise the frequency of deliveries, reduce congestion and make efficient use of delivery vehicles. A daily HGV delivery schedule would be set up to manage main deliveries and avoid delays at site accesses. A Construction Logistics Plan would manage the sustainable delivery of goods and materials. The majority of HGV deliveries would be scheduled in advance where these are regular and large in number, such as bulk materials and substation equipment. Measures to manage potential effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7] and the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
Location of construction compounds	Comments about the proposed location of the main construction compound in Springwell West. Positive comments noted that locating the compound adjacent to the A15 made sense. Negative comments felt that locating the compound adjacent to the A15 was dangerous, and that it would negatively impact private properties.	The Applicant is proposing to locate two Primary Construction Compounds in Springwell West. These are required to construct the Proposed Development as set out within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** The compounds would be temporary and have been sited to reduce potential environmental effects whilst also meeting technical requirements. Following Phase Two Consultation, the proposed siting zones for both Primary Construction Compounds (either side of the A15) have been reduced. These changes (described below) are reflected in by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** The Primary Construction Compound to the west of the A15 has been reviewed to reduce potential impacts on residential properties and users of the A15. This has been achieved by discounting the compound from land adjacent to New England Lane (Field Tb1) and land opposite Toll Bar Cottage (Field Bcd082). As a result, the compound would be located approximately 250m further away from The Bungalow, Gorse Hill Farm and Toll Bar Cottage. The revised siting zone for the Primary Construction Compound to the west of the A15 is now	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		proposed entirely within a single field directly south of Gorse Hill Lane (Field Tb2). The Primary Construction Compound to the east of the A15 has been reviewed to reduce potential impacts on Peacock Lodge. As a result, the compound would be located approximately 450m further away from the property. Both compounds are purposely located in close proximity to the A15 to reduce impacts on the local road network. Where necessary, highways improvements are proposed to improve the safety of A15 junctions. Further detail on the highways improvements and traffic management measures are detailed in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].**	
Location of construction compounds	Comment objecting to the proposed location of a satellite construction compound close to Navenby Lane - this should be moved to be closer to a main road.	The Secondary Construction Compound proposed near Navenby Lane is required to construct the Proposed Development in the north-east of Springwell West. The compound would be temporary and has been sited to minimise potential impacts whilst also meeting technical requirements. Following Phase Two Consultation, the siting zone for the compound was reviewed and reduced in size by discounting the northern field (Field Bcd084) from the siting zone. The reduction in size was primarily driven by updated technical requirements	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		as a result of discounting areas of Solar PV development to the north of Navenby Lane. The revised siting zone is now located entirely within a single field adjacent to Navenby Lane (Field Bcd093) as shown on **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. A variety of Best Practical Means are proposed to reduce potential environmental effects as detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. This includes the use of temporary hoarding around construction works close to homes, as well as establishing working hours (8am-6pm Mon-Fri, 8am-12pm Saturday) and durations for percussive piling if used in close proximity of receptors. Construction noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Due to the relatively long distance between the Navenby Lane Secondary Construction Compound and surrounding homes, such as Ashby Lodge, no significant noise impact is anticipated. Access to the compound would be via internal access tracks linking to the B1191 (Heath Road). A temporary road crossing would be provided across Navenby Lane to facilitate the movement of delivery goods vehicles and equipment to pass	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		between working areas. Crossing in this location allows construction vehicles to avoid driving along Navenby Lane itself. The proposed site access has been updated since Phase Two Consultation and is as close to the A15 as practicable within the Order Limits. The road crossing would not be used to turn on and off the local road network to reduce the impact on Navenby Lane. The crossing would be managed by a banksperson and is shown in the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4].** Details on traffic management measures are detailed in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].**	
Location of construction compounds	Comment that some of the satellite construction compounds would be likely to prompt high volumes of traffic outside of the primary construction routes.	An assessment of potential traffic and transport impacts associated with the locations of the Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1**]. This considers all construction traffic volumes and identifies some highway works as mitigation measures. The majority of Secondary Construction Compounds would be accessed via internal tracks while the remaining compounds would result in HGV deliveries and construction workers travelling along the local road network. Details on traffic management measures are included in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Location of construction compounds	Comment that the large construction compound proposed in Springwell West cannot readily be accessed other than by use of Temple Road (unclassified road off A15).	The Secondary Construction Compound proposed near Temple Road is required to construct the Proposed Development as set out within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** The compound would be temporary and has been sited to reduce potential impacts whilst also meeting technical requirements. Access to the Secondary Construction Compound is proposed via Temple Road and the A15. The Applicant has purposefully located the construction compound near to the A15 to reduce vehicle movements on the local road network and limit impacts to a short stretch (approx. 750m) of Temple Road. Highway improvement works are proposed at the junction of the A15 and Temple Road to upgrade the junction and ensure safe access (see the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**). Following Phase Two Consultation, the siting zone for the compound was reviewed and reduced in size by discounting the field to the south of Temple Road (Field Tb5) and parts of the fields to the north of Temple Road (Fields Tb3 and Tb4) from the siting zone. The reduction in size was driven by updated technical requirements and to reduce potential environmental effects. The revised siting zone is now located in the south-east corner of Field Tb3 and the south-west corner of Field Tb4 as shown on	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2].	
Location of construction compounds	Comment that the proposed construction compounds off the B1191 are in dangerous locations and are extremely close to private properties which would be negatively impacted.	The construction compounds off the B1191 (Heath Road) are required to construct the Proposed Development as set out within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** The compounds would be temporary and have been sited to reduce potential impacts whilst also meeting technical requirements. Following Phase Two Consultation, the siting zones for the Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds off the B1191 were reviewed and refined to reduce potential impacts on the local environment as follows: The proposed siting zone for the Primary Construction Compound north of the B1191(Heath Road) has been reviewed to reduce potential impacts on Peacock Lodge. As a result, the compound would be located approximately 450m further away from the property. The proposed siting zone for the Secondary Construction Compound south of the B1191 (Heath Road) has been reduced to reduce potential impacts on Peacock Lodge and PRoW users within Bloxholm Wood. As a result, the compound is only adjacent to Bloxholm Wood for approximately 50m, compared to approximately 500m as presented at Phase Two Consultation.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The proposed locations of the Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds in Springwell West are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. Each site access point has been designed as a priority junction, accommodating standard sized articulated goods vehicles and AILs where required. Visibility splays appropriate to the speed of the road in the vicinity of each site access would be provided, sometimes necessitating the removal or trimming of hedgerow. The layout of each access is provided in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. During the construction of these accesses, appropriate traffic management measures would be required to control traffic movements through the area of works to facilitate 2-way or 3-way signal installation with associated off-peak single lane closures where possible, which would be secured through the standard Streetworks permit application process with the Local Highway Authority as shown in the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans EN010149/APP/2.4.**	
Noise	Comment expressing concern about excessive noise during the construction phase	Noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The potential for noise impacts during the construction phase of the Proposed Developments has been identified at some	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	which would impact on surrounding villages.	properties in the surrounding area. Though elevated noise levels associated with construction noise may be observed for short periods of time, the Applicant has identified that with additional mitigation detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, e.g. temporary hoarding close to homes, these are not considered to be significant and would be minor adverse.	
Parking	Comment that there is very limited parking in the area and sufficient parking should be provided on-site to avoid impacting on public roads.	All parking requirements would be facilitated at Primary Construction Compounds. The **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** provides details of how car parking would be managed and monitored to avoid overspill onto the local road network. It also includes travel plan measures to encourage car sharing to reduce the demand for car parking.	N
Population	Comment that the surrounding community would be negatively impacted during the construction phase. Specific concerns include a lack of privacy, lack of security, loss of	The Applicant acknowledges that construction can be disruptive. The Applicant has assessed potential impacts of the Proposed Development during the construction phase across all topic chapters (Chapters 6-17) within the **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, including **Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration** and **Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport**. Measures to manage potential effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and the **Outline Construction Traffic**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	community spirit, and loss of peacefulness.	**Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. Example mitigation measures include ensuring equipment complies with noise limits, erecting temporary hording to screen construction activities when close to receptors, and ensuring vehicle movements follow the agreed routes. The implementation of these mitigation measures would reduce construction related impacts on the surrounding community, including impacts to privacy, security, community spirit and peacefulness where possible.	
Principle of development	Comment that the Proposed Development shouldn't be built and therefore construction wouldn't be necessary.	The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence on the urgent need for the Proposed Development. The location is highly suitable for large-scale solar because of the combination of solar irradiation and suitable land at the site, coupled with an agreed grid connection at a proposed new National Grid Substation located and sized to accommodate multiple new schemes. The Applicant is bringing forward a Proposed Development which optimises use of the available grid connection capacity while respecting local environmental constraints.	N
Procurement	Comment that the Applicant should use local firms and construction workers, as well as sourcing	The Applicant has submitted an **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** as part of the Application. The Plan sets out how the Applicant would promote the employment of local construction workers, the recruitment of local people who are new to the industry, and opportunities to	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	materials from local contractors where possible.	re-skill those who wish to change careers to construction. The Plan also sets out how the Applicant would promote contracting opportunities to provide local construction and manufacturing companies with opportunities to win work related to the development where possible.	
Procurement	Comment that the Applicant is procuring material from overseas and therefore there is no gain for the UK economy.	The Applicant has submitted an **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** as part of the Application. The Plan sets out how the Applicant would seek to promote the economic benefits generated by the Proposed Development. This includes where economically and practically feasible, procuring goods and services from local contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers to support the employment of the local community. While some elements of the Proposed Development are expected to be manufactured outside of the UK, in line with Table 1 of **ES Volume 3, Appendix 8.1: Raw Data and Emissions Factors [EN010149/APP/6.3]** the Applicant would consider all options for the supply of materials for the Proposed Development at the procurement stage.	N
Procurement	Comment that Brauncewell Quarries produces primary and recycled aggregates	This is noted. The Applicant has submitted an **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** as part of the Application. The Plan sets out how the Applicant would promote local contracting opportunities to provide local construction companies and local	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	that could be used in construction. Any temporary access roads/compounds could be returned to Brauncewell Quarries for recycling. Should Brauncewell Quarries be procured, there would be an option to deliver material directly to the solar farm via the quarry taking pressure off local roads.	manufacturers with opportunities to win work related to the development where possible.	
Remediation	Comment that the area should be made good after construction has finished.	Measures to manage potential effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** Measures to manage soil within the Proposed Development is detailed in the **Outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.11]**. This sets out measures to manage any potential impacts to the soil and agricultural land, during construction, operational and decommissioning phases.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The soil resource within the Site would be managed during decommissioning in accordance with the principles established in the **oSMP**. This would ensure that the soils are suitable following decommissioning. Once all solar infrastructure has been removed, the Site would be inspected, and land returned to the condition it was prior to the installation of the Proposed Development. The Principal Contractor would be responsible for undertaking condition surveys on the road network used by construction traffic associated with the Proposed Development before, during and after the construction phase. Should any damage be attributed to the construction activities associated with the Proposed Development, remedial repairs would be undertaken to return the infrastructure to the same condition as before the Proposed Development to the reasonable satisfaction of the LHA as detailed in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
Remediation	Comment that the impact of construction would leave a permanent scar on the landscape and agricultural land which would last longer than	Measures to manage potential effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** Measures to manage soil within the Proposed Development is detailed in the **Outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.11]**. This sets out measures to manage any potential impacts to the soil and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	the construction period.	agricultural land, during construction, operational and decommissioning phases. The soil resource within the Site would be managed during decommissioning in accordance with the principles established in the **oSMP**. This would ensure that the soils are suitable following decommissioning. Once all solar infrastructure has been removed, the Site would be inspected, and land returned to the condition it was prior to the installation of the Proposed Development.	
Soils	Comment that during the construction phase a large area of land would be compacted by project offices and car parking.	Measures to manage potential effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development are detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].** Measures to manage soil within the Proposed Development is detailed in the **Outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.11]**. This sets out measures to manage any potential impacts to the soil and agricultural land, during construction, operational and decommissioning phases. It is anticipated that the Springwell Substation, Main Collector Compound, BESS, Inverters, Transformers and Satellite Collector Compounds and associated infrastructure, including storage and car parking facilities would sit on compacted hardcore material or concrete pad foundations.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Prior to construction of the Springwell Substation, Main Collector Compound, BESS, Inverter, Transformer Stations (ITS), Satellite Collector Compounds, the topsoil would be stripped and stored for the duration of the lifetime of the construction and operation phase in designated bunds as detailed in the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**. This means that the topsoil would not be compacted beneath these facilities as it would be removed prior to construction works and retained in a good condition for replacement in these locations when it is reinstated. These procedures are covered by the **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**, to ensure that damage to soil is minimised. The Applicant has assessed impacts to land, soil and groundwater during the construction phase of the Proposed Development in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**).	
Traffic and transport	Comment expressing concern about the impact of construction on the local road network. Specific concerns include dirt and mud being tracked onto roads and	Site accesses have been designed to accommodate all vehicle movements turning in and out of the Site. Where necessary, some highways works have been identified to widen bends to enable HGVs to pass adequately. Within the Site, road vehicles would drive on haul roads to reduce the risk of mud and dirt being transported out of the Site. However, in line with best practice, measures would be implemented to control and manage dust and dirt through the use of wheel washing facilities	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	damages to local verges.	during the construction phase of the Proposed Development. These measures are outlined in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** and **Outline Construction Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**.	
Traffic and transport	Query if workers would commute to site daily.	Workers are expected to commute on a daily basis as no on-site accommodation would be provided. The **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** includes travel plan measures that would encourage workers to car share, minimising the volume of construction traffic on the local road network. All worker assumptions are outlined in the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N
Welfare	Query what welfare arrangements would be put in place, such as canteens.	The Principal Contractor under Construction Design and Management Regulations 2015 (CDM 2015) must ensure welfare including toilets and washing, changing, eating and rest areas are provided. The type and number of facilities needed depends on the size and type of work being undertaken at the time. Management of the construction of the Proposed Development is detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Consultation			
Access to materials	Comment that much of the consultation depends on having read the PEIR and if an individual does not have internet access this would be a problem.	For those who were unable to access the PEIR online, there were a number of ways to do so, including: • Visiting the two public buildings in the local community where copies of the PEIR – and other consultation materials - were available to inspect. The deposit point locations were published in the SoCC, on the Springwell Solar Farm project website, in newspaper adverts and in a newsletter distributed to 5,772 local addresses in the vicinity of the proposed Site boundary. • Attending the five public events which were held at public venues in the vicinity of the proposed Site boundary where copies of the PEIR – and other consultation materials - were available to inspect. The times, dates and locations of the public events were published in the SoCC, on the Springwell Solar Farm project website, in newspaper adverts and in a newsletter distributed to 5,772 local addresses in the vicinity of the proposed Site boundary. • Calling the consultation freephone line or emailing the project email (both advertised on adverts, in the SoCC, the consultation newsletter and on the Springwell Solar Farm project website) to request a printed copy of the PEIR. No	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		requests were received for copies of the PEIR during the consultation period. For more information about how the Applicant conducted its Phase Two Consultation see **Chapter 5** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**.	
Consultation process	Comments that the consultation process was flawed and biased as consultation materials were provided by the Applicant.	The Applicant approached pre-application consultation with a commitment to ensuring that anyone with an interest in the Proposed Development could find out more and share their views. The Applicant sought to ensure thorough, open, and transparent engagement and consultation on its proposals, and provided sufficient opportunities for interested parties to understand and influence its plans. In preparing its Statement of Community Consultation, which set out how the Applicant would consult with the community as part of its Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant consulted host authorities on the methods and techniques that it would use. The Applicant had regard to the feedback it received from host authorities in finalising its SoCC (see **Appendices C-2** and **C-4** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). The consultation materials were provided by the Applicant because it is the one preparing and submitting the DCO Application in relation to the Proposed Development. This is	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		normal practice for planning applications at both local and national level.	
Consultation process	Comment that the consultation process has been very thorough and accessible, leading the respondent to feel confident that the overall impact to the area would be positive.	This is noted. The Applicant approached pre-application consultation with a commitment to ensuring that anyone with an interest in the Proposed Development could find out more and share their views. This included two phases of formal consultation and a targeted consultation, alongside a programme of continuous stakeholder engagement. The Applicant is very grateful to all those who have responded to the consultation and engaged with the project team to help shape the Proposed Development. For more information about how the Applicant approached pre-application consultation and engagement, see the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**.	N
Consultation process	Comment that the Applicant has chosen an area with a small population to claim that no-one objects to the Proposed Development.	The size of the population in the surrounding area and whether or not the community might object to the Proposed Development is not a factor in the site selection process. An overview of the site selection process is provided as part of the **Planning Statement, Appendix 1 – Site Selection Report [EN010149/APP/7.2]**.	N
Deposit point	Comment that the deposit point at The	The Applicant inspected deposit points to ensure that materials were available and could be accessed easily. The trolley at The	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Venue was not obvious and the respondent almost missed the trolley. Suggestion a poster should highlight the trolley.	Venue was located opposite the main entrance to the building, with materials on display on the trolley. Images of the deposit points are included in **Chapter 5** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**.	
General comment – Consultation	Comments thanking the Applicant for giving the respondent the opportunity to get answers to their questions and make up their mind rather than being swayed by public demonstration and inaccurate, vague or inflammatory statements.	This has been noted. The Applicant approached pre-application consultation with a commitment to ensuring consultees were given the opportunity to understand and provide feedback on the Proposed Development. The Applicant is very grateful to all those who have responded to the consultation and engaged with the project team to help shape the Proposed Development and is pleased with the feedback received throughout the pre-application period.	N
Information	Comment that the information presented in the consultation is based on a best-case scenario which is misleading.	To ensure a conservative approach to identifying any potentially significant environmental effects, the Applicant has conducted environmental assessments based on the maximum parameters of development. The results of early environmental assessments were published at Phase Two Consultation within the PEIR (see **Appendix L-1**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) and summarised in the Phase Two Consultation booklet (see **Appendix G-2.3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). The Phase Two Consultation booklet included an explanation of the Applicant's approach to assessing environmental effects (page 12).	
Materials	Comment that the amount of land to be used should be stated in the consultation materials.	The PEIR stated the total amount of land within the proposed Site boundary (see **Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**).	N
Materials	Comments on the quality of the consultation materials, including that they were clear, that they were not clear, that too much technical jargon was used, that they were misleading and present a one-sided argument without things being justified	The Applicant approached pre-application consultation with a commitment to ensuring consultees were given the opportunity to understand and provide feedback on the Proposed Development. The Applicant sought to ensure thorough, open, and transparent engagement and consultation on its proposals, and provided sufficient opportunities for interested parties to understand and influence its plans. The Applicant published information in a variety of different formats and levels of detail to ensure consultees were given the opportunity to understand and provide feedback on the Proposed Development as part of its Phase Two Consultation. This included, for example, a non-technical summary of the PEIR and a Phase Two Consultation booklet which further	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	which is against PINS guidance.	summarised the potential significant effects of the Proposed Development presented in the PEIR. Information on how the Applicant conducted its Phase Two Consultation is provided in **Chapter 5** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**. Copies of the Phase Two Consultation materials are provided in **Appendices G-2, G-3** and **L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. A **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]** accompanies the Application which sets out how the Applicant has complied with all relevant legislation, guidance and advice notes. This includes **Appendix M-1 [EN010149/APP/5.2]** which details how the Applicant has complied with guidance on the pre-application stage for NSIPs.	
Materials	Comment that the consultation materials avoid the finer details of the construction of the Proposed Development and only highlight the 'softening' of the site with landscaping or mitigation measures.	The Applicant presented the results of its early environmental assessments in the PEIR which formed part of its Phase Two Consultation materials. These assessments considered the entire lifetime of the Proposed Development, including construction and were based on the maximum parameters of development. The PEIR also set out preliminary information on mitigation measures to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any likely significant adverse effects.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Copies of the Phase Two Consultation materials are provided in **Appendices G-2, G-3** and **L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. As part of its Application, the Applicant has submitted an **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]** which presents the findings of the EIA undertaken for the Proposed Development.	
Materials	Comment that the consultation booklet refers to using the A15 as the primary access. However, the PEIR, Volume 1, Chapter 12 gives very little indication on the impact on the highway network beyond the boundaries Figure 9 in the consultation booklet.	The Applicant presented the results of early environmental assessments in the PEIR which formed part of its Phase Two Consultation materials (**Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). These assessments considered the entire lifetime of the Proposed Development and were based on the maximum parameters of development. This included preliminary information about how construction traffic would travel to the Proposed Development. The PEIR (Volume 1, Chapter 12: Traffic and Transport) presented a preliminary assessment of the likely effects of the Proposed Development, including on the A15. Due to the extent of information available at the time of assessment, this only considered severance impacts during construction and decommissioning. Assessment of severance, pedestrian delay, amenity, fear and intimidation, driver delay, and highway safety has been reported	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		within the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The proposed routing via the A15 and improvements to the highway network have been discussed and agreed with LCC Highways. Mitigation works have been proposed which include improvements to the highway network beyond the A15 and detailed within the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. Further details of the proposed routing of construction traffic are provided in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
Materials	Comment that text such as 'limiting the amount of hedgerow removed' serves to undermine any perceived benefits of the Proposed Development.	The Applicant presented the initial results of its early environmental assessments in its Phase Two Consultation materials. These assessments considered the entire lifetime of the Proposed Development and were based on the maximum parameters of development. Where final information was unknown, for example, the amount of hedgerow proposed to be removed, the Applicant set out its preliminary approach to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any likely significant adverse effects. In line with the commitment published within the Phase Two Consultation materials to limit the amount of hedgerow removed, the minimum amount of hedgerow removal has been proposed as part of the Proposed Development. Vegetation removal plans have also been informed by surveys to avoid hedgerows	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		of high ecological value where possible. Hedgerow survey and vegetation removal proposals are shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 7.4: Important Hedgerow Survey and Areas Proposed for Vegetation Removal [EN010149/APP/6.2].**	
NGNS	Comment that information about the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation was missing from the consultation materials, and the impacts should have been presented/assessed within the consultation materials to be a meaningful consultation. Other comments felt that this approach was misleading to local residents.	The Applicant included information about the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation as part of its Phase Two Consultation, noting that this was being progressed separately by National Grid, and does not form part of the Proposed Development. National Grid published information about the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation in September 2024. The Applicant explained the relationship between the Proposed Development and the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation in its Phase Two Consultation materials – including the exhibition boards, consultation booklet and PEIR (see **Appendices G-2 and Appendix L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). At the public events, contact information for National Grid was available for anyone who wished to find out more about the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation. More information about how the Proposed Development would connect into the National Grid is provided in the **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Plans	Comment that the consultation would have benefitted from a comparison between the original plans and the new plans.	The Applicant retained information from its Phase One Consultation, including the early layout of the Proposed Development, on the Springwell Solar Farm project website. Screenshots of the project website during Phase Two Consultation are included in **Appendix G-3 of** the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. The Applicant additionally brought printed plans of the early layout of the Proposed Development presented at Phase One Consultation to the Phase Two Consultation public events should anyone wish to see a comparison of the plans.	N
Public events	Comments stating that the quality of the public events were good, and respondents found it useful to speak to staff at the events. Other comments stated that staff at the events were professional and knowledgeable which was comforting.	This is noted. The Applicant ensured that specialist members of the project team were available at the public events to provide further information and answer questions about the Proposed Development.	N
Public events	Comments that the staff at the public events were only there	A broad range of specialists were available at the public events to ensure that people were able to have their questions answered by the most appropriate member of the project team,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	because they are being paid, were not from the local area and only repeated company lines.	based on the information published as part of Phase Two Consultation. This included technical specialists who were able to discuss the results of the early environmental assessments as presented in the PEIR (including specialisms where potentially significant negative effects were reported), representatives from the Applicant, and other specialists such as planners, engineers, and masterplanners.	
Public events	Comment that the consultation was flawed in that the public events were set for a very limited time on one day in each location.	The Applicant held five public events at a variety of times, including evenings and weekends, to enable participation by people with different time commitments. This was supplemented by a virtual exhibition, which contained the exhibition banners available at the in-person public events (see **Appendix G-3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]** for screenshots of the virtual exhibition). As required by section 47(1) of the PA 2008, the Applicant prepared a SoCC (**Appendix D-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) setting out how it proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the Proposed Development. In accordance with section 47(2) of the PA 2008, in preparing the SoCC, the Applicant consulted each local authority within section 43(1) of the PA 2008 (the host authorities) about what was to be in the statement. This included the times, dates and locations of the public events. For more information on how the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Applicant had regard to feedback from host authorities in the development of the SoCC, see **Appendices C-2** and **C-4** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	
Public events	Comment that the public event in Navenby took place on a weekday within normal working hours which limited access for those in full-time employment.	The Applicant held five public events at a variety of times, including evenings and weekends, to enable participation by people with different time commitments. This was supplemented by a virtual exhibition, which contained the exhibition banners available at the public events (see Appendix G-3 of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]** for screenshots of the virtual exhibition). As required by section 47(1) of the PA 2008, the Applicant prepared a SoCC (**Appendix D-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) setting out how it proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the Proposed Development. In accordance with section 47(2) of the PA 2008, before preparing the SoCC, the Applicant consulted each local authority within section 43(1) of the PA 2008 (the host authorities) about what was to be in the statement. This included the times, dates and locations of the public events. For more information on how the Applicant had regard to feedback from host authorities in the development of the SoCC, see **Appendices C-2** and **C-4** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	N
Public events	Comment suggesting that the four public	The times and dates of the public events followed a similar schedule to the public events held during Phase One	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	events held in week 2 of consultation should have been staggered over a three-week period to provide more opportunities to attend.	Consultation. The Applicant did not receive any feedback at Phase One Consultation indicating a preference for the public events to be split up across the consultation period. As required by section 47(1) of the PA 2008, the Applicant prepared a SoCC (**Appendix D-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) setting out how it proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the Proposed Development. In accordance with section 47(2) of the PA 2008, before preparing the SoCC, the Applicant consulted each local authority within section 43(1) of the PA 2008 (the host authorities) about what was to be in the statement. This included the times, dates and locations of the public events. For more information on how the Applicant had regard to feedback from host authorities in the development of the SoCC, see **Appendices C-2** and **C-4** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. Along with the four events held in week two of the consultation period, the Applicant held an additional event in week six of the consultation period to provide another opportunity for people to attend. Should anyone be unable to attend the public events, there were a variety of ways people could find out more about the Proposed Development, including visiting a virtual exhibition on the project website (see **Appendix G-3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) which contained the exhibition banners on display at the public events. Communication channels (Freephone, email, Freepost) were open throughout	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		the consultation period should anyone wish to ask questions about the Proposed Development to the project team.	
Public events	Comment that the public event at Blankney was held too close to the end of the consultation process, which meant those who attended did not have sufficient time to submit their feedback/go away and read the PEIR.	The PEIR was published on the Springwell Solar Farm project website and made available at two public buildings in the vicinity of the proposed Site boundary for public inspection from the start of the consultation period (see **Chapter 5** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). The Applicant sent a letter publicising detail of Phase Two Consultation, including where consultation materials (such as the PEIR) would be made available, to all addresses (c. 5,772) within the inner zone of consultation on 11 December 2023 (see **Appendix G-2.1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). This was supplemented by a consultation newsletter on 11 January 2024 to publicise the start of the consultation period. The newsletter is provided at **Appendix G-2.2 [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. As required by section 48 of the PA 2008, the Applicant publicised the Phase Two Consultation in the following newspapers: • Lincolnshire Echo • The Guardian • London Gazette	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Copies of the notices as published are available in **Appendix I-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2].** The section 48 notice was also published on the Springwell Solar Farm website (see **Appendix G-3: Screenshots of Phase Two Consultation website and virtual exhibition [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). This was supplemented by issuing press releases to attract media coverage and raise awareness of the consultation on 11 December 2023 and at the start of consultation on 11 January 2024 and advertising in print versions of the Louth Leader and Lincolnshire Reporter on 11 January 2024. Sample adverts and the start of consultation press release can be found in **Appendix G-2.7** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**. The Applicant held five public events at a variety of times, including evenings and weekends, to enable participation by people with different time commitments. The Applicant held a public event at Blankney Old School towards the end of the consultation period (week six) to ensure that anyone who had questions about the Proposed Development could speak with the project team before submitting their feedback. Along with the event held at Blankney Old School, the Applicant held four events in week two of the consultation period. Should anyone be unable to attend the public events, there were a variety of ways people could find out more about the Proposed	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Development, including visiting a virtual exhibition on the project website (see **Appendix G-3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) which contained the exhibition banners on display at the public events and was available from the start of the consultation period. Communication channels (Freephone, email, Freepost) were open throughout the consultation period should anyone wish to ask questions about the Proposed Development to the project team.	
Public events	Comment that there were only five public events which were inadequate.	The Applicant consulted on the contents of its Statement of Community Consultation with the host authorities. This included the times, dates and locations of the public events. For more information, see **Chapter 4** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**. Following publication of the SoCC, the Applicant proactively arranged an extra event at RAF Digby for its personnel to take account of feedback that many people on the base do not leave RAF Digby. The Applicant did not receive further feedback during the consultation period expressing an interest in further public events. Moreover, the Applicant accommodated all requests for presentations, briefings, meetings and site visits during Phase Two Consultation. More information about activity carried out during Phase Two Consultation can be found in **Chapter 5** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1].**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Alongside the public events, there were a variety of ways that people could find out more about the Proposed Development and share their feedback. This included a virtual exhibition which was hosted on the Springwell Solar Farm website throughout Phase Two Consultation and contained the banners on display at the public events (see **Appendix G-3** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). Communication channels (Freephone, email, Freepost) were open throughout the consultation period should anyone wish to ask questions about the Proposed Development to the project team.	
Regard had to feedback	Comment that feedback to Phase One Consultation and discussions with the Applicant has been ignored.	The Applicant considered all relevant responses received to its Phase One Consultation. The Applicant has set out how it has had regard to key themes raised to Phase One Consultation in **Appendix A-4** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2].**	N
Regard had to feedback	Comment that the Applicant will ignore feedback provided and will not take into account impacts on the local community.	Having regard to feedback received to Phase Two Consultation is a requirement of the PA 2008. Moreover, the Applicant views gathering feedback as critical to the evolution of the Proposed Development, and had regard to all relevant responses received to its Phase One Consultation (see **Appendix A-4** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**), Phase Two Consultation (see **Appendix J-1 and J-2** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2])** and targeted consultation (see	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Appendix K-3 of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). The Applicant has made a number of substantial changes to the design of the Proposed Development in response to feedback received and to reduce any potential effects on the local community. Changes made as a result of feedback are summarised in the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]** and explained in more detail in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
Stakeholder feedback	Comment asking for evidence that the Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue Service is happy with the Proposed Development as stated in consultation materials.	The Applicant has submitted a Draft Statement of Common Ground with Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue Service as part of its DCO Application **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**.	N
Consultation period	Comment that the length of the consultation period was too short to enable resident to review the volume of	As required by section 47(1) of the PA 2008, the Applicant prepared a SoCC (**Appendix D-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**) setting out how it proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the Proposed Development. In accordance with section 47(2) of the PA 2008, before preparing the SoCC, the Applicant consulted each local authority within	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	documentation provided and fully understand the impacts of the Proposed Development.	section 43(1) of the PA 2008 (the host authorities) about what was to be in the statement. The length of Phase Two Consultation (42 days) was felt to allow sufficient time for consultees to review and provide feedback on the Proposed Development. It is also more than the statutorily required minimum period of 28 days. The Applicant published information in a variety of different formats and levels of detail to ensure consultees were given the opportunity to understand and provide feedback on the Proposed Development. Along with a non-technical summary of preliminary assessment of effects as part of the PEIR, this included a consultation booklet which summarised the potential significant effects of the Proposed Development. The Applicant has provided copies of its Phase Two Consultation materials in **Appendices G-2, G-3** and **L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	
Visualisations	Comments that the images presented as part of the consultation were misleading. This included: • Photographs that did not portray the	The Applicant included a variety of imagery as part of its consultation materials, including photomontages, 3D visualisations and photography to help aid understanding of its proposals. These images were indicative only and were labelled to explain why they had been included within the relevant materials. The Applicant has provided copies of its Phase Two Consultation materials in **Appendices G-2, G-3** and **L-1** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	height of the panels. • Photographs of access routes which showed summer views of dry verges. • The 3D visualisations showed screening and planting which would take years to appear as represented. Comment that consultation materials are misleading as the photographs do not portray the height of the panels.		
Visualisations	Comment that photographs of examples of new	Photographs on the EDF Renewables website did not form part of the Phase Two Consultation materials. The Applicant included indicative visualisations within its consultation materials	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	footpaths on the EDF site, which are all portrait and zoomed in on the path alone - giving a very misleading impression.	to show the potential treatment of public footpaths in and around the Proposed Development (see **Appendix G-2** of the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**).	
Cultural heritage			
Footpaths	Comment that footpaths that cross between Scopwick and Kirkby Green, Blankney and Metheringham have been used for hundreds of years and the nature of these routes linking villages would be changed.	The assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** acknowledges visual effects on PRoW users between Scopwick, Blankney and Kirkby Green. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to consider the views and experience of people using the local PRoW network in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This has included discounting Solar PV development from fields within the Order Limits to break up the amount of development along the footpaths, and proposals to create green infrastructure corridors aligned to existing footpaths. The Proposed Development would also include a 15m offset from PRoWs to the edge of the Solar PV development with appropriate screening planting to manage the amenity of PRoWs.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
General comment – Cultural heritage	Comment that the Proposed Development would have a negative impact/damage the heritage of the local area.	The assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9 Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]** has concluded that there would be no significant effects on built heritage assets within the study area, and that effects on below ground heritage assets (archaeological remains) can be avoided or mitigated through further archaeological investigation secured by a DCO Requirement (see **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**). Archaeological mitigation would also provide public benefit through increased knowledge of the cultural heritage resource of the Order Limits.	N
Impact on heritage assets	Comment that historic structures would be spoilt by the Proposed Development, as it would impact on the setting which provides context and understanding for these buildings.	The Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) has concluded that there would be no significant effects on built heritage assets within the study area. The effect of the Proposed Development on the contribution that setting makes to the significance of these assets would be at most minor.	N
Impact on heritage assets	Comment that there would be an impact on Scopwick House and Barns which is a heritage site.	Scopwick House and related barns (now converted to residential use) are located south of the grade II listed Farmyard north of The Firs (NHLE 1280661). The listed building is included within Annex 12 of **ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		[EN010149/APP/6.3]. The impact on the listed building as a result of the change in its setting is considered to be minor and no significant effects are predicted. The non-listed buildings of Scopwick House and barns would experience a similar degree of change to their setting and the impacts are also considered to be of minor magnitude resulting in an effect that is not significant.	
Memorial site	Comment that the consultation materials mention the Lancaster Memorial location not being disturbed and it is important to note that it is also a memorial to the Hurricane aircraft that also crashed along with the Lancaster.	Both the Lancaster and Hurricane are considered under the assessment of effects on the WWII air crash sites. The Applicant acknowledges the communal value of the memorial to those who died in the two WWII crashes. It derives significance from its position close to where the two planes crashed – its physical relationship with the crash sites providing appropriate context to the memorial. This physical relationship would not be altered by the presence of the Proposed Development although the appearance of the field in which the crashes occurred would change. The archaeological trial trenching (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.5: Trial Trenching Report [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) confirmed that remains of the aircraft have been distributed by subsequent ploughing. The Proposed Development would take this field out of arable agriculture for the life span of the solar farm, preventing further disturbance of the remains for this period. The proposed siting zone for the collector compound within this field would be subject to archaeological mitigation (as set out in the **Outline**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Written Scheme of Investigation [EN010149/APP/7.15]) which would ensure that any remains of the crashes would be sensitively recovered, recorded and returned to the MoD or the airmen's families as appropriate. The overall effect on the heritage significance of the memorial is considered to be neutral.	
Military heritage	Comment that the area has a rich military heritage which could be impacted by the Proposed Development.	The **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment** (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) has considered all periods of pre-history and history including military heritage. The design has sought to minimize impacts on the WWII crash sites, and no harm to the significance of the listed structures at RAF Digby would occur either through construction or through changes to their setting during the operational phase of the Proposed Development.	N
Navenby	Comment that Navenby has flourished since Roman times, and this will be impacted by the Proposed Development.	The **Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment** (**ES Volume 3, Appendix 9.1 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**) has considered heritage assets at Navenby and concluded that no impacts are predicted to occur.	N
Policy	Comment that the Proposed Development does not align with guidance	The assessment has been carried out with regard to the following Historic England guidance: Good Practice Advice Note 2 (Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment), Good Practice Advice Note 3 (The Setting of	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	from Historic England or local planning authorities.	Heritage Assets), and Historic Environment Advice Note 12 (Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets). Historic England guidance does not present policy tests, the relevant policy tests for heritage are found in NPS EN-1, NPS EN-3, NPPF and the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. **Appendix 3 Policy Compliance Assessment Tables** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents and a comprehensive assessment.	
Cumulative effects			
General comment - Cumulative effects	Comment that the Applicant needs to look at larger area to consider the effects of the Proposed Development, as well as looking at future baselines.	An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing development and/or approved developments is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. In accordance with the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Seventeen, a long list of relevant other existing development and/or approved development(s) was established to determine the 'search area'. For the purposes of the cumulative assessment, the 'search area' has been determined by affording consideration to the Zone of Influence (ZoI) for each environmental factor assessed within the ES.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The ZoI for each environmental factor is defined as the spatial area over which an effect is likely to be experienced. The ZoI for each environmental factor has been determined based on the extent of the likely effects identified in each of the individual environmental factor assessments (**ES Volume 1, Chapters 6 to 15 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**), whilst also reflecting any additional area over which cumulative effects could occur for particular cumulative scenarios (e.g., sequential cumulative visual effects on users of linear routes). The overall combined 'search area' for the long list of relevant other existing development and/or approved development(s) has been based on the largest ZoI (study area) in terms of distance, which in this case is 10km. However, and notwithstanding the above, consideration has been afforded to the adoption of a wider more regional level study area for cumulative assessment in relation to Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land and transport which considers other solar NSIPs in Lincolnshire.	
Wider solar development in Lincolnshire	Comment expressing concern about the amount of large-scale solar proposals in Lincolnshire and impacts of clustering.	An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing development and/or approved developments is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Following engagement with NKDC and LCC, consideration has been afforded to the adoption of a wider regional level study area for cumulative assessment in relation to Best and Most	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Versatile (BMV) agricultural land and traffic and transport which considers other solar NSIPs in Lincolnshire.	
Wider solar development in Lincolnshire	Comment that the Proposed Development, taken alongside the proposed Fosse Green would industrialise the surrounding area and change the character of the landscape.	Potential for cumulative landscape and visual effects to arise in combination with Fosse Green Energy have been considered in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The solar and energy storage element of the Fosse Green Energy scheme is proposed to be located in the vale west of the Lincoln Cliff, in a different character area (the Witham and Brant Vales) and therefore would have no visual connection with the Proposed Development. There would be no shared landscape or visual receptors. Although indicative grid connection corridor options extend to the A15 north of the Proposed Development, it is understood that this would be via an underground cable and therefore no significant landscape or visual effects are anticipated in combination with this project.	N
Wider solar development in Lincolnshire	Comment that there is a concern about the cumulative impact of construction workers from the Proposed Development and	An assessment of the inter-project cumulative effects with other existing development and/or approved developments is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]** sets out the number of construction workers anticipated onsite	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Fosse Green and how and where workers would be accommodated.	as a result of the Proposed Development. A peak number of 650 construction workers are anticipated on site at one time during the construction phase. It is expected that approximately 6% of these staff would live beyond a commutable distance to the Site and therefore would be required to work in temporary accommodation whilst working onsite. The assessment concludes that there would be no significant effects on occupancy rates as a result of the Proposed Development and that strain on local services would be minimal. Therefore, should the construction phase of the Proposed Development coincide with that of any nearby development, it is not anticipated that the Proposed Development would contribute to any inter-project cumulative effects on occupancy in combination with any other existing development and/or approved developments.	
Wider solar development in Lincolnshire	Query how many local agricultural jobs would be lost over the next 40 years as a result of large-scale solar developments proposed in the surrounding area.	Currently, there are two farming operations occurring within the study area. Engagement with the agricultural operators has confirmed that during the operational period the employment supported by the agricultural activities within the Site would continue and be redistributed on the operator's other sites nearby. The temporary reduction of agricultural land would not result in the net loss of employment. The amount of land that would be taken out of agricultural production for the Proposed Development is approximately 0.3% of agricultural land in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Lincolnshire. There are no anticipated significant effects on agricultural land holdings or the agricultural economy. Further detail is available in **ES, Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. An assessment of the temporary loss of BMV agricultural land from solar developments in Lincolnshire and within 1km of the Nottinghamshire boundary has been undertaken, as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. If all the solar developments were to be built, there would be a temporary loss of c.2% of the BMV land in Lincolnshire. An assessment of the change in employment capacity, (which assumes all solar developments were to be built) has been undertaken. The cumulative developments account for approximately 3.1% of the indicative employment capacity in agriculture in Lincolnshire.	
Decommissioning			
Below ground infrastructure	Comment supporting removal of materials down to 1m below ground on decommissioning.	This comment has been noted by the Applicant. All concrete, hardstanding areas, foundations for the infrastructure and any internal tracks would be removed to a depth of up to 1m to allow the land to be returned to agricultural use. All the below-ground cables would be left in situ.	N
Below ground infrastructure	Comment that the Applicant has only	All concrete, hardstanding areas, foundations for the infrastructure and any internal tracks would be removed to a	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	committed to removing above ground structures, leaving substantial infrastructure within the ground such as cabling, steel work, concrete pads and hardcore which would prevent the land from being cultivated.	depth of up to 1m to allow the land to be returned to agricultural use. All the below-ground cables would be left in situ. The reason to leave in situ any infrastructure below 1m is to reduce unnecessary handling of soil (details are provided in the **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]** and **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**).	
Disposal	Comment that the respondent is happy to read that most of the materials are already recyclable.	This comment has been noted by the Applicant.	N
Disposal	Query how and when the solar panels would be disposed of, as there are currently no facilities capable of recycling the solar panels. Comment that there should be plans	The Proposed Development is anticipated to generate some Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) during the operation (and maintenance) phase, and a substantive amount of WEEE at decommissioning which would include Solar PV, BESS, and Substation equipment, as well as other smaller quantities of WEEE from supporting electrical infrastructure. As such, these materials would be recovered and recycled by an authorised reprocessor as required by the WEEE Regulations	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	to set out how solar panels would be recycled.	2013 at the end of their life. To ensure that this is done to "Best Available Treatment Recovery and Recycling Techniques", a list of up-to-date authorised reprocessors should be established prior to the operational phase of the Proposed Development and kept up to-date throughout the operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development. This is secured through the **Outline Operation Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]**, both of which would be secured by Requirement in the DCO.	
Funding	Comment that there is no mention of the risk that funding is not available for decommissioning in the consultation materials, and that is left for taxpayers to fund. Other comments expressed concerns that the Proposed Development could be sold to a less reputable company.	The decommissioning phase of works would be undertaken in line with the measures detailed in the **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]** which would be secured by Requirement in the DCO. The Applicant has submitted a **Funding Statement [EN010149/APP/4.2]** which sets out how the Proposed Development would be funded.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Information	Comment that more information on the decommissioning phase should be provided.	Further detail on the decommissioning phase is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The decommissioning phase of works would be undertaken in line with the measures detailed in the **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]** which is secured by Requirement in the DCO.	N
Land	Comment that the land would be classed as brownfield and that the Applicant would sell the land after decommissioning.	Following decommissioning, the land would be handed back to the landowner in line with the measures detailed in the **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]** and **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]**. It is assumed that the landowner would then return the land to agricultural use.	N
Lifespan	Comment that the Applicant would not remove the Proposed Development after 40 years.	The Applicant is seeking time limited consent for the Proposed Development. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, and the land within the Order Limit would be returned to the Landowner, expected to return to agricultural use.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
NGNS	Query what would happen to the NGNS after 40 years.	The proposed National Grid Navenby Substation does not form part of the Application. However, the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is considered to be permanent development and would remain in-situ following the decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	N
Design			
Agrivoltaics	Comment that there is no mention of dual use/agrivoltaics in the proposals.	The area beneath the Solar PV modules would be converted from arable land to grassland managed through a combination of sheep grazing and/or hay/silage production to maintain the field vegetation during the operational phase of the Proposed Development. Therefore, while the design of the Proposed Development is unlikely to allow for the production of arable crops under Solar PV areas, some agricultural use of the Site could still remain during the lifespan of the Proposed Development.	N
Below-ground infrastructure	Comment that all non-panel elements should be put underground.	The Applicant has proposed the use of underground infrastructure where practicable. This would include the use of underground cabling to connect the Solar PV modules and BESS compound to the Balance of Solar System (BoSS), collector compounds, and the Springwell Substation. Underground cabling would also be used for the grid connection corridor.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Brickyard Farm	Request that the Order Limits are straightened in the field to the west of Brickyard Farm to create a diagonal offset to the property, and that noise sources are moved away from the property.	The design of the Proposed Development has been informed by stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice as detailed within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. As part the design evolution of the Proposed Development the fields to the west of Brickyard Farm (Field By12 and By13) have been excluded from the Order Limits.	Y
Changes made since Phase One Consultation	Comment thanking the Applicant for taking the memorial field out of the area proposed for solar panels.	This comment has been noted by the Applicant.	N
Changes made since Phase One Consultation	Comment that the respondent is encouraged by the changes to the design made since Phase One Consultation in response to feedback received, and the changes seem specific and thought through.	This comment has been noted by the Applicant. The Applicant made extensive changes to the design of the Proposed Development over the pre-application period, in part to reduce effects on local communities. Between the Phase One and Phase Two consultations, the Applicant reduced the area proposed for Solar PV development to 816ha (from 1,438ha of area identified as suitable for solar development at Phase One). Following Phase Two Consultation, the area proposed for Solar PV development reduced further from 816ha to 594ha.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Other comments felt that the impact on properties had been reduced through the changes made.	More information about how the design of the Proposed Development has evolved over the pre-application period is available in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. An assessment of potential effects on residential properties is set out within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Fencing	Comment that wooden perimeter fencing would have a limited lifespan and would be open to potential unauthorised access. Other comments queried why fencing was needed at all.	Fencing is required as part of the Proposed Development for safety and security reasons. The Applicant is committed to developing the design of the fencing as sensitively as practicable to reduce potential impacts on the local environment, integrate with the landscape, and provide appropriate levels of security. The Proposed Development only uses fencing where needed (e.g. around areas of Solar PV development, or the Springwell Substation) and where practicable has sought to use sensitive specifications. Different types of fencing would be used for different areas of the Proposed Development to provide appropriate levels of safety and security, for example wooden post and wire for areas of Solar PV development, and mesh or palisade fencing for Springwell Substation. These are set out in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]** which include commitments on the following: • Perimeter fencing around the Solar PV development will comprise a timber post and wire mesh fence to minimise visual impact. • Perimeter fencing around the Solar PV development will be offset from existing vegetation and other environmental features to reduce potential impacts. • Perimeter fencing will permit the passage of wildlife, either through a clearance at ground level or via mammal gates. Further detail on the proposed fencing is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]** All perimeter fencing for the Proposed Development would be regularly checked to ensure it is safe and fit for purpose in accordance with the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Repairs and replacement of fencing would be made as soon as practicable as and when required.	
General comment - Design	Comment thanking the Applicant for including the improvement of some walling and	This comment has been noted by the Applicant. Existing field hedgerows would be managed for visual screening and biodiversity benefits for the duration of the Proposed Development in accordance with the **Outline Landscape and**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	existing hedgerows in the updated proposals.	**Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. This could include gapping up/filling hedgerows in with new planting where required and allowing hedgerows to grow out more fully.	
General comment - Design	Comment that there is a high level of 'panel infill' proposed between Blankney & Scopwick in Springwell East and Scopwick & RAF Digby in Springwell Central which would mean the rural nature of separation between these communities will be lost.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to maintain the rural separation between local villages in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV Development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings and to provide a sensitive response to sequential views and the experience of people using the local road and PROW network between settlements. As a result of the design changes that have been incorporated into the Proposed Development, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** concludes that the development would not impact the character of local villages and would not be visible from any locations within them except for potentially glimpsed views from RAF Digby. Along the B1191 (Heath Road) and B1181 (Lincoln Road) Solar PV Development would generally be set well back or screened by existing vegetation and new planting. Along local footpaths, offsets and new hedgerows would help to screen and integrate the Proposed Development with the rural landscape.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
General comment - Design	Comment that the Proposed Development should start smaller and gradually increase so that the impacts can be better understood.	The **Planning Statement [Ref EN010149/APP/7.2]** sets out the reasoning for the Proposed Development including its size and location. The Proposed Development has sought to make the most efficient use of land reflective of the grid connection capacity secured and the urgent need to for renewable, clean energy. An **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]** forms part of the Application, which identifies a range of possible impacts of the Proposed Development, including both beneficial and adverse, together with mitigation measures to prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset adverse effects. Given the approach to assuming a reasonable worst case, rather than understating the likely effects of the Proposed Development, if anything, the adverse effects may be slightly over-stated given the precautionary approach taken to ensure that the effects can be properly considered.	N
General comment - Design	Comment that enhancement areas in small areas of the site would not outweigh the damage done by the Proposed Development.	Although there is the potential for adverse effects on some habitats and species during the construction phase, due to the embedded design and additional mitigation measures proposed these effects are not anticipated to be significant. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are anticipated to have a significant beneficial effect once established during the operational phase. For example, 15,563m of new hedgerow,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		16ha of new tree belts and over 100ha of neutral and calcareous grassland creation are proposed. The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The impact assessment is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
General comment - Design	Comments that the design should be sympathetic to the surrounding area and additional areas for planting and areas for biodiversity are important. Other comments felt that proposals for green strips and hedgerows are well considered and would	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local environment and reduce potential impacts in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes areas of new planting and habitat creation as illustrated on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2**]. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are anticipated to have a significant beneficial effect once established during the operational phase. For example, 15,563m of new hedgerow, 16ha of new tree belts and over 100ha of neutral and calcareous grassland creation are proposed.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	positively impact the area.	The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** The impact assessment is detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	
Gorse Hill	Comment that the Proposed Development, especially the substation, is proposed to be directly adjacent to a glamping business and property on Gorse Hill Lane that would be impacted.	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and includes the provision of appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings on a case-by-case basis (Principle 1.2). As part the design evolution of the Proposed Development, the field directly east of New England Lane (Field Tb1) has been excluded from the Order Limits and the offset to Gorse Hill Bungalow has increased by approximately 300m. It is acknowledged in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that there would be a major/moderate adverse (significant) effect on views from Gorse Hill Farm in Year 1 reducing to moderate adverse (not significant) in Year 10.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Height	Comment that the proposed elements of the BESS and Springwell Substation are too high.	The BESS and Springwell Substation would have a maximum height of 6m and 12m respectively. This is a functional necessity, and it is not operationally feasible to reduce the height of these structures further. The BESS and Springwell Substation are proposed to be located at distance from settlements to reduce significant visual effects on these receptors. The visual impact of the BESS and Springwell Substation has been taken into account in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Mitigations are being proposed to minimise the visual impacts of the BESS and substation such as screening and minimising the height of equipment wherever practicable. This has included incorporation of an Earth Bund in Springwell West. The bund is designed to partially screen the lower lying elements of the Springwell Substation, Main Collector Compound and the BESS from the A15. At its highest point, the bund would be between 3m-5m above existing ground levels with additional planting on top of the bund. The proposed Springwell Substation and BESS would be set within the existing landform as these components require a flat base plane on which to lie. Precise details of levels would be identified at the detailed design stage.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Substantial planting is also proposed to help mitigate potential impacts as shown by the Green Infrastructure Parameters found in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. Further details can be found in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
Land	Comment that some of the fields labelled for mitigation were not included at Phase One Consultation and aren't owned by BEL.	The layout of the Proposed Development has evolved in response to the results of environmental assessments, ongoing technical work, consultation feedback and engagement with stakeholders as set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This has included refinement of the Green Infrastructure strategy since Phase One Consultation. The Proposed Development is not constrained by a specific landowner and the Order Limits are based on areas that would deliver the best outcomes for the Proposed Development.	N
Land take	Comments that areas marked for mitigation /enhancement/ retention should be excluded from the site boundary unless there is a need for access.	The Applicant is required to provide mitigation measures to avoid, prevent, reduce and where possible, offset significant adverse environmental effects arising from the Proposed Development. Further information of the mitigation measures incorporated into the Proposed Development are set out in the **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Enhancements are also proposed to improve the environment, such as landscape resource and the visual amenity of the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Other comments suggested that land currently labelled as for mitigation could be returned to the landowner and therefore not actually provide mitigation for the Proposed Development.	Proposed Development and its wider setting, over and above its baseline condition. This is set out in as set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. Mitigation and enhancement proposals that form part of the Proposed Development would be secured at detail design stage via Control Documents contained within the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1].**	
Location	Comment that the substation is proposed too close to Navenby.	The parameters for the proposed Springwell Substation are set within the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and would be located over 2km from Navenby. The assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** demonstrates that there would be no view of the proposed Springwell Substation from Navenby.	N
Location	Comment that the potential location of battery storage near woodland is concerning.	The proposed layout has been refined since the Phase Two Consultation and the BESS is now approximately 400m from the nearest area of woodland (Gorse Hill Covert), as shown on the **Illustrative Layout Plans & Sections [EN010149/APP/2.5]**.	N
Mitigation	Requests for more information about	The **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** provides a framework for delivering the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	areas proposed for mitigation as it is not explained how they would be used to increase the biodiversity and ecology of the area. Other comments suggested all land not proposed for development should only be used for ecological enhancements.	landscape strategy and the successful establishment and future management of the proposed landscape and ecological works associated with the Proposed Development. The Order Limits are determined by the maximum extent of land potentially required temporarily and/or permanently for the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	
Placement of solar	Respondent included a map showing a preference for solar development to be moved from fields C6, C8, C9, Md02, Md01, Lf05, Lf07, By22, By23 and relocated to By18, By27, Lf03, Lf09, Lf10 to reduce impacts on	The design of the Proposed Development has been informed by stakeholder engagement, technical assessments and the outcomes of Environmental Impact Assessment as detailed within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** Following Phase Two Consultation, as part of the design evolution of the Proposed Development the following fields have been excluded from the Order Limits and/or Solar PV development: Md02, By18, By27, Lf03, Lf09 and Lf10. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to incorporate appropriate offsets to local	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Scopwick and Kirkby Green	settlements and dwellings including Scopwick and Kirkby Green. As a result of the design changes that have been incorporated into the Proposed Development, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** confirms that there would be no view of any element of the Proposed Development during operation from any location within the villages of Scopwick and Kirkby Green.	
Placement of solar	Respondent included a map showing an alternative site on land east of the A15 within the landowner's boundary from Elderberry Kennels to the Blankney Estate offices for the siting of solar proposed in Springwell East and Springwell Central, utilising part of the proposed Springwell West to the north of Slate House Farm.	The Proposed Development makes use of the land over which the Applicant has negotiated voluntary rights and has certainty that it would be available to deliver the Proposed Development by the connection date. While additional land may have been suggested at various junctures it does not go hand in hand that it would be appropriate in terms of the wider project or deliverable within the same timeframes. This is consistent with NPS EN01, paragraph 4.3.23 which advises that the SoS decision making should be guided in considering alternative proposals as to whether there is a realistic prospect of them delivering the same capacity in the same timeframe. The Proposed Development is considered to present a well thought out and policy compliant proposal based on the land available to the Applicant. A **Site Selection Report** has been prepared and forms **Appendix 1** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**, which provides an overview of the site selection process	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		undertaken by the Applicant to identify the location of the Proposed Development.	
Scale	Query about the total acreage of farmland lost due to the Proposed Development.	Based on the spatial extents shown by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3],** the Proposed Development would comprise approximately 594ha (1,468 acres) of Solar PV development, 16ha (40 acres) for the Springwell Substation and Main Collector Compound, and 13ha (32 acres) for the BESS. This equates to a total of approximately 623ha (1,540 acres) of agricultural land that would temporarily be required for built development. Following decommissioning, this land would be returned to the landowner for agricultural use in accordance with the **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13].** In addition to the areas of built development described above, land would also be required for the provision of mitigation and enhancement. This includes 16ha (40 acres) of tree planting and over 100ha (247 acres) of neutral and calcareous grassland creation as shown in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].** Landscape structural planting, including tree planting, hedgerow and scrub created to deliver biodiversity mitigation and enhancement associated with the Proposed Development would be left in situ when the Site is handed back to landowners.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Otherwise, it is assumed the landowner would return the land to agricultural use when it is handed back.	
Scale	Comments that the area around Springwell West and the A15 has been extended since Phase One Consultation.	The spatial layout of the Proposed Development has evolved via an iterative process in response to the outputs of environmental assessments, consultation feedback and engagement with stakeholders as set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. Following Phase One Consultation, the Order Limits were extended to the north of Springwell West to include land for a Grid Connection Corridor to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation and to allow for a cable route crossing of the A15 to the north of Toll Bar Cottages. Following Phase Two Consultation, the western section of the Grid Connection Corridor was discounted and removed from the Order Limits to increase the distance from Gorse Hill Covert and reduce potential impacts on high priority hedgerows and trees. Land to the north and south of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation was also discounted and removed from the Order Limits as it is no longer required for cabling.	N
Scopwick	Comment that the Proposed Development encompasses the	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide an appropriate offset to Scopwick in accordance with Project Principle 1.2. This is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	village of Scopwick. Comments suggested reducing Springwell East in size and increasing buffers between Springwell East and the village.	Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development has been reviewed. This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings. This has included discounting Solar PV development in Field Md02 to provide a greater offset to Scopwick. As a result of the changes no Solar PV development is proposed in fields to the south of Trundle Lane and west of the Spires and Steeples Trail as shown and secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** As a result of the design changes that have been incorporated into the Proposed Development, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1**] concludes that the development would not impact the character of Scopwick and would not be visible from any locations within it.	
Screening	Comment that no planting would minimise the presence of the collector compounds.	Following the Phase Two Consultation, the proposed locations of the Satellite Collector Compounds have been refined to minimise visual impact. The visual effects of collector compounds are considered as part of the assessment of landscape and visual effects within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The maximum height of components	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		within the Satellite Collector Compounds would be 6m as compared to 3m for the solar arrays which surround them. Therefore, there is the possibility that the upper sections of the tallest structures within the Satellite Collector Compounds may be just visible over the solar array when viewed from certain PRoWs. The visual effect which can be attributed to the Satellite Collector Compounds over and above that which would arise as a result of the other components of the Proposed Development is considered minor.	
Screening	Comment expressing concern about screening near to Glebe Farm.	Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development has been reviewed in response to feedback received, ongoing technical work, and the outcomes of environmental assessments. This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings. Solar PV development has been discounted from land to the south of RAF Digby and in fields in proximity to Glebe Farm and Ashby de la Launde. Mitigation planting is therefore no longer proposed at these locations. The location of new planting is shown in **Appendix 1**, of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Screening	Comment that the suggested screening would reduce the potential generating capacity of the Proposed Development.	New planting would be offset from Solar PV development and managed in accordance with the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. On this basis, it is not expected to reduce the potential generating capacity of the Proposed Development.	N
Security	Query how tall the CCTV pylons would be.	Pole-mounted internal-facing closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems would be installed at a height 1.5m above the Solar PV modules around the perimeter of the Solar PV field (4.5m-5m in height). Details are provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The landscape and visual effects of the fencing and CCTV have been taken into consideration in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Springwell East	Comment that the primary concern is Springwell East due to the impact on the amenity of footpaths and the cultural heritage of the landscape.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network and protect the cultural heritage of the landscape in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes developing the design to retain all PRoW in their existing alignment during operation (Principle 5.1); protecting the amenity of the Spires and Steeples Trail (Principle 5.2); considering views and the experience of people using the	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3); conserving the significance of heritage assets (Principle 2.4); and Protect the setting of the Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Area (Principle 2.5). Specific mitigation measures that have been incorporated into the design of the Proposed Development, in response to the Project Principles, are summarised below. Solar PV development has been discounted from specific fields within the Order Limits to break up the amount of development along the footpaths and to create green infrastructure corridors aligned to existing footpaths. For example, in Springwell East, Solar PV development was discounted from Fields By18, By20, By27, Lf03, Lf02, Md02, Md03, and Md05 to allow for the creation of green infrastructure corridors. All these fields are adjacent to existing footpaths including the Stepping Out Scopwick Loop and the Stepping Out Blankney Circuit. As a result, there are relatively few sections of PRoW where the Solar PV development would occupy land immediately adjacent to both sides of a footpath. The exclusions of these fields from Solar PV development are secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development will be offset at least 15m from either side of existing and proposed statutory PRoW. In addition to this, Independent Outdoor	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Equipment (transformer, switchgear and central inverters) and ITS will be offset at least 50m from all existing and proposed statutory PRoW. Both of these offsets would be secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** New planting, in the form of hedgerows and tree belts, would provide screening and integration of the Proposed Development where it is located close to PRoW. The location of new planting is secured in **Appendix 1**, of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** and includes approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. Examples of where new planting has been used to screen views from PRoW include new hedgerow planting along the Spires and Steeples Trail and other PRoW in Springwell East. As a result of the mitigation measures summarised above the level of visual change for PRoW users would be reduced and would ensure that PRoWs can continue to be used in the same manner as pre-development of the Site. Further details on the operational design of the Proposed Development and how it has responded to the each of the Project Principles is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. The Applicant has also developed the design of the Proposed Development to protect the setting of the Scopwick and Blankney conservation areas and avoid impacts to sensitive	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		cultural heritage sites such as the WWII air crash sites in Springwell East.	
Stone wall	Comment that the refurbishment of a stone wall along Long Wood Lane would do little to improve the lives of Scopwick residents.	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and include proposals for mitigation and enhancement of the local area. This includes proposals to create to an enhanced and better-connected footpath and cycle network and a community growing area for residents of Scopwick. The Proposed Development does not include any specific proposals to improve the stone wall along Long Wood Lane.	N
Glint and glare			
Aviation	Comment that there would be a negative impact on aircraft from the Proposed Development, and safety should be considered.	An assessment of aviation receptors has been undertaken which shows the potential for yellow glare at RAF Cranwell, Hill Top Farm, Temple Bruer Airfield (Griffins Farm Airfield) and Cottage Farm Airfield. Instances of green glare (considered to have a low impact) are possible at RAF Waddington and Old Manor Farm. Based on the result of the technical assessment, the Applicant considers that the potential for yellow glare is operationally accommodatable at the identified airfields.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Prior to submission of the DCO Application, the Applicant has engaged with the Ministry of Defence and the Civil Aviation Authority on the results of its Glint and Glare Assessment. This has also involved seeking engagement with three private airfields (of General Aviation use) to understand their operations and discuss the results of the assessment as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The Applicant will continue to engage with these airfields following submission of the Application. The Applicant is in ongoing engagement with the MoD regarding the outcomes noted at RAF Cranwell. While the potential for yellow glare occurs outside of its published operating hours of flying, the Applicant shared the results of its Glint and Glare Assessment and continues to welcome further engagement to discuss the assessment in more detail. Paragraph 2.10.159 of NPS EN-3 advises that "*while there is some evidence that glint and glare from solar farms can be experienced by pilots and air traffic controllers in certain conditions, there is no evidence that glint and glare from solar farms results in significant impairment on aircraft safety*". EN-3 further advises that it is unlikely that the SoS will give more than limited weigh to *"claims of aviation interference because of glint and glare form solar farms"*.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Road users	Comment that glare affecting cars travelling along the A15 could not be mitigated as the road is above field height.	The effects of glint and glare towards the A15 have been considered within **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. Solar reflections are geometrically possible towards a 4km section of the A15. Screening in the form of existing and proposed vegetation, buildings and/or intervening terrain is predicted to significantly obstruct views of reflecting panels, such that solar reflections would not be experienced. A temporary screen would be implemented to allow proposed vegetation to reach a sufficient height and density to mitigate impacts. Overall, no impacts are predicted upon road users along the A15.	N
Health and wellbeing			
Impact on emergency services	Comment that the Proposed Development should not negatively impact the ability of the emergency services to respond to a major incident on RAF bases.	The Proposed Development would not negatively impact the ability of emergency services to respond to a major incident on RAF bases. The Applicant and Principal Contractor would ensure close communication with RAF bases in proximity to the Order Limits, in particular, RAF Digby to ensure that any temporary road closures are communicated in advance of the works.	N
Impact on equestrian users	Comment that during construction phase, it	Precautionary working methods would be implemented to reduce adverse effects during construction including noise and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	could be unsafe to handle and ride horses.	vibration. These measures are outlined in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. The potential for noise and vibration and glint and glare effects have been assessed as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment. The results of these assessments are presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The noise assessment confirms that there would be no significant noise effects during construction, operation and decommissioning. Best practice measures such as fitting vehicles with noise reduction modifications, erection of temporary hoardings to screen activities close to receptors are detailed and secured in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]**. There are no proposals to permanently stop up any existing PROW as part of the Proposed Development. However, during the construction phase there may be a requirement to temporarily close PRoW for a duration of up to six months. Any diversion requirements would be outlined at detailed design, in line with the potential routes identified within the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]. The Applicant has engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW officers on requirements for PRoW crossings and temporary closures during construction and potential diversion options in Springwell East.	
Light pollution	Comment that the bright lights used to illuminate the panels could cause sleep disturbance and increase feelings of stress and anxiety in nearby residents.	There would be no permanent lighting to illuminate the solar panels. CCTV cameras would use night-vision technology, which would be monitored remotely, avoiding the need for night-time lighting. For security requirements, Passive Infra-red Detector (PID) systems (or similar) would be installed around the perimeter of Solar PV development to provide the CCTV's night vision functionality and would be sited away from residential properties to avoid any light spill that could lead to sleep disturbances or anxiety. Throughout construction, the use of motion detection or manually operated lighting would be used to avoid constant lighting. A detailed lighting scheme is secured within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].**	N
Health and wellbeing	Comment there is a health concern for Navenby residents due to proximity of the proposed NGNS.	The proposed National Grid Navenby Substation does not form part of the Application. An assessment of potential cumulative effects of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is presented within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Where detail regarding the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation is not yet known,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		the Applicant has utilised similar applications and the National Grid's factsheet on substation construction for its assessment. No significant cumulative effects have been identified.	
Health and wellbeing	Comments that noise from the Proposed Development would negatively impact on physical and mental health and strain local medical services. Specific references were made to the BESS and substation.	Noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The potential noise impacts of the Proposed Developments construction, operational (including maintenance), and decommissioning phases has been determined at properties identified in the vicinity of the Order Limits. Though elevated noise levels associated with construction and decommissioning may be observed for short periods of time, it has identified that with additional mitigation these are not considered to be significant and would be minor adverse. Mitigation measures to reduce noise impacts during construction and decommissioning are secured within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13].** The operational (including maintenance) noise levels have also been assessed to minor adverse impact, which has been achieved through the implementation of mitigation measures such as sensitively locating of the BESS and Springwell Substation equipment and installing acoustic barriers around the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		BESS compound and Springwell Substation transformers. Worst-case noise levels from this phase are considered to be audible and would slightly change the acoustic character of the area, but not cause any change in behaviour, attitude or other physiological response, and not change the quality of life. This level of effect is not considered to negatively impact physical and mental health, nor strain local medical services.	
Mental health and wellbeing	Query what measures have been put in place to deal with stress and anxiety that the Application is causing those affected by it.	The Applicant sought to consult at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure that feedback from the local community could be taken into account in the design of the Proposed Development. Throughout the pre-application period, the Applicant made a number of changes to the design of the Proposed Development, in response to feedback received from the local community as well as the outputs of environmental assessments and technical work. This included removing areas proposed for solar development closest to settlements, developing bespoke offsets from nearby properties and reducing the overall size of the Proposed Development. Each iteration of the design was presented to the local community for formal public consultation to continue to collect feedback. More information about how the design of the Proposed Development has evolved over the pre-application period is available in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Outside of formal consultations, the Applicant has ensured that anyone who wishes to discuss the Proposed Development in more detail with the project team is able to do so. This includes keeping open communication channels outside of formal consultation periods and continuing to meet with stakeholders on request. For example, the Applicant presented outcomes of its Residential Visual Amenity Assessment to near neighbours prior to Phase Two Consultation to show those closest to the Proposed Development how the design was being refined to reduce potential effects. More information about how the Applicant has engaged outside of formal consultation is available in Chapter 3 of the Consultation Report **[EN010149/APP/5.1].**	
Mental health and wellbeing	Query what research the Applicant has done into the impact of solar farms on mental health.	The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health can be scoped out of the assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-references to where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant topic chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This information is provided in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Where an environmental assessment has concluded there are unlikely to	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		be significant environmental impacts, it follows that there will be no impacts to human health. Where potential effects have been identified, embedded and additional mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset these effects have been proposed.	
NGNS	Comment that there is a safety risk from the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation.	The proposed National Grid Navenby Substation does not form part of the Application. The Applicant has included information in relation to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation in its Application, in particular within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, and the **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6]**. In **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1],** the Applicant has undertaken a cumulative effects assessment, including a specific section which addresses the cumulative effect of the Proposed Development with the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation, and has complied with the EIA Regulations requirements in this respect. Ongoing management of the Proposed Development is detailed in the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7], Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8], Outline Operation Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13].	
Physical health	Query what research the Applicant has done into the health risks from the BESS and where this has been published?	The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS" and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 "Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems". The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk. The **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **Flood Risk Assessment: Appendix - Outline Drainage Strategy [EN010149/APP/7.16]** set out methods to collect, contain and manage any firefighting water runoff during a thermal runaway event. It also sets out drainage strategy for normal operation. This helps to avoid, control and mitigate the risk of contamination to nearby receptors. The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Physical health	Comment that the pollution from the BESS and substation would have a negative impact on physical health.	The BESS and Springwell Substation has been designed and sited to account for and reduce environmental impacts which are presented in the **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]**. This includes impacts to air quality, noise and vibration. The Applicant does not expect there to be any significant air quality or noise and vibration effects from the BESS or Springwell Substation following the implementation of mitigation measures, which includes the requirement for an operational noise modelling assessment to be carried out and for operational noise levels to be within the adopted criteria of 40 dB LAr,1hour daytime and 35dB LAr,15minute night-time which has been agreed with NKDC and secured within the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		A **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** has been undertaken which assesses the fire risk and thermal runaway event from the BESS and impacts on receptors. This assessment sets out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). The BESS enclosures would be designed in line with the relevant guidance, which require assets to be laid out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors.	
Physical health	Comment that a battery fire would contaminate the area with carcinogens which would affect human health and wildlife.	In the unlikely event of a battery fire, there are several measures that would be put in place to manage any potential impacts on human health and wildlife as detailed further within this response below. The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		As set out in the **Outline Drainage Strategy** which forms an Appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**, if firefighting water is to be used as part of the agreed Emergency Response Plan**,** there would be a separate system around the BESS to collect water runoff into an attenuation/storage pond. This would have automatic and manual isolation systems, if appropriate, to ensure that any firefighting water runoff is captured for analysis prior to disposal. This trapped water may then be reused as a potential source of firefighting water. This follows the management plan process as detailed in "Protocol for the disposal of contaminated water and associated wastes at incidents 2018" jointly issued by the Environment Agency, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Water UK and Chief Fire Officers Association. A post event action plan would be drawn up to determine any immediate and follow up actions required to an event including an assessment in general accordance with LCRM (Land Contamination: Risk Management) and BS 10175:2011+A2:2017 (Investigation of potentially contaminated sites – Code of practice). A tanker would also be used to remove firewater, which would prevent release to the surrounding environment and any impacts to local wildlife. The procedures for managing the firewater and mitigating any impact to the environment are documented within and secured by the **Outline Construction Environmental**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7] and requirements for the control and safety of the BESS are documented and secured within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.14].**	
Physical health	Comment that Lincolnshire has significant levels of RADON gas which already has to be mitigated.	The Applicant does not anticipate any additional release of radon due to the Proposed Development.	N
Physical health	Comment that physical health would be impacted as a result of the Proposed Development.	The Planning Inspectorate agreed that human health can be scoped out of the assessment (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), on the basis that the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross-references to where impacts are considered and assessed within other relevant topic chapters of **ES Volume 1 [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. This information is provided in Table 5.2 of **ES Volume 1, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Where an environmental assessment has concluded there are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts, it follows that there will be no impacts to human health. Where potential effects have been	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		identified, embedded and additional mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset these effects have been proposed.	
Physical health	Comment that the construction traffic would make Scopwick a less safe environment for children.	A Transport Assessment has been provided within the submission (see **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**) which considers traffic impact, notably route severance, driver delay and road safety. The assessment concludes that there are no significant effects on the local road network or its users, including for road safety (both LGVs and HGVs). In relation to HGV use of the road network in the vicinity of Scopwick, these would only use a section of the B1181 at the northern extent of Scopwick and, from there, along the B1191 to the west of Scopwick, thereby avoiding passing through the centre of the village. The assessments predict that the volume of worker traffic travelling through Scopwick would be low, indicating no significant environmental impacts associated with the construction phase, including road safety. Detail of this is found in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. During the operational lifetime of the Proposed Development, the provision of a new footpath linking Scopwick and RAF Digby would help improve the safety of users that currently walk along the grass verge on this road.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Landscape and visual			
Construction	Comment that the construction period, construction compounds and large number of workers would negatively impact the surrounding countryside around the Proposed Development.	Visual effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development have been assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Following Phase Two Consultation, the proposed locations of construction compounds have been refined in part to minimise visual effects in Springwell East and Central.	N
Construction compounds	Comment that the main construction compound in Springwell East would ruin the aesthetics of the Spires and Steeples Trail and the B1188.	Visual effects during the construction phase of the Proposed Development have been assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** Following Phase Two Consultation, the proposed locations of construction compounds have been refined in part to minimise visual effects in Springwell East and Central. In Springwell East, the siting zone for the Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East was reviewed and potential locations identified at Phase Two Consultation (Fields Md03, Md04 and C7) were discounted to reduce potential impacts on visual amenity and noise. The construction compound has subsequently been relocated to Field C8 as shown in **ES**	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]. Field C8 is located to the east of the Spires and Steeples Trail and has increased the distance of the proposed compound from the B1188 (Lincoln Road) by approximately 350m, from Scopwick House by approximately 500m and from the village of Scopwick by approximately 350m. Field C8 is located adjacent to existing woodland at Brickyard Plantation and Ash Holt which would provide some visual screening and integration of the compound from users of the Spires and Steeples Trail, local footpaths, and the B1188 (Lincoln Road). Locating the compound in Field C8 would also increase the amount of intervening vegetation between the compound and the B1188 (Lincoln Road) and Scopwick House. This would further reduce the potential visibility of the compound. The proposed access shown at Phase Two Consultation (from the B1188 near to Scopwick House) has also been discounted to reduce potential impacts on residential dwellings and settlements. The proposed access has been relocated approximately 500m further north to the southern boundary of Field C7. Relocating the compound and the associated access has additional benefit in reducing the potential impacts on the Spires	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		and Steeples Trial by reducing the potential extent of the compound adjacent to the PRoW from 900m to 150m. It would also reduce the requirement for operational and construction vehicles to use the route.	
Fencing	Comment that field boundaries would be changed by security fencing and intrusion of CCTV and query the visual impact of security measures.	Following Phase Two Consultation, the height of fencing around the Solar PV development across the majority of the Order Limits has been reduced from 3m to 2.5m high. It is confirmed that this would be timber post and wire mesh 'deer-proof fencing'. More secure fencing is required around the Springwell Substation, Main Collector Compound, BESS and Satellite Collector Compounds. The Satellite Collector Compounds and BESS would be surrounded by 2.75m high security fencing which would comprise steel rails attached to horizontal-running rails connected to vertical steel joints. The Springwell Substation and Main Collector Compound would be surrounded by mesh fencing comprising a mesh fence up to 2.75m in height with a pulse monitoring security system up to 3.4m height inside the mesh fence. Pole-mounted internal-facing closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems would be installed at a height 1.5m above the Solar PV modules around the perimeter of the Solar PV field.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The visual effect of security fencing and CCTV has been taken into account in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
General comment – landscape and visual	Comment that future generations would not be able to enjoy the countryside.	The Proposed Development is for a temporary operational period. The Applicant is seeking time limited consent for the Proposed Development. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, and the land within the Order Limit would be returned to the Landowner, expected to return to agricultural use. The assessment in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** acknowledges that this is a long-term visual effect.	N
General comment – landscape and visual	Comment that elements of the Proposed Development are visually unattractive, such as the BESS and Springwell Substation and would impact amenity.	The LVIA presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** adopts the assumption that the visual effects of the Proposed Development are adverse. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local environment and reduce potential impacts in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** With specific reference to the BESS and Springwell Substation, mitigations are being proposed to minimise the visual impacts of	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		these elements of the Proposed Development, such as screening and minimising the height of equipment wherever practicable. This has included incorporation of an Earth Bund in Springwell West. The bund is designed to partially screen the lower lying elements of the Springwell Substation, Main Collector Compound and the BESS from the A15. At its highest point, the bund would be between 3m-5m above existing ground levels with additional planting on top of the bund. The proposed Springwell Substation and BESS would be set within the existing landform as these components require a flat base plane on which to lie. Precise details of levels would be identified at the detailed design stage. Substantial planting is also proposed to help mitigate potential impacts as shown by the Green Infrastructure Parameters found in **Appendix 1** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	
General comment – landscape and visual	Comment that Lincolnshire has a flat landscape character and that this would exacerbate the visual	The topography of the receiving baseline landscape is acknowledged in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The flat landform means that there are no elevated positions from which the Proposed Development would be visible and due to the relatively flat	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	impact of the Proposed Development.	landform, any vegetation in the landscape screens low lying development such as that within the solar PV development.	
Impact on residential properties	Comments that due to the proximity of the Proposed Development to residential areas, residents would be aware of the Proposed Development on a daily basis which would alter the experience of the landscape.	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and include the provision of appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings on a case-by-case basis (Principle 1.2) and maintaining the rural separation between the villages of Ashby de la Launde, RAF Digby, Scopwick, Kirkby Green and Blankney (Principle 2.3). Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed development has been reviewed and revised to take account of stakeholder engagement, technical assessment and advice, and the outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment. This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings and to provide a sensitive response to sequential views and the experience of people using the local road and PRoW network between settlements. As a result of these changes additional offsets have been incorporated to Scopwick, Blankney, Ashby de la Launde and RAF Digby which would be secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** As a result of the design changes that have been incorporated into the Proposed Development **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10:**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1] concludes that the development would not impact the character of local villages and would not be visible from any locations within them except for potentially glimpsed views from RAF Digby. Along the B1191 (Heath Road) and B1181 (Lincoln Road) Solar PV Development would generally be set well back or screened by existing vegetation and new planting. Whereas along local footpaths, offsets and new hedgerows would help to screen and integrate the Proposed Development with the rural landscape.	
Height	Query what specific measures are being taken to mitigate the visual impact of the height of the proposed solar panels.	Following further refinement of the Proposed Development, the maximum height of solar panels is now proposed to be 3.5m within just five fields in Springwell East which are located within Flood Zone 2 and 3 and a maximum of 3m in all other fields proposed for Solar PV development. The heights of the infrastructure are outlined in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.2: Height Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. The design of the Proposed Development has been informed by technical landscape and visual analysis. The design also incorporates landscape planting to mitigate and screen views of the Solar PV modules. The landscape planting proposals are detailed and secured in the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. In terms of residential visual amenity during operation, it is assessed that residents of 25 dwellings would experience	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		significant visual effects during year 1 but in most cases by year 10 these effects would reduce to be not significant due to the establishment of mitigation planting. Further detail on the landscape and visual effects is presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and is supported by several figures presented in **ES Volume 2, Figure 10.1 – Figure 10.28,** including Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) analysis to show the extent visibility for Solar PV with and without proposed mitigation planting.	
Light pollution	Concern about the impact of potential light pollution on Navenby from Springwell West.	The assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** demonstrates that there would be no effect on views from Navenby.	N
Local roads	Comment that demolishing the visual beauty of country lanes during construction would be devastating to local residents.	Construction of the Proposed Development would be undertaken in accordance with the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. This would prevent damage to country lanes during construction. The Principal Contractor would be responsible for undertaking condition surveys on the road network used by construction traffic associated with the Proposed Development before, during and after the construction phase. Should any damage be attributed to the construction activities associated with the Proposed Development, remedial repairs would be undertaken	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		to return the infrastructure to the same condition as before the Proposed Development to the reasonable satisfaction of the Local Highways Authority.	
National Grid Navenby Substation	Comment that the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation would have a negative impact on visual amenity.	The proposed National Grid Navenby Substation does not form part of the Application. The Applicant has included information in relation to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation in its Application. In **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, the Applicant has undertaken a cumulative assessment, including a specific section which addresses the combined effects of the Proposed Development with the National Grid Navenby Substation, and has complied with the EIA Regulations requirements in this respect.	N
Screening	Comment that little of the proposed area is screened by established hedgerows and it will be important to ensure that trees and new planting is put in place.	While Springwell West is generally open in character, Springwell East is relatively well vegetated. Extensive planting of new green infrastructure is proposed and illustrated in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3 [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. This includes areas of new planting and habitat creation as illustrated on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3 Green Infrastructure Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2**]. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are anticipated to have a significant beneficial effect once established during the operational phase. For example, 15,563m of new hedgerow,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		16ha of new tree belts and over 100ha of neutral and calcareous grassland creation are proposed. The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Screening	Comments that wherever the Proposed Development can be viewed by the public, hedgerows should be planted to screen the ugliness to the countryside. Requests for more screening and tree belts along all boundaries of the Proposed Development.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local environment and reduce potential impacts in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** Mitigation planting proposals have been developed through an iterative LVIA process as discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Extensive planting of new green infrastructure is proposed and illustrated in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3 [EN010149/APP/6.2].** This includes areas of new planting and habitat creation as illustrated on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3 Green Infrastructure Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2**]. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are anticipated to have a significant beneficial effect once established during the operational phase. For example, 15,563m of new hedgerow,	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		16ha of new tree belts and over 100ha of neutral and calcareous grassland creation are proposed. The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9].**	
Screening	Comment supporting the Applicant's approach to screening, including proposed use of native species.	This has been noted. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local environment and reduce potential impacts in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes areas of new planting and habitat creation as illustrated on the **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3 Green Infrastructure Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2**]. Habitat creation and enhancement proposals are anticipated to have a significant beneficial effect once established during the operational phase. For example, 15,563m of new hedgerow, 16ha of new tree belts and over 100ha of neutral and calcareous grassland creation are proposed. The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3,**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3] and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. his includes suggestions of likely hedgerow and tree species and wildflower mixes that could be used. Detail regarding planting stock size and variety would be presented in the final LEMP(s).	
Screening	Request for more information about screening proposed close to Glebe Farm.	Following Phase Two Consultation, the Proposed Development has been reduced and fields near Glebe Farm have been omitted. There is no longer a need to implement mitigation planting in the vicinity of Glebe Farm.	N
Springwell West	Suggestion that Springwell West would be difficult to screen due to the BESS, Springwell Substation and number of solar panels proposed in this location.	The assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** acknowledges that the Proposed Development would not be entirely screened in Springwell West. This has been taken into account in the assessment. Extensive planting of new green infrastructure is proposed and illustrated in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters [EN010149/APP/6.2].**	N
Springwell West	Request to plant trees along the A15 instead of hedgerows as this	Having considered various options, it was decided that hedgerows alongside the A15 were the preferred design approach. Feedback from Phase Two Consultation indicated a	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	would break up views and wind.	strong preference for hedgerow along the A15. Further details are outlined within the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**.	
Thompson's Bottom	Comments that the view from Thompson's Bottom would be of a high mesh fence surrounding a host of formerly arable fields, full of ugly enormous solar panels and buildings associated with these.	The effect on views from Thompson's Bottom Farm is assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** A belt of structure planting has been proposed along the western boundary of the Proposed Development to minimise visual effects at this cluster of properties.	N
Land, soil and groundwater			
Agricultural land classification	Comments that the Order Limits include 53.6% (781ha, 1932 acres) of BMV agricultural land, including some Grade 1, and 43.5% (354ha, 876 acres) of land given to PV	Based on the ALC survey undertaken for the Order Limits, the classifications are as follows for BMV land, which comprises Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3a land: • Grade 1: 6 ha (0.5% of the Order Limits) • Grade 2: 80.1 ha (6.3% of the Order Limits) • Grade 3a: 455.1 ha (35.6% of the Order Limits) Total BMV land: 541.2 ha (42.3% of the. Order Limits)	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	development which includes 38.6ha (95 acres) of Grade 2 land, and that this is too high.	The Applicant has sought to reduce impacts on BMV land and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality except where this would be inconsistent with other sustainability considerations. This has influenced both the initial site selection process and the subsequent design evolution of the Proposed Development. This includes retaining fields for arable production that comprise solely of Grade 1 or 2 land. The quality of the soil would not be adversely affected by the Proposed Development (and may undergo improvement due to a period of not being used for agricultural purposes), despite the temporary time scale over which it will not be available for agricultural use. NPS EN-3 states that the use of lower-grade agricultural land is preferred to the use of BMV, with the position in EN-3 being that applicants should seek to utilise, where possible, "*suitable previously developed land, brownfield land, contaminated and industrial land*". The significant caveat is that paragraph 2.10.29 of EN-3 states that "*land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of the site location*". A **Site Selection Report** has also been prepared. It is included in **Appendix 1** to the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**. It explains the Applicant's approach to the selection of an appropriate site to take forward as part of an application for an NSIP scale solar project. The report explains	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		that initially, there are three fundamental attributes required to develop NSIP scale solar: suitable irradiance and topography, a connection to the National Grid, and available land. The Applicant's understanding of the land in and around the now Order Limits was also supplemented by initial conversations with Blankney Estate regarding the quality and viability of the Order Limits for agriculture. This understanding helped direct the availability of the land within the landholding and subsequent site selection at a micro level during design development. The information which has been provided to the Applicant sets out yield data across the Order Limits on a field-by-field basis from the last 13 years, as well as the landowner's own consideration of the productivity of individual parcels and its preference for continued agricultural use, whilst acknowledging that there would be a balancing of continued use for farming purposes versus the need to deliver a commercially viable project. At a site design level, the Applicant has sought to, where possible, reduce the use of BMV land, however, due to the nature of the land quality within the Order Limits and the general classification both locally and at a wider scale in Lincolnshire it has not been possible to avoid it entirely. The steps which the Applicant has taken, therefore, to avoid, reduce and subsequently mitigate impacts on BMV are explained below.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		It has not been possible to remove all BMV land from the Order Limits. To do so would reduce renewable energy generation capability in a location where there is available grid capacity, and at a time when the need for such development is urgent. This is a critical point and is consistent with Paragraph 2.10.30 of EN-3 which explains that solar farm developments are not prohibited on 'best and most versatile' agricultural land and that "*it is recognised that at this scale, it is likely that applicants' developments may use some agricultural land*". This point is further demonstrated by the limited availability of poorer grade land in the areas surrounding the Site. It is also important to recognise that BMV is one of several factors which influence the way design develops in the same way it is one of several criteria used in site selection. As set out earlier in this section NPS EN-3 is very clear that land type should not be a predominating factor in site selection. The Applicant considers this is relevant in both the site selection and design development process. Neither EN-1 nor EN-3 place a higher policy emphasis on the use of agricultural land in comparison to other environmental considerations but require the Applicant to justify its use. The other critical factor in the consideration of impacts on BMV is the degree of impact which it is deemed to have. The Applicant is seeking time limited consent for the Proposed Development. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, and the land within the Order Limit would be returned to the Landowner, expected to return to agricultural use, after which time all hard infrastructure above ground and below ground to a depth of 1metre, with the exception of cabling, would be removed from the land (as secured within the **oDEMP [EN010149/APP/7.13]**). The **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** provides a detailed consideration of the construction methodology, and the methods by which soil would be managed to ensure that the quality after construction, or after decommissioning, would be the same or improved from the current soil quality. Reasonable alternatives for the Proposed Development are discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives Considered [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. A full assessment has been undertaken on soil and agricultural land aspects of the Proposed Development, presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Agricultural land classification	Comment that the Applicant has correctly considered policy	At a site design level, the Applicant has sought to, where possible, reduce the use of BMV land, however, due to the nature of the land quality within the Order Limits and the general	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	(NPS EN-3) in justifying its use of BMV land but its assertion in the PEIR (paragraph 3.3.5) that the Applicant has satisfied the requirement of avoiding BMV land 'where possible' is an opinion until this has been tested impartially.	classification both locally and at a wider scale in Lincolnshire it has not been possible to avoid it entirely. The steps which the Applicant has taken, therefore, to avoid, reduce and subsequently mitigate impacts on BMV are explained below. It has not been possible to remove all BMV land from the Order Limits. To do so would reduce renewable energy generation capability in a location where there is available grid capacity, and at a time when the need for such development is urgent. This is a critical point and is consistent with Paragraph 2.10.30 of EN-3 which explains that solar farm developments are not prohibited on 'best and most versatile' agricultural land and that "*it is recognised that at this scale, it is likely that applicants' developments may use some agricultural land*". This point is further demonstrated by the limited availability of poorer grade land in the areas surrounding the Site. It is also important to recognise that BMV is one of several factors which influence the way design develops in the same way it is one of several criteria used in site selection. NPS EN-3 is very clear that land type should not be a predominating factor in site selection. The Applicant considers this is relevant in both the site selection and design development process. Neither EN-1 nor EN-3 place a higher policy emphasis on the use of agricultural land in comparison to other environmental considerations but require the Applicant to justify its use.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The other critical factor in the consideration of impacts on BMV is the degree of impact which it is deemed to have. T The Applicant is seeking time limited consent for the Proposed Development. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, and the land within the Order Limit would be returned to the Landowner, expected to return to agricultural use, after which time all hard infrastructure above ground and below ground to a depth of 1metre, with the exception of cabling, would be removed from the land (as secured within the **oDEMP [EN010149/APP/7.13]**). The **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** provides a detailed consideration of the construction methodology, and the methods by which soil would be managed to ensure that the quality after construction, or after decommissioning, would be the same or improved from the current soil quality. Reasonable alternatives for the Proposed Development are discussed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Reasonable Alternatives Considered [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. A full assessment has been undertaken on soil and agricultural land aspects of the Proposed Development, presented in **ES Volume**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]. The **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** sets out the reasoning for the Proposed Development, including its size and location – which includes justification for the use of BMV land. In deciding whether or not to grant consent for the Proposed Development, it is acknowledged that the Secretary of State would consider use of BMV land in combination with other environmental considerations.	
Agricultural land classification	Query what the specific colours mean on the land classification map shown on page 88 of the PEIR as there is no key.	The Agricultural Land Classification map shown as Plate 3.2 in the PEIR includes the following soil classifications: • Mid-blue: Grade 1 Agricultural Land Classification (excellent quality) • Pale blue: Grade 2 Agricultural Land Classification (very good quality) • Green: Grade 3 Agricultural Land Classification (good to moderate quality) • Yellow: Grade 4 Agricultural Land Classification (poor quality) • Orange: other land primarily in non-agricultural use • Orange/red: land predominantly in urban use.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		It should be noted that the reason that this data is not presented in the ES is that it is superseded by the site-specific Agricultural Land Classification survey work that has been undertaken within the Order Limits. This means that it is possible to provide a field-level assessment of soil grades for all areas within the Order Limits. This data is provided in **ES Volume 2, Figures 11.1: Agricultural land classification** and **11.2: DCO Masterplan overlaid with the Agricultural land classification results [EN010149/APP/6.2]**, including legend. The data set that is now included provides more detailed boundaries for the grades, and also subdivides Grade 3 (good to moderate quality land) into Grade 3a (good quality land) and Grade 3b (moderate quality land). This allows the soil to be determined as either BMV or non-BMV land, as Grade 3a land is BMV, and Grade 3b is non-BMV land.	
Agricultural land classification	Comment that Grade 3a and 3b land is good quality and should not be used for solar development.	The **Appendix 1: Site Selection Report** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** sets out the site selection process, including which criteria was used in site selection and how the site selection process performs against the key requirements of NPS EN-3. The report also concludes that there was no available land of a lower agricultural or non-agricultural grade available in this location which would meet the project objectives. NPS EN-3 sets a preference for the use of non-agricultural or lower grade	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		agricultural land but accepts that the use of some agricultural land is likely, that the development of solar PV on Grade 1 and 2 land is not prohibited and that land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of the site location (see para. 2.10.29 of NPS EN-3). The Applicant's approach to design is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This includes Project Principles which have been applied to limit the use of BMV (Grades 1 to 3a). It is important to recognise that there is often more than one constraint present when considering appropriate locations for various uses within the Proposed Development and that BMV, while important, is not the determining factor. The NPS EN-3 states that the use of lower-grade agricultural land is preferred to the use of BMV, with the position in EN-3 being that applicants should seek to utilise, where possible, "*suitable previously developed land, brownfield land, contaminated and industrial land*". The significant caveat is that paragraph 2.10.29 of EN-3 states that "*land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of the site location*". The **Site Selection Report** also explains the Applicant's approach to the selection of an appropriate site to take forward as part of an application for an NSIP scale solar project. The	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		report explains that initially, there are three fundamental attributes required to develop NSIP scale solar: suitable irradiance and topography, a connection to the National Grid, and available land. The Applicant's understanding of the land in and around the Order Limits was supplemented by initial conversations with Blankney Estate regarding the quality and viability of the Order Limits for agriculture. This understanding helped direct the availability of the land within the landholding and subsequent site selection at a micro level during design development. The information which has been provided to the Applicant sets out yield data across the Order Limits on a field-by-field basis from the last 13 years, as well as the landowner's own consideration of the productivity of individual parcels and its preference for continued agricultural use, whilst acknowledging that there would be a balancing of continued use for farming purposes versus the need to deliver a commercially viable project. At a site design level, the Applicant has sought to, where possible, reduce the use of BMV land within the Proposed Development. However, due to the nature of the land quality within the Order Limits and the general classification both locally and at a wider scale in Lincolnshire it has not been possible to avoid it entirely.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The Applicant has sought to reduce the amount of BMV used for Solar PV and other built elements of the Proposed Development. Out of the 1280ha of land within the Order Limits, 541.2ha is classed as BMV (42.3%). Of this, 231.7ha (42.8%) is proposed to be used for built elements of the Proposed Development i.e., collector compounds, Springwell Substation, Solar PV development and BESS. With specific reference to areas proposed for Solar PV development, 35.6% of BMV land within the Order Limits is proposed to be used for Solar PV development. While recognising the amount of BMV included which would remain free from development, it has not been possible to remove all BMV land from the Order Limits. To do so would reduce renewable energy generation capability in a location where there is available grid capacity, and at a time when the need for such development is urgent. This is a critical point and is consistent with Paragraph 2.10.30 of EN-3 which explains that solar farm developments are not prohibited on *'best and most versatile*' agricultural land and that "*it is recognised that at this scale, it is likely that applicants' developments may use some agricultural land*". This point is further demonstrated by the limited availability of poorer grade land in the areas surrounding the Site. It is also important to recognise that BMV is one of several factors which influence the way design develops in the same	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		way it is one of several criteria used in site selection. As set out earlier in this section the NPS EN-3 is very clear that land type should not be a predominating factor in site selection. The Applicant considers this is relevant in both the site selection and design development process. Neither EN-1 nor EN-3 place a higher policy emphasis on the use of agricultural land in comparison to other environmental considerations but require the Applicant to justify its use. The other critical factor in the consideration of impacts on BMV is the degree of impact which it is deemed to have. The Applicant is seeking time limited consent for the Proposed Development. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, and the land within the Order Limit would be returned to the Landowner, expected to return to agricultural use, after which time all hard infrastructure above ground and below ground to a depth of 1 metre, with the exception of cabling, would be removed from the land (as secured within the **oDEMP [EN010149/APP/7.13]**).	
Battery storage	Comment that battery storage should not be located on agricultural land. Specific concerns	**Appendix 1: Site Selection Report** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** sets out the site selection process, including which criteria was used in site selection and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	include potential leakage of acid onto farmland.	how the site selection process performs against the key requirements of NPS EN-3. The report concludes that there was no available land of a lower agricultural or non-agricultural grade available in this location which would meet the project objectives. NPS EN-3 sets a preference for the use of non-agricultural or lower grade agricultural land but accepts that the use of some agricultural land is likely, that the development of solar PV on Grade 1 and 2 land is not prohibited and that land type should not be a predominating factor in determining the suitability of the site location (see para. 2.10.29 of NPS EN-3). With specific reference to the BESS, this is proposed to be located to the north of Springwell West, within a single field (Tb2). The proposed total area for the BESS is 13ha (32 acres). Springwell West is identified as the preferred location for the BESS for a variety of reasons including: • Close proximity to the existing National Grid overhead transmission line. • Close proximity to the Springwell Substation. • Close proximity to the A15 to facilitate access and avoid impact on the local road network.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		• The scale of the landscape, which is larger and less intimate than Springwell Central and Springwell East, was considered to be better suited to large scale infrastructure. • The presence of existing infrastructure in Springwell West including prominent pylons. • Relatively few sensitive visual receptors compared to Springwell Central and Springwell East. • Notably less PRoW compared to Springwell Central and Springwell East. • Potential impacts on the setting of Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Areas in Springwell East. • Potential impacts on the setting of Grade II listed Scopwick Mill in Springwell Central. • The presence of Flood Zone 2 or 3 in Springwell East. Following Phase Two Consultation (where two potential locations for the BESS within Springwell West were presented), the location of the BESS was reviewed and revised as part of the design process to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. The location to the south of Springwell West, adjacent to Bloxholm Woods, was discounted due to the likely noise effects	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		at residential receptors located to the north, potential visual effects on users of the nature reserve and following feedback from statutory consultees. The proposed siting area for the BESS (to the north of Springwell West) has also been refined, discounting Fields Tb1 and Bcd082 and the northern and eastern sections of Field Tb2 based on the outcome of further survey work, including landscape assessments and noise modelling to reduce effects on properties at Toll Bar Cottage, Gorse Hill Farm and Thompson's Bottom Cottages. Overall, this resulted in the proposed siting area for the BESS (and Springwell Substation) being refined from five fields at Phase Two to a single field within the final design. The siting zone for the BESS is shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and is located entirely within Field Tb2 to the north of Springwell West. Siting of the Springwell Substation and BESS within Field Tb2 allows for landscape and visual mitigation of the Proposed Development from the A15 and surrounding residential receptors. The Springwell Substation and BESS compound would be offset by 250m from the A15. Earth bunding is proposed to partially screen the lower lying elements of the compound from the road.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		New structure planting, in the form of tree belts and hedgerows, would support with screening and integration of the Springwell Substation and BESS compound. This would include tree belt planting to the west, south and east of the compound, while existing woodland (Gorse Hill Covert) would provide screening to the north. Further information on the design evolution of the Proposed Development and the rationale for the final design is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** Activities involving the use of chemicals or fuels, or any material with the potential to damage the environment (soil or groundwater), would be managed in line with industry best practice to prevent accidental releases. This would be secured by the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13].**	
Changes made since Phase One Consultation	Comment expressing support for the consideration of BMV land in the design of the Proposed Development, and	The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant's approach to design is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This includes Project Principles which have been applied to limit the use of BMV (Grades 1 to 3a).	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	changes made since Phase One Consultation to exclude higher quality land from development.	At a site design level, the Applicant has sought to, where possible, reduce the use of BMV land within the Proposed Development. However, due to the nature of the land quality within the Order Limits and the general classification both locally and at a wider scale in Lincolnshire it has not been possible to avoid it entirely. The Applicant has sought to reduce the amount of BMV used for Solar PV and other built elements of the Proposed Development. Out of the 1280ha of land within the Order Limits, 541.2ha is classed as BMV (42.3%). Of this, 231.7ha (42.8%) is proposed to be used for built elements of the Proposed Development i.e., collector compounds, Springwell Substation, Solar PV development and BESS. With specific reference to areas proposed for Solar PV development, 35.6% of BMV land within the Order Limits is proposed to be used for Solar PV development. While recognising the amount of BMV included which would remain free from development, it has not been possible to remove all BMV land from the Order Limits. To do so would reduce renewable energy generation capability in a location where there is available grid capacity, and at a time when the need for such development is urgent. This is a critical point and is consistent with Paragraph 2.10.30 of EN-3 which explains that solar farm developments are not prohibited on *'best and most versatile*' agricultural land and that "*it is recognised that at this*	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		scale, it is likely that applicants' developments may use some agricultural land". This point is further demonstrated by the limited availability of poorer grade land in the areas surrounding the Site.	
Policy	Comment that the Proposed Development does not align with policies included in the NPPF and 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to improve the Environment 2018' with directions to protect and sustainably manage best agricultural land.	**Appendix 3: Policy Compliance Assessment Tables** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents and a comprehensive assessment.	N
Soil health	Query whether soil health and classification would be likely to improve being under continuous grassland and possibly	Soil quality is considered likely to improve as a result of a reduction in stress placed on the soil characteristics (physical and chemical) when agricultural use is less high (see **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**). The area beneath the Solar PV modules would be converted from arable land to grassland and could be managed through a combination of sheep grazing and/or	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	sheep grazing, under the panels.	hay/silage production to maintain the field vegetation during the operational phase of the Proposed Development which is likely to improve soil health and erosion. The **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** includes details of methods to maintain and, where possible, improve on quality of soil during the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning stages of the Proposed Development. This includes the methodology for removal and stockpiling of topsoil, with vegetation to be established to prevent erosion or damage to stockpiled material. Soil beneath the Solar PV modules would be vegetated to maintain soil quality, and due to the size of the individual panels, it is possible for vegetation to be directly reached by sunlight and precipitation. The overall precipitation received in fields occupied by Solar PV modules would not be affected, and lateral migration of groundwater would allow vegetation to be maintained in a healthy manner.	
Soil health	Comment that statements that the Proposed Development would improve soil structure is farcical and should be removed.	This comment was provided by soil experts employed by the Applicant, and on the basis of professional experience. ADAS is a well-respected consultancy providing reports on ALC and soils, with methodology that has been adhered to being approved by Natural England. The comment relating to an improvement in soil structure due to a lack of agricultural land use has been supported by a response from the Secretary of State to a different solar farm project (Little Crow Solar Park	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Order 2022), where it was concluded that there would be a beneficial effect on the quality of soils due to the replacement of intensive cropping with growing of grass. The improvement in soil quality would occur as a result of nutrients in the soils being given time to recover in the absence of agricultural practices being undertaken, and lower frequency in trafficking across soils due to the reduction in farm plant being required across the area of Solar PV development. The **Outline Soil Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.11]** includes details of methods to maintain and, where possible, improve on quality of soil during the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning stages of the Proposed Development. This includes the methodology for removal and stockpiling of topsoil, with vegetation to be established to prevent erosion or damage to stockpiled material. Soil beneath the Solar PV modules would be vegetated to maintain soil quality, and due to the size of the individual panels, it is possible for vegetation to be directly reached by sunlight and precipitation. The overall precipitation received in fields occupied by Solar PV modules would not be affected, and lateral migration of groundwater would allow vegetation to be maintained in a healthy manner.	
Use of agricultural land	Comment that grazing sheep does not make	The Applicant notes that the potential for allowing sheep grazing does not counterbalance the loss of agricultural land for arable	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	up for the loss of agricultural land for crops.	purposes. The area beneath the Solar PV modules would be converted from arable land to grassland managed through a combination of sheep grazing and/or hay/silage production to maintain the field vegetation during the operational phase of the Proposed Development which is considered likely to improve soil health and erosion. It should also be noted that the Applicant is seeking time limited consent for the Proposed Development, meaning that the operational life is temporary. The **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]** would include a requirement that each phase of the Proposed Development must be decommissioned after 40 years of operation, and the land within the Order Limit would be returned to the Landowner, expected to return to agricultural use.	
Use of agricultural land	Comment that the Applicant has not followed the 'sequential test' appropriately in regard to agricultural land.	A sequential test which considers flood risk has informed the design development and is detailed within the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2].** The Applicant undertook a systematic process to determine suitable sites. A range of technical, environmental, and economic factors are considered when investigating and assessing any potential site for large-scale solar developments. A **Site Selection Report** has been prepared and forms **Appendix 1** of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**, which provides an overview of the site selection process	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		undertaken by the Applicant to identify the location of the Proposed Development. The Site was selected because it presents the characteristics which are highly supportive in terms of the ability to deliver a NSIP scale solar development. The Site: • has a grid connection offer which would see energy transported to the national transmission network by 2030 • lies within an area of suitable irradiance and favourable topography • includes a proportion of BMV land which is characteristic of the predominating mix in the general locality and less than the Lincolnshire average • has sufficient land to enable the grid connection offer to be maximised while maintaining sufficient offsets to sensitive residential receptors • is located away from key environmental and cultural heritage related designations • is on land which is available and may be voluntarily acquired with a single landowner enabling efficiencies in delivery • is accessible from the road network and has suitable access to land not immediately adjacent the strategic road network.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		It is also important to recognise that BMV is one of several factors which influence the way design develops in the same way it is one of several criteria used in site selection. As set out earlier in this section the NPS EN-3 is very clear that land type should not be a predominating factor in site selection. The Applicant considers this is relevant in both the site selection and design development process. Neither EN-1 nor EN-3 place a higher policy emphasis on the use of agricultural land in comparison to other environmental considerations but require the Applicant to justify its use (see the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]**). At a site design level, the Applicant has sought to, where possible, reduce the use of BMV land within the Proposed Development. However, due to the nature of the land quality within the Order Limits and the general classification both locally and at a wider scale in Lincolnshire it has not been possible to avoid it entirely. The Applicant has sought to reduce the amount of BMV used for Solar PV and other built elements of the Proposed Development. Out of the 1280ha of land within the Order Limits, 541.2ha is classed as BMV (42.3%). Of this, 231.7ha (42.8%) is proposed to be used for built elements of the Proposed Development i.e., collector compounds, Springwell Substation, Solar PV development and BESS. With specific reference to areas proposed for Solar PV development, 35.6% of BMV land	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		within the Order Limits is proposed to be used for Solar PV development. While recognising the amount of BMV included which would remain free from development, it has not been possible to remove all BMV land from the Order Limits. To do so would reduce renewable energy generation capability in a location where there is available grid capacity, and at a time when the need for such development is urgent. This is a critical point and is consistent with Paragraph 2.10.30 of EN-3 which explains that solar farm developments are not prohibited on *'best and most versatile*' agricultural land and that "*it is recognised that at this scale, it is likely that applicants' developments may use some agricultural land*". This point is further demonstrated by the limited availability of poorer grade land in the areas surrounding the Site.	
Location			
Location of the BESS and substation	Comments expressing concerns about the location of the BESS and Springwell Substation. Concerns included proximity to residential properties (reference made to	Following Phase Two Consultation, the proposed location of the BESS and Springwell Substation was reviewed and revised to take account of consultation feedback, environmental surveys, EIA assessment, and updated technical information. This resulted in the siting zone for the Springwell Substation and BESS being refined to a single field (compared to 3 fields shown at Phase Two). Under the Application, the siting zone for the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Gorse Hill Lane, Navenby and Wellingore), distance from local fire and rescue services and impact of traffic during construction.	Springwell Substation and BESS is secured by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** and is located entirely within Field Tb2 to the north of Springwell West. Environmental appraisals indicated that Field Tb2 would be less visually exposed than central land parcels in Springwell West and would have reduced impacts on users of PRoW, Bloxholm Wood Nature Reserve, and biodiversity compared to southern parcels in Springwell West. Siting of the BESS and Springwell Substation within Field Tb2 allows for landscape and visual mitigation of the Proposed Development from the A15 and surrounding residential receptors. The Springwell Substation and main collector compound would be offset by 250m from the A15 and an Earth Bund which would partially screen the lower lying elements of the compound from the road. New structure planting, in the form of tree belts and hedgerows would support with screening and integration of the substation compound. This would include tree belt planting to the west, south and east of the compound, while existing woodland (Gorse Hill Covert) would provide screening to the north. It is acknowledged in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that some adverse effects on landscape and visual amenity would remain even with mitigation	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		in place but this would be the case wherever this infrastructure was located within Order Limits or the wider landscape. Tb2 is located adjacent to the A15 which affords good access for emergency services. The A15 access and Gorse Hill Lane would be improved with a new layout and geometry to provide capacity and operational access to and from the BESS and Springwell Substation. This includes a dedicated turning lane from the A15 into Gorse Hill Lane. These proposals have been discussed, developed and agreed with Lincolnshire County Council Highways to minimise impacts of construction traffic. Further details are included with the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. Construction traffic turning on and off the A15 would be focussed on the junctions with Gorse Hill Lane and Temple Road/B1191. Both of these junctions will be improved to ensure that vehicles have adequate space to wait and turn without affecting other road users. These improvements are outlined in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** and have been agreed with the Local Highway Authority. The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**).	
Location of the proposed National Grid National Substation	Query about the location of the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation in light of the mitigation proposed to the north of Green Man Lane.	The Applicant has included information in relation to the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation in its Application, in particular in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and the **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6]**. This includes the proposed location of the National Grid Navenby Substation (published by National Grid in September 2024). In **ES Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, the Applicant has undertaken a cumulative assessment which includes a specific section to address the combined effects of the Proposed Development with the proposed National Grid Navenby Substation and has complied with the EIA Regulations requirements in this respect.	N
Proximity to A15	Comment that placing solar panels on both sides of the A15 would be dangerous.	A glint and glare assessment which considers the safety of road users has been undertaken and is provided in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3].** Screening in the form of existing and proposed vegetation, buildings and/or intervening terrain is predicted to significantly obstruct views of reflecting panels, such that solar reflections will	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		not be experienced on the A15. No impact is predicted, and further mitigation is not required. Following Phase Two Consultation a buffer has been applied to the A15, with new hedgerows proposed along the A15 where development would be located. A wider buffer of 250m has also been applied to the area where the Springwell Substation and BESS are proposed to be located. Full details are outlined in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].**	
Proximity to RAF bases	Comment that the Proposed Development is proposed too close to RAF bases and would cause an impact. Specific concerns raised included the proximity of Chinese infrastructure to RAF Digby.	The Applicant has engaged with the MoD following Phase Two Consultation. Following discussions, additional technical information has been provided to the MoD for further technical assessment within the technical safeguarding zone. The Applicant has additionally removed five fields proposed for Solar PV development south of RAF Digby following Phase Two Consultation. Following the removal of these areas, the Order Limits were able to be reduced away from the southern perimeter of RAF Digby, though two of the identified fields remain within the Order Limits to facilitate the cable route. The procurement process for the Proposed Development has not yet started and would begin should development consent be granted. As part of this process, the Applicant would take a rigorous approach to ensuring its suppliers comply with relevant	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		legislation and its requirements as set out in an ethical procurement policy (for more information, see **Outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20).**	
Proximity to Scopwick graveyard	Comments that the Proposed Development is proposed too close to Scopwick, with specific features raised including the graveyard which contains important military war graves and a children's play park.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide an appropriate offset to Scopwick in accordance with Project Principle 1.2. This is set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development was reviewed, which included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings. This included discounting for Solar PV development in Field Md02 to provide a greater offset to Scopwick. As a result of the changes no Solar PV development is proposed in fields to the south of Trundle Lane and west of the Spires and Steeples Trail as shown and secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1**] concludes that the development would not impact the character of Scopwick and would not be visible from any locations within it (including the cemetery or children's play area in Scopwick).	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Proximity to villages	Comments that the Proposed Development is too close to Navenby and Wellingore villages and this would impact on the peaceful nature of the villages. Other comments suggested that the BESS and Springwell substation should be moved further away.	The spatial parameters for the Proposed Development (including Springwell Substation and BESS) are shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** The Springwell Substation and BESS are over 2km from Navenby and over 2.5km from Wellingore. The assessment presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** demonstrates that there would be no view of the BESS and Springwell Substation from either of these villages. An assessment of noise and air quality impacts is set out within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 6: Air Quality and Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** which concludes that there are no likely significant noise or air quality effects anticipated from the Proposed Development.	N
Proximity to villages	Comment that the Proposed Development is proposed too close to towns and villages and encompasses whole villages.	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and include the provision of appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings on a case-by-case basis (Principle 1.2) and maintaining the rural separation between the villages of Ashby de la Launde, RAF Digby, Scopwick, Kirkby Green and Blankney (Principle 2.3). Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development was reviewed which included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		and to provide a sensitive response to sequential views and the experience of people using the local road and PRoW network between settlements. As a result of these changes additional offsets have been incorporated to Scopwick, Blankney, Ashby de la Launde and RAF Digby which would be secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** As a result of the design changes that have been incorporated into the Proposed Development, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** concludes that the Proposed Development would not impact the character of local villages and would not be visible from any locations within them except for potentially glimpsed views from RAF Digby. Along the B1191 (Heath Road) and B1181 (Lincoln Road) Solar PV Development would generally be set well back or screened by existing vegetation and new planting. Along local footpaths, offsets and new hedgerows would help to screen and integrate the Proposed Development with the rural landscape.	
Need			
Capacity	Comment disputing the amount of energy that would be produced by the Proposed Development and	The Proposed Development is forecast to provide enough renewable energy to power 180,000 typical UK households per annum. This represents a conservative assessment based on the maximum feasible export capacity of the Proposed Development (800MW) and the average domestic electricity	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	request for the Applicant to publish the output of its solar farms. Query when and for how many days 180,000 homes would be powered.	consumption per home (temperature corrected) per the Energy Consumption in the UK (published September 2021, Table C9 of ECUK: Consumption data tables). The amount of energy that the facility would produce, would be dependent on a detailed design on the future technology to be deployed during the construction stage. The current assumed capacity is approximately 800MW of installed DC capacity, as described within the **Grid Connection Statement [EN010149/APP/7.6].**	
Energy production	Comment that the energy generated by the Proposed Development would be sold abroad. Other comments stated that the electricity would be sent to France as the Applicant is French.	The Applicant is seeking a DCO for a large-scale solar plus battery storage development, connecting to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at a new 400kV National Grid substation at Navenby. All of the energy generated from the Proposed Development would be made available for UK consumption. Market conditions, including local and regional supply and demand, and market prices in the UK and abroad, determine whether the UK imports or exports electricity to neighbouring countries at any particular time. NPS EN-1 Para 3.3.3 states that “Demand for electricity is likely to increase significantly over the coming years and could more than double by 2050 as large parts of transport, heating and industry decarbonise by switching from fossil fuels to low carbon electricity” and this explains why the government seeks to	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		double onshore wind, triple solar power, and quadruple offshore wind by 2030. The Applicant is registered in England and Wales (company number 13484004). The Proposed Development is a joint venture between two companies both registered in England and Wales – EDF Renewables UK (06456689) and Luminous Energy (08416646).	
Energy production	Comment that the Proposed Development would only send electricity to people living in big cities.	The Applicant has accepted a Connection Offer from National Grid to connect the Proposed Development to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at a proposed new National Grid 400kV substation at Navenby. Para 3.3.12 of NPS EN-1 explains that connection to the NETS is of significant importance, enabling the pooling of generation and demand to facilitate an efficient transfer of bulk power across the country, to provide clean electricity to consumers both locally and nationally, wherever it is needed.	N
Environmental impact	Comment that there are no long studies into the effect of solar farms on the environment	The EIA Regulations require the Applicant to submit an **Environmental Statement [EN010149/APP/6.1-6.4]** as part of the Application for the Proposed Development. The ES identifies a range of possible impacts of the Proposed Development, including both beneficial and adverse, together with mitigation measures to prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset adverse effects. Given the approach to assuming a reasonable worst	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		case, rather than understating the likely effects of the Proposed Development, if anything, the adverse effects may be slightly over-stated given the precautionary approach taken to ensure that the effects can be properly considered. It is therefore considered that the ES provides a robust assessment of the likely long-term effects of the Proposed Development on the surrounding environment. The Applicant's proposed approach to long term management is set out in the **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]**, the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]** and other outline management plans contained in DCO Application. Where needed, these Plans include the requirement to continue to monitor the effects of the Proposed Development.	
General comment – Need	Comment that the Proposed Development is ill conceived and short sighted.	Paragraph 3.3.19 of NPS EN-1 states that: "A secure, reliable, affordable, net zero consistent system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar". The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence that urgent and unprecedented actions are required on a global scale to halt climate change. A rapid increase in the supply of low carbon electricity is needed for the UK to meet its legally binding climate change targets. Solar generation is a critical part of the UK's strategy to achieve net zero by 2050, a	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		key step towards which is the government's national mission for clean power by 2030. Solar facilities are already among the cheapest form of electricity generation in the UK and Government forecasts indicate that costs will continue to reduce in the future. By generating low carbon electricity at a low marginal cost, large-scale solar power reduces the energy generated by more expensive and more carbon intensive forms of generation. Solar therefore decarbonises the electricity system and lowers the market price of electricity.	
General comment – Need	Comment that the Proposed Development is not the correct response to climate change and would not protect the environment.	Paragraph 3.3.19 of NPS EN-1 states that "A secure, reliable, affordable, net zero consistent system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar". The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence that urgent and unprecedented actions are required on a global scale to halt climate change. A rapid increase in the supply of low carbon electricity is needed for the UK to meet its legally binding climate change targets. Solar generation is a critical part of the UK's strategy to achieve net zero by 2050, a key step towards which is the government's national mission for clean power by 2030. Solar facilities are already among the cheapest form of electricity generation in the UK and Government forecasts indicate that costs will continue to reduce in the future. By	N

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		generating low carbon electricity at a low marginal cost, large-scale solar power reduces the energy generated by more expensive and more carbon intensive forms of generation. Solar therefore decarbonises the electricity system and lowers the market price of electricity. Solar developments can also provide co-benefits for climate and nature through delivering biodiversity net gain because of their development.	
Principle of development	Comment that the UK will not benefit from the Proposed Development.	The Applicant is seeking a DCO for a large-scale solar plus battery storage development, connecting to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at a new 400kV National Grid substation at Navenby. All the energy generated from the Proposed Development would be made available for UK consumption. Market conditions, including local and regional supply and demand, and market prices in the UK and abroad, determine whether the UK imports or exports electricity to neighbouring countries at any particular time. NPS EN-1 Para 3.3.3 states that “Demand for electricity is likely to increase significantly over the coming years and could more than double by 2050 as large parts of transport, heating and industry decarbonise by switching from fossil fuels to low carbon electricity” and this explains why the government seeks to double onshore wind, triple solar power, and quadruple offshore wind by 2030.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Principle of development	Comments that the respondent is not opposed to renewable energy in principle, but the Proposed Development is not suitable.	The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence of the urgent need for the Proposed Development. The proposed location is a highly suitable location for large-scale solar because of the attractive combination of solar irradiation and suitable land at the site, coupled with an available new grid connection, located and sized to accommodate multiple new schemes. The Applicant is bringing forward a scheme which optimises use of the available grid connection capacity while respecting local environmental constraints.	N
Principle of development	Comment that the Proposed Development appears to be matching the need for greener non-fossil fuel energy in a largely appropriate locality for panels and is addressing concerns of local residents and businesses and the local wildlife in a positive way.	The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** also provides evidence on the urgent need for the Proposed Development. The proposed location is highly suitable for large-scale solar because of the attractive combination of solar irradiation and suitable land at the Site, coupled with an available new grid connection, located and sized to accommodate multiple new schemes. The Applicant is bringing forward a scheme which optimises use of the available grid connection capacity while respecting local environmental constraints.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Principle of development	Comment that renewable energy developments have come online in the local area and electricity bills have only increased.	Paragraph 3.3.19 of NPS EN-1 states that "A secure, reliable, affordable, net zero consistent system in 2050 is likely to be composed predominantly of wind and solar". The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence that urgent and unprecedented actions are required on a global scale to halt climate change. A rapid increase in the supply of low carbon electricity is needed for the UK to meet its legally binding climate change targets. Solar generation is a critical part of the UK's strategy to achieve net zero by 2050, a key step towards which is the government's national mission for clean power by 2030. Solar facilities are already among the cheapest form of electricity generation in the UK and Government forecasts indicate that costs will continue to reduce in the future. By generating low carbon electricity at a low marginal cost, large-scale solar power reduces the energy generated by more expensive and more carbon intensive forms of generation. Solar therefore decarbonises the electricity system and lowers the market price of electricity. The Applicant recognises that UK consumer electricity bills have increased over the last few years due to post-Covid inflation and international energy price volatility. As the Committee on Climate Change write in their 2024 Progress Report to Parliament: "British-based renewable energy is the cheapest	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		and fastest way to reduce vulnerability to volatile global fossil fuel markets. The faster we get off fossil fuels, the more secure we become."	
Principle of development	Comment that the Proposed Development would be detrimental to the UK economy, and any benefits are unproven.	The recently designated NPSs confirm that large-scale ground mounted solar farms have a critical role to play in achieving the government's aims. The government has determined that there exists a critical national priority (CNP) for low-carbon infrastructure, including large-scale solar farms, because of the decarbonisation, energy security and affordability benefits that they deliver. The NPSs also confirm that assets which provide flexibility to the national electricity system, or to the energy system generally, are also needed to achieve the government's decarbonisation and energy security aims. The government is supportive of solar that is co-located with storage to maximise the efficiency of land use. The Proposed Development, which is a large-scale solar plus battery storage scheme, is therefore fully aligned with the government's aims. Paragraph 3.3.63 of NPS EN-1 states that: "Subject to any legal requirements, the urgent need for CNP Infrastructure to achieving our energy objectives, together with the national security, economic, commercial, and net zero benefits, will in general outweigh any other residual impacts not capable of being addressed by application of the mitigation hierarchy"	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Principle of development	Comment that the amount of electricity produced does not warrant the significant impacts of the Proposed Development.	The recently designated NPSs confirm that large-scale ground mounted solar farms have a critical role to play in achieving the government's aims. The government has determined that there exists a critical national priority (CNP) for low-carbon infrastructure, including large-scale solar farms, because of the decarbonisation, energy security and affordability benefits that they deliver. The NPSs also confirm that assets which provide flexibility to the national electricity system, or to the energy system generally, are also needed to achieve the government's decarbonisation and energy security aims. The government is supportive of solar that is co-located with storage to maximise the efficiency of land use. The Proposed Development, which is a large-scale solar plus battery storage scheme, is therefore fully aligned with the government's aims. Paragraph 3.3.63 of NPS EN-1 states that: "Subject to any legal requirements, the urgent need for CNP Infrastructure to achieving our energy objectives, together with the national security, economic, commercial, and net zero benefits, will in general outweigh any other residual impacts not capable of being addressed by application of the mitigation hierarchy."	N
Principle of development	Comment that the Proposed Development would	The recently designated NPSs confirm that large-scale ground mounted solar farms have a critical role to play in achieving the government's aims. The government has determined that there	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	not help energy security.	exists a critical national priority (CNP) for low-carbon infrastructure, including large-scale solar farms, because of the decarbonisation, energy security and affordability benefits that they deliver. The NPSs also confirm that assets which provide flexibility to the national electricity system, or to the energy system generally, are also needed to achieve the government's decarbonisation and energy security aims. The Proposed Development, which is a large-scale solar plus battery storage scheme, is therefore fully aligned with the government's aims. As the Committee on Climate Change write in their 2024 Progress Report to Parliament: "British-based renewable energy is the cheapest and fastest way to reduce vulnerability to volatile global fossil fuel markets. The faster we get off fossil fuels, the more secure we become."	
Purpose of development	Comment that the BESS would be used to buy electricity when it is cheap and sell it back at profit.	The NPSs confirm that assets which provide flexibility to the national electricity system, or to the energy system generally, are also needed to achieve the government's decarbonisation and energy security aims. • BESS store otherwise curtailed energy to support security of supply when demand is high. • BESS keep consumer costs down by capturing and storing energy when it is abundant (therefore cheap) and releasing it	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		when it is needed (reducing consumer exposure to high and volatile prices). • BESS displaces stand-by fossil assets by using stored energy as a low-carbon "peaking" energy resource, further supporting the government's aim for the electricity system to be operating with net zero carbon emissions from 2035 The BESS element of the Proposed Development would complement the generation profile of the main solar facility and provide system functions which support the operation of the solar facility by (among other functions) balancing supply with demand.	
Technology	Comments on the principle of developing a solar farm in the UK, including that solar is intermittent, that it produces the least amount of power when it is most needed, that does not work in the UK and that it is not sufficient to meet UK energy demand on its own.	The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence that solar generation contributes to UK security of electricity supply as part of a multi-technology aggregated generation portfolio. Historically, electricity peak demand has tended to occur on winter weekday evenings, when industrial and commercial demand overlaps with residential. However, NGESO state that "as the share of renewable electricity supply increases, electricity peaks could occur at other times" [Future Energy Scenarios (2024), p101]. This is an important point which is further evidenced in the **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** in relation to UK solar generation	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		contributing to delivering secure electricity supplies at all times of the year. The solar sector is proven in operation with over 16GW of installed capacity already reliably delivering zero-carbon electricity to the UK's electricity system. The recently designated NPSs confirm that large-scale ground mounted solar farms have a critical role to play in achieving the government's aims. The government has determined that there exists a critical national priority (CNP) for low-carbon infrastructure, including large-scale solar farms, because of the decarbonisation, energy security and affordability benefits that they deliver. The BESS element of the Proposed Development would complement the generation profile of the main solar facility and provide system functions which support the operation of the solar facility by (among other functions) balancing supply with demand. This includes displacing stand-by fossil assets by using stored energy as a low-carbon "peaking" energy resource, further supporting the government's aim for the electricity system to be operating with net zero carbon emissions from 2035.	
Technology	Comment that renewable energy projects can't be counted on as there	The Applicant has accepted a Connection Offer from National Grid to connect the Proposed Development to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at a proposed new	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	are significant delays to connect to the National Grid.	National Grid 400kV substation at Navenby. The grid connection offer is for up to 800MW of capacity. The solar sector is proven in delivery because of its short development duration and is therefore well placed to deliver to the urgent need for low-carbon generation. The Proposed Development is a viable proposal, with a strong likelihood of near-term deliverability. It would achieve significant carbon reduction benefits through the deployment of a proven, low-cost technology at a suitable grid connection. As such, the Proposed Development possesses exactly those attributes identified as being required both in the near-term and in the future in order to continue to make material carbon reductions in the UK electricity sector.	
Use of land	Comment that the Proposed Development does not represent an efficient or environmentally compatible use of land.	The Proposed Development represents a proposal which delivers on the urgent national need for low carbon energy generating infrastructure. It presents an environmentally led design which is sensitive to local context and would make a significant contribution to the national supply of renewable energy, which is considered an appropriate, efficient and environmentally compatible use of land. The Proposed Development equates to an output of 1MW per 2.4 acres which represents an efficient use of the land for solar	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		PV and associated infrastructure within the range identified within NPS EN-1 (paragraph 2.10.17).	
Noise and vibration			
BESS	Comments expressing concern about noise from the BESS. Other comments requested more information about how noise is generated by BESS, where this would be experienced, how loud the noise would be and what the mitigation measures are to ensure there is no increase in the ambient noise levels currently experienced throughout a typical 24 hr period.	Noise from the BESS is generally considered to be from the cooling fans and transformers. The operational noise has been assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** with no adverse impacts anticipated. The layout of the Proposed Development has been designed so that surrounding noise sensitive receptors are not exposed to levels higher than 40 dB $L_{Ar,1hour}$ during the daytime and 35 dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$ during the night-time. These levels are adhered to through the proposed implementation of acoustic barriers around Springwell Substation and the BESS Compound. These rating levels are considered to be low, but due to the rural nature of the Proposed Development, ambient noise levels may be influenced by the BESS during quiet periods, such as the early morning hours.	N
BESS	Comment that the noise from the BESS would be louder in the	Noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	summer due to the need to cool the units, and it would likely disturb residents sleep who would have windows open.	More specifically, assessments covering the operational phase assume that all plant would operate at 100% capacity for both daytime and night-time as a reasonable worst-case scenario and has identified that with embedded mitigation, such as acoustic barriers, no significant impacts are anticipated. It is therefore considered that this reasonable worst-case scenario would cover any seasonal variations in noise e.g. due to increased cooling requirements during summer. The most onerous operational criterion is considered to be the night-time criteria of 35 dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$, which is not exceeded at any receptors assessed.	
BESS	Comment expressing concern about the impact of noise on Navenby from the BESS and Springwell Substation.	Noise impacts have been assessed at The Bungalow, Gorse Hill Lane, which is approximately 600m from the closest noise equipment assessed. No significant impact is assessed at this receptor, as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The nearest dwelling in Navenby appears to be located 2km from The Bungalow, along Long Ridge, which results in around an additional 13 dB attenuation for distance correction. This additional attenuation is considered to result in no impact to Navenby residents.	N
General comment – Noise	Comment that the noise that would be produced by the Proposed	Noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Development would be constant and is incomparable to other sources of noise in the area e.g. traffic/aviation which is intermittent.	More specifically, the operational phase has assessed all plant operating at 100% capacity for both daytime and night-time as a reasonable worst-case scenario and has identified that with embedded mitigation, such as acoustic barriers, no significant impacts are anticipated. The most onerous operational criterion is considered to be the night-time criteria of 35 dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$, which is not exceeded at any receptors assessed. The source of noise of the Proposed Development may be comparable to the hum of distant traffic, but perceptibility plays a key role in comparison. It should be noted that that all plant operating at 100% operation is unlikely, and the operating capacity is dependent on a variety of aspects, such as the solar energy being utilised, and the demand of the energy grid.	
Impact of noise	Comment that surrounding villages should not be subjected to noise pollution which would impact human health.	Noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The potential for noise and vibration impacts across the lifetime of the Proposed Development at properties identified in the vicinity of the Order Limits has been assessed and no significant effects are anticipated. Though elevated noise levels associated with construction noise may be observed for short periods of time, the Applicant has identified that with additional mitigation e.g. temporary hoarding these are not considered to be	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		significant and would be minor adverse. Mitigation measures are secured within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**. During the operational phase of the Proposed Development, noise levels would be within the adopted criteria of 40 dB LAr,1hour daytime and 35dB LAr,15minute night-time which has been agreed with North Kesteven District Council. Additionally, embedded mitigation, such as acoustic barriers would be implemented around the BESS and Springwell Substation transformers for the operational phase to reduce noise levels, further resulting in levels considered to be at or lower than can be heard, and would not cause any change in behaviour, attitude or other physiological response.	
Impact on footpaths	Comment that the noise would impact the tranquillity of footpaths around the Proposed Development.	Sensitivity has not been assigned to users of PRoWs due to their transient nature in comparison to fixed dwellings located around the Proposed Development. Little guidance is provided for noise assessments of PRoW, and it is considered that noise levels at dwellings is a more suitable and onerous assessment for noise impacts. Noise impacts have been assessed and are detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, which has identified that with embedded mitigation no significant impacts are anticipated.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Impact on Glebe Farm	Comment objecting to noise from the Proposed Development being heard inside or outside Glebe Farm and request for inverters to be placed away from the property.	Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development has been reviewed in response to feedback received, ongoing technical work, and the outcomes of environmental assessments. This has included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings. Solar PV development has been discounted from land to the south of RAF Digby and in fields in proximity to Glebe Farm and Ashby de la Launde. The nearest inverter to Glebe Farm is now around 1km away. Operational noise, which assumes 100% operational of equipment (including inverters) has been assessed at Glebe Farm. No significant impact is assessed at this receptor, as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Operational noise levels are predicted to be at or below a level where noise can be heard at this property, which would not cause any change in behaviour, attitude or other physiological response.	N
Information	Comment requesting information on audible noise levels from a standard solar field and at what distance	Audibility and inaudibility are influenced by the person's hearing perception, and the influence of other noise sources that the sound in question is experienced. Operational noise level contours of the Proposed Development are presented in **ES Volume 2, Figures 12.4: Daytime Specific Noise Contours** and **12.5: Night-time Specific Noise**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	noise becomes inaudible.	**Contours [EN010149/APP/6.2]** for daytime and night-time periods, presenting the geographic extent and potential of noise levels from the equipment The layout of the Proposed Development has been designed so that surrounding noise sensitive receptors are not exposed to levels higher than 40 dB $L_{Ar,1hour}$ during the daytime and 35 dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$ during the night-time. As noise associated with the Proposed Development does not exceed these levels is considered that it does not exceed a level where, noise can be heard, and does not cause any change in behaviour, attitude or other physiological response.	
Mitigation	Comment that everything should be done to minimise the noise from inverters and transformers, including consideration of acoustic barriers.	Operational noise has been assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]** with no adverse impacts identified. The layout of the Proposed Development has been designed so that surrounding noise sensitive receptors are not exposed to levels higher than 40 dB $L_{Ar,1hour}$ during the daytime and 35 dB $L_{Ar,15minute}$ during the night-time. These levels are adhered to through suitable selection of BoSS equipment (inverters, transformers and switchgear), and acoustic barriers around Springwell Substation and the BESS Compound.	N
Substation	Comment that there would be noise from	Noise impacts have been assessed at The Bungalow, Gorse Hill Lane, which would be approximately 600m from the proposed	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	the Springwell Substation and associated infrastructure.	Springwell Substation and therefore one of the closest receptors. No significant impact is assessed at this property, as detailed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. Noise from the Proposed Development is considered to be at or below a level where noise can be heard, and would not cause any change in behaviour, attitude or other physiological response.	
Operation			
Agricultural use	Comment that the areas retained for agriculture within the Proposed Development might not be left for agriculture.	The Proposed Development includes the required land to construct and operate the solar farm within the Order Limits (see **Location, Order Limits and Grid Coordinate Plans [EN010149/APP/2.1]**). Areas of land within the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]** that would only be needed for temporary construction or below ground cabling use, would continue to be managed by the landowner. All land that has been removed from the Proposed Development through consultation and design development has now been omitted from the **Order Limits [EN010149/APP/2.1]** and would be continued to be managed by the landowner. How this land	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		would continue to be managed by the landowner is outside of the Applicant's control.	
Contamination	Comment that there is no real plan to deal with the environmental disaster that could occur from panel leakage or a lithium fire.	The Applicant has applied industry best practice to the design of the BESS, including the use of the NFCC (National Fire Chief Council) Guidance "Grid Scale Battery Energy Storage System planning – Guidance for FRS" and NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 855 "Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems". The Applicant has investigated BESS safety and fire risk from a thermal runaway event and adopted suitable mitigation measures detailed within the **Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (oBSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]**. These documents set out the very low likelihood of such an event (1 in 7700 years, an aggregate figure which accounts for all example BESS enclosures within the compound) along with the worst-case impacts that could occur. The **BESS Plume Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]** demonstrates that should a thermal runaway event occur, it would not pose significant risks to nearby human health receptors, including the closest residential receptors to the proposed BESS compound (approx. 440m to the southeast). Harmful impacts are predicted to only occur within tens of metres rather than hundreds of metres from the specific BESS	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		enclosure involved in any thermal runaway event. Due to the low wind speed and lack of turbulence the cloud would likely be less than 6m in width. It should also be noted that the modelled plume remained well formed and showed a gradual rise to around 8m as it moved downwind, reducing the risk to people at ground level. The design of the BESS enclosure follows guidance to lay assets out in a manner that limits the ability for a thermal runaway event to spread to adjacent enclosures and nearby residential receptors. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) would respond to any BESS event according to a mutually agreed Emergency Response Plan, which further reduces risk. The **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and **Flood Risk Assessment: Appendix - Outline Drainage Strategy [EN010149/APP/7.16]** set out methods to collect, contain and manage any firefighting water runoff during a thermal runaway event. It also sets out drainage strategy for normal operation. This helps to avoid, control and mitigate the risk of contamination to nearby receptors. The Applicant has engaged with Lincolnshire FRS throughout the pre-application period, with ongoing dialogue on suitable preventative measures and response to any thermal runaway event. Comments received from the Lincolnshire FRS have been incorporated into the design of the BESS compound, **oBSMP [EN010149/APP/7.14]** and the **BESS Plume**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.19]. Part of the mitigations discussed and agreed with Lincolnshire FRS relate to the potential need for water to cool adjacent enclosures in the event of a fire. If required, the BESS compound can accommodate sufficient water storage over and above the minimum currently required under NFCC guidance. Appropriate measures would be agreed with the Lincolnshire FRS during detailed design. The Applicant has included a Draft Statement of Common Ground agreed with Lincolnshire FRS as part of its Application (see **Draft Statement of Common Ground - Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service [EN010149/APP/7.24]**). Regarding the point raised about panel leakage, two of the main concerns around chemicals within PV modules are related to cadmium and lead. At this time, it is assumed that monocrystalline silicon PV modules would be used which do not contain any cadmium. The very little amount of lead in electrical circuits is encapsulated and there is very little risk of leakage into the ground. Therefore, the likelihood of any impacts related to lead is very low. The recycling of the panels is more likely to be where an impact could be found due to the dismantling of the panels for their materials. The Proposed Development is anticipated to generate some Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) through operation and maintenance, and a substantive amount of WEEE at decommissioning which would include Solar PV	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		modules, batteries, and substation equipment, as well as other smaller quantities of WEEE from supporting electrical infrastructure. As such, these would be recovered and recycled by an authorised reprocessor as required by the WEEE Regulations 2013. To ensure that this is done to "Best Available Treatment Recovery and Recycling Techniques", a list of up-to-date authorised reprocessors should be established prior to the operational phase of the Proposed Development and kept up to-date throughout the operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development. This is secured through the **Outline Operation Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13],** both of which would be secured by Requirement in the DCO.	
Lifespan	Comments on the proposed operational lifetime of the Proposed Development. Some comments felt the operational phase is too long. Other comments felt that it was too short.	The UK has a legal obligation to achieve net zero carbon emissions nationally by 2050. Once achieved, energy sources will need to continue to be low carbon to continue to keep the global climate in check. Once net zero is achieved it must be maintained and future electricity generation facilities, including those required to replace those which have reached the end of their useful economic lives, will also need to be low carbon. Paragraph 2.10.65 of NPS EN-3 provides that the design life of solar panels should be considered "when determining the period for which consent is required. An upper limit of 40 years is	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		typical, although applicants may seek consent without a time-period or for differing time-periods of operation." Paragraph 2.10.55 pf NPS EN-3 addresses the degradation of solar efficiency over time and suggests that developers may need to account for the light-induced degradation effects on solar panels by overplanting solar panel arrays. At the detailed design stage, opportunities would be investigated to increase the lifetime generation output of the Proposed Development and the benefits arising from its development, within the envelope of development secured at consent.	
Lifespan	Query the operational lifespan as the majority of solar installations reduce output earlier (10-20 years).	Paragraph 2.10.65 of NPS EN-3 provides that the design life of solar panels should be considered "when determining the period for which consent is required. An upper limit of 40 years is typical, although applicants may seek consent without a time-period or for differing time-periods of operation." Paragraph 2.10.55 pf NPS EN-3 addresses the degradation of solar efficiency over time and suggests that developers may need to account for the light-induced degradation effects on solar panels by overplanting solar panel arrays. The Applicant has assumed that solar PV modules would have a service life of 40 years, based on current technology. The Applicant has set out the replacement rates for each piece of equipment in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]. The Applicant notes that performance does degrade over time, and this has been taken into account in the forecast generation of the Proposed Development. At the detailed design stage, opportunities would be investigated to increase the lifetime generation output of the scheme and the benefits arising from its development, within the envelope of development secured at consent.	
Maintenance	Comment that information on the long-term management of the Proposed Development is vague.	During the operational (including maintenance) phase of the Proposed Development, on-site activities would include routine servicing, maintenance, and replacement of equipment as and when required, as well as cleaning of Solar PV modules and vegetation management. The Applicant proposes to have permanent onsite personnel to manage and maintain the Site in a safe and responsible manner. This includes maintenance personnel to actively monitor operations to ensure: • safe and secure operation of the Proposed Development • delivery of the Proposed Development's environmental policy • any necessary environmental issues and control measures are in place, they are effectively communicated, appropriate and implemented on site	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		• good practice is being followed to minimise impact on the environment • regular site inspections, maintaining a record of environmental monitoring and performance and then reporting on performance • appropriate liaison with local authority, other statutory bodies and members of the public • solar PV, BESS and all supporting infrastructure are operating optimally • assets are maintained and replaced as required to support safe and optimal e.g. solar PV panel cleaning or end of life replacement The Applicant's proposed approach to long term management of the Proposed Development during operation is further set out in the **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and the **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13]** as well as the **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and other outline management plans contained in Application.	
Maintenance	Comment that the general upkeep of the	It is anticipated that up to 24 permanent staff per day would typically be onsite during the operational (including	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Proposed Development would cause problems in the local area in regard to traffic and general buildings.	maintenance) phase. This includes staff working normal daytime hours and nighttime security staff. Additional staff would attend when required for maintenance, replacement of solar equipment, vegetation management and cleaning. Details can be found in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1].** There is expected to be little impact during the operational phase due to traffic and further detail can be found in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. There are no anticipated significant impacts on general buildings in the local area. Information about cultural heritage assessments, which includes assessments of buildings, is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage [EN010149/APP/6.1]**	
Security	Query what provisions for site security have been considered.	Security is an important consideration during construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. Each area of the Site has been assessed against its function and requirements for security measures, focused on being safe and secure by design. This has led to the design incorporating safety measures such as fencing, security gates, CCTV and PIR lighting. Details of proposed security provisions are provided in the **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10], ES Volume 2, Figure 3.12: Typical Security Details [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **Outline**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7].	
Policy			
Policy	Comment that the Proposed Development directly conflicts with a range of central government policies.	The Applicant does not consider that its proposals are in breach of Government policy; and in fact, as discussed in the **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]**, support the Government's wider policy proposals. The **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]** provides evidence that urgent and unprecedented actions are required on a global scale to halt climate change. A rapid increase in the supply of low carbon electricity is needed for the UK to meet its legally binding climate change targets. Solar generation is a critical part of the UK's strategy to achieve net zero by 2050, a key step towards which is the government's national mission for clean power by 2030. Solar facilities are already among the cheapest form of electricity generation in the UK and Government forecasts indicate that costs will continue to reduce in the future. By generating low carbon electricity at a low marginal cost, large-scale solar power reduces the energy generated by more expensive and more carbon intensive forms of generation. Solar therefore decarbonises the electricity system and lowers the market price of electricity.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Appendix 3 Policy Compliance Assessment Tables of the **Planning Statement [EN010149/APP/7.2]** provides detailed evidence of compliance with relevant national and local policy documents and a comprehensive assessment.	
Population			
Economic impact	Comment stating that economic impacts have not been considered.	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1]** presents an assessment of impacts relating to employment and associated Gross Value Added resulting from the Proposed Development. This includes discussion of associated indirect benefits because of the increased use of local hospitality venues during the construction period.	N
Economic impact	Query if the impact on the local economy of RAF bases reducing operations due to the Proposed Development has been assessed.	This has not been considered as part of the assessments undertaken in support of the Proposed Development as the Applicant does not anticipate any RAF operations to be reduced due to the Proposed Development. The Applicant has engaged extensively with the MoD throughout the pre-application period and will continue to do so as the Application progresses.	N
Economic impact	Comment that the Proposed Development could benefit local	Impacts to businesses was scoped out of further assessment due to professional judgement and experience on other similar schemes. Whilst there is the potential for businesses to benefit associated with the increased uptake in accommodation, effects	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	businesses such as food outlets and shops and provide new opportunities for the area. Request for more information about potential local economic benefits.	to businesses were deemed not significant and thus were not assessed further. This approach was agreed with PINS at Scoping (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.1: Scoping Opinion [EN010149/APP/6.3]**). The Proposed Development would require a maximum number of 650 workers during peak periods of the construction phase. Impacts associated with Gross Value Added to the local economy are assessed fully in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN01046/APP/6.1]**. Whilst there would be beneficial impacts to the local economy as a result of an increased expenditure and local Gross Value Added as a result of increased employment opportunities, these impacts were determined to be not significant at the scoping stage and thus were not further assessed. The **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** presents how the Applicant would promote opportunities for local businesses to win work arising from the development. These would focus, in the main, upon opportunities connected directly to the construction processes on site and throughout the construction and manufacturing supply chain. The Plan also describes how it would promote opportunities for local people to gain access to jobs, upskilling and re-skilling opportunities. Both strands would contribute towards economic benefits.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Energy generation	Comment that the power generated by the Proposed Development would not benefit local residents or be used in the local area.	The Applicant has accepted a Connection Offer from National Grid to connect the Proposed Development to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at a proposed new National Grid 400kV substation at Navenby. Electricity from the Proposed Development would feed into the National Grid, forming part of the national electricity supply that powers homes and businesses across the UK. By generating low carbon electricity at a low marginal cost, large-scale solar power reduces the energy generated by more expensive and more carbon intensive forms of generation. Solar therefore helps to decarbonises the electricity system and lower the market price of electricity. This is further explained in the **Statement of Need [EN010149/APP/7.1]**.	N
Impact on employment	Comment that there would be minimal jobs created during the operational phase.	The Applicant anticipates that there would be 24 operational jobs resulting from the Proposed Development. A full assessment of the significance of this employment creation is addressed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1].**	N
Impact on employment	Comments that there would be a negative impact on employment as a result of the Proposed	An assessment of impacts to agricultural land holdings and jobs is provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1].** There are currently two agricultural operations occurring within the study area. During the construction and operational phases, these current operations	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Development due to reduction in farming jobs. Query how many agricultural jobs would be lost due to the Proposed Development.	would be moved to nearby agricultural fields and therefore there would be no net agricultural job losses. There would be no significant effects on agricultural land holdings and the agricultural economy as a result of the Proposed Development.	
Impact on villages	Comment that there would be an impact on the desirability of the area as a place to live.	The design of the Proposed Development has been guided by Project Principles. These are set out with the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]** and include the provision of appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings on a case-by-case basis (Principle 1.2) and maintaining the rural separation between the villages of Ashby de la Launde, RAF Digby, Scopwick, Kirkby Green and Blankney (Principle 2.3). Following Phase Two Consultation, the design of the Proposed Development was reviewed which included amendments to the Order Limits and potential areas for Solar PV development to provide appropriate offsets to local settlements and dwellings and to provide a sensitive response to sequential views and the experience of people using the local road and PRoW network between settlements. As a result of these changes additional offsets have been incorporated to Scopwick, Blankney, Ashby de la Launde and RAF Digby which would be secured by the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** As a result of the design changes that have been incorporated into the Proposed Development, **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]** concludes that the Proposed Development would not impact the character of local villages and would not be visible from any locations within them except for potentially glimpsed views from RAF Digby. Along the B1191 (Heath Road) and B1181 (Lincoln Road) Solar PV Development would generally be set well back or screened by existing vegetation and new planting. Along local footpaths, offsets and new hedgerows would help to screen and integrate the Proposed Development with the rural landscape. The impact of the Proposed Development on residential visual amenity has been assessed for individual properties in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 10.5: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The Applicant considers that appropriate buffers have been proposed around these residential properties such that the Proposed Development would not have an overbearing impact on views. Each property has been considered on an individual basis and buffers/mitigation have been proposed that are specifically tailored to the individual circumstances of the property.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		The Applicant is also proposing a Community Fund of £400 per megawatt of installed capacity per year from the start of operation and lasting throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Development. It is envisaged that it would be managed by an independent third party and delivered in partnership with the local community. Local people would be able to advise on the fund strategy and spend, to prioritise issues that are important to the local area. The total amount of funding would be based on the final installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The Community Fund would be index linked from the first payment, with the RPI base rate linked to the operation date of the Proposed Development and reviewed annually.	
Impact on villages	Comment that the Proposed Development would have a negative impact on surrounding villages, with specific reference to Scopwick, Navenby and Cliff Villages. Specific comments reference loss of rural	The Applicant has assessed impacts to local occupancy rates, tourism and employment as a result of the Proposed Development in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 13: Population [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The assessment concludes that the maximum potential number of staff requiring overnight accommodation as a result of the Proposed Development is 6% of the peak number of construction workers required onsite. This equates to a maximum number of 39 staff that are 'not local' to the area and would therefore need to rely on local infrastructure. The assessment concludes that there would be no significant	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	nature, appeal, unmanaged growth in the area as a result of the Proposed Development and impact on local services due to increased demand.	effects on occupancy and thus construction staff would not burden local infrastructure.	
Supply chain	Comment that the supply chain commitment is unacceptance, and the Applicant should be actively working to create a manufacturing sector in the UK for solar development.	An **Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]** has been submitted as part of the Application. The Plan acknowledges the skills and manufacturing gap relating to renewable energy infrastructure. Should consent be granted for the Proposed Development, further details of the Applicant's intention to support the supply chain would be presented in a detailed Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan which is secured via a requirement in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1].**	N
Public Right of Way and permissive footpaths			
Construction	Comment that walking routes would be dangerous due to construction traffic.	The effects of construction traffic, including consideration of pedestrian amenity, have been assessed in line with IEMA 2023 guidance which concludes there would be no significant effects on non-motorised users, as detailed within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]. Furthermore, an **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** has been developed which proposes management measures including banksperson monitoring of crossing points and potential temporary diversion routes where necessary.	
Enjoyment of footpaths	Comment that the Applicant has chosen the right place as it would still be possible to have a nice walk.	This comment is noted. The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3). The Applicant has also developed for proposals for new PRoW and permissive paths, including approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths. The new routes are located across the Order Limits and include provision of a new off-road link between RAF Digby and Scopwick. In addition to the creation of the new routes identified above, the Proposed Development would include a permanent upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney (Spires and Steeples Trail) to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would include an upgrade	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		of the existing surface conditions of the PRoW to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for all users. The surface enhancements would be secured via the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]** and all paths would be managed in accordance with the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Path Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**.	
Enjoyment of footpaths	Comment that as the footpaths are 'enclosed' by security fencing this would have negative consequences including feeling trapped which would not be relaxing and could cause safety issues for solo walkers, especially females.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3). Specific mitigation measures that have been incorporated into the design of the Proposed Development, in response to the Project Principles, are summarised below. Solar PV development has been discounted from specific fields within the Order Limits to break up the amount of development along the footpaths and to create green infrastructure corridors aligned to existing footpaths. As a result, there are relatively few sections of PRoW where the Solar PV development would occupy land immediately adjacent to both sides of a footpath. The exclusions of these fields from Solar PV development are	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be offset at least 15m from either side of existing and proposed PRoW. This would create a broad walking corridor for footpath users in the limited areas where Solar PV is proposed on both sides of a PRoW. Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be sensitively designed to reduce potential impacts on the local environment and integrate with the landscape. It would comprise a timber post and wire mesh fence to minimise visual impact. Both of these design criteria would be secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** New planting, in the form of hedgerows and tree belts, would provide screening and integration of the Proposed Development where it is located close to PRoW. The location of new planting is secured by the **Appendix 1: Green Infrastructure Parameters** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. This includes approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. Examples of where new planting has been used to screen views from PRoW include new hedgerow planting along the Spires and Steeples Trail and other PRoW in Springwell East and Springwell Central, and new tree belt planting to the south of Long Plantation.	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		As a result of the mitigation measures summarised above the level of visual change for PRoW users would be reduced which would ensure that PRoWs can continue to be used the same as pre-development of the Site. Further details on the operational design of the Proposed Development and how it has responded to the each of the Project Principles is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** During construction, there would be signage with contact numbers of key site personnel for members of the community to call. Signage locations to be agreed in a detailed **Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** to be agreed with the Local Planning Authorities.	
Existing footpaths – disruption	Comment that it is hoped that there would be no disruption to the established Blankney walking routes.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network and protect the cultural heritage of the landscape in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes developing the design to retain all PRoW in their existing alignment during operation (Principle 5.1); protecting the amenity of the Spires and Steeples Trail (Principle 5.2); considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3); conserving the significance of heritage assets (Principle 2.4);	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		and Protect the setting of the Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Area (Principle 2.5). No PRoW would be permanently closed or diverted as a result of the Proposed Development. The **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** details requirements during the construction phase for safety purposes available at this stage and as discussed with the LCC PRoW officers.	
Existing footpaths - diversion	Comment that if any existing footpaths need to be rerouted, this should be done in consultation with the local community.	There are no proposals to permanently stop up any existing PROW as part of the Proposed Development. However, during the construction phase there may be a requirement to temporarily close PRoW for a duration of up to six months. Any diversion requirements would be outlined at detailed design, in line with the potential routes identified within the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]**. The Applicant has engaged with LCC Highways and PRoW officers on requirements for PRoW crossings and temporary closures during construction and potential diversion options in Springwell East.	N
Existing footpaths - diversion	Comment that no footpaths should be diverted or closed as a	No Public Rights of Way would be permanently closed or diverted as a result of the Proposed Development. Principally, crossing points would be established to maintain access to routes for all users, whilst considering user and worker safety for the duration of the construction phase. This would minimise the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	result of the Proposed Development.	need for temporary closures during construction. The **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** details requirements during the construction phase available at this stage and as discussed with the LCC Highways and PRoW officers.	
Existing footpaths – impact of Springwell East	Comment that there are a number of existing Public Rights of Way within Springwell East which are important for amenity and well used, and the use and setting of these routes should not be negatively affected by the Proposed Development. Other comments felt that there should be more buffers between footpaths in Springwell East and the Proposed Development.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network and protect the cultural heritage of the landscape in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This includes developing the design to retain all PRoW in their existing alignment during operation (Principle 5.1); protecting the amenity of the Spires and Steeples Trail (Principle 5.2); considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3); conserving the significance of heritage assets (Principle 2.4); and Protect the setting of the Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Area (Principle 2.5). Specific mitigation measures that have been incorporated into the design of the Proposed Development, in response to the Project Principles, are summarised below. Solar PV development has been discounted from specific fields within the Order Limits to break up the amount of development along the footpaths and to create green infrastructure corridors	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		aligned to existing footpaths. For example, in Springwell East, Solar PV development was discounted from Fields By18, By20, By27, Lf03, Lf02, Md02, Md03, and Md05 to allow for the creation of green infrastructure corridors. All of these fields are adjacent to existing footpaths including the Stepping Out Scopwick Loop and the Stepping Out Blankney Circuit. As a result, there are relatively few sections of PRoW where the Solar PV development would occupy land immediately adjacent to both sides of a footpath. The exclusions of these fields from Solar PV development are secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be offset at least 15m from either side of existing and proposed statutory PRoW. In addition to this, Independent Outdoor Equipment (transformer, switchgear and central inverters) and ITS would be offset at least 50m from all existing and proposed statutory PRoW. Both of these offsets would be secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**. New planting, in the form of hedgerows and tree belts, would provide screening and integration of the Proposed Development where it is located close to PRoW. The location of new planting is secured in **Appendix 1: Green Infrastructure Parameters** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. This includes approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. Examples of where	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		new planting is proposed to be used to screen views from PRoW include new hedgerow planting along the Spires and Steeples Trail and other PRoW in Springwell East. As a result of the mitigation measures summarised above the level of visual change for PRoW users would be reduced and would ensure that PRoWs can continue to be used in the same manner as pre-development of the Site. Further details on the operational design of the Proposed Development and how it has responded to the each of the Project Principles is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. During the construction phase, crossing points would be established to maintain access to routes for all users, whilst considering user and worker safety. The **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** details requirements during the construction phase available at this stage and as discussed with the LCC Highways and PRoW officers.	
Existing footpaths – Navenby	Comment that the Proposed Development would remove the few remaining peaceful walks around Navenby.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** This includes developing the design to retain all PRoW in their existing alignment during operation (Principle 5.1) and	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3). In Springwell West, specific mitigation measures have been incorporated into the design of the Proposed Development in relation to PRoW, which are summarised below. Following Phase Two Consultation, land to the east of New England Lane (Field Tb1) was excluded from the Order Limits to reduce potential impacts on users of Stepping Out: Navenby and the Viking Way. As a result, built development would be located over 250m from the PRoW in accordance with the spatial extents secured by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. New planting, in the form of hedgerows and tree belts, would provide screening and integration of the Proposed Development where it is located close to PRoW. The location of new planting is secured by the **Appendix 1: Green Infrastructure Parameters** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. This includes approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. Examples of where new planting is proposed to be used in Springwell West to screen views from PRoW includes tree belt planting along the western boundary of the Order Limits. In addition to the mitigation measures identified above, the Applicant has sought to enhance the PRoW network by	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		providing new routes to increase connectivity (Principle 5.4). In Springwell West this includes the provision of new PRoW and new permissive pathways, including a crossing of the A15 and a connection to the Stepping Out Navenby and the Viking Way. During the construction phase, crossing points would be established to maintain access to routes for all users, whilst considering user and worker safety. The **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** details requirements during the construction phase available at this stage and as discussed with the LCC Highways and PRoW officers.	
Existing footpaths – Spires and Steeples Trail	Comment that the impact of the Proposed Development on the Spires and Steeples Trail due to the proposed main construction compound close to the footpath.	Following Phase Two Consultation, the proposed location of the Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East (Fields Md03, Md04 and C7) was discounted and relocated to Field C8 as shown in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.10: Location of Primary and Secondary Construction Compounds [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. This has benefit in reducing the potential impacts on the local environment. Field C8 is located to the east of the Spires and Steeples Trail adjacent to existing woodland at Brickyard Plantation and Ash Holt which would provide some visual screening and integration of the compound to users of the Spires and Steeples Trail, local footpaths, and the B1188 (Lincoln Road). Locating the compound in Field C8 would also increase the amount of	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		intervening vegetation between the compound and the B1188 (Lincoln Road) and Scopwick House. This would further reduce the potential visibility of the compound. The proposed access to Springwell East has also been amended. The access shown at Phase Two Consultation (from the B1188 near to Scopwick House) has been discounted and relocated approximately 500m further north (to the southern boundary of Field C7). Relocating the construction compound and the associated access reduces the extent of the compound that would be adjacent to the Spires and Steeples Trail (from 900m to 150m) compared to Phase Two Consultation. It also reduces the extent to which operational and construction vehicles would be required to use existing tracks aligned to the PRoW network and reduces the duration for any temporary closures to PRoW as vehicle movements could be managed by a banksperson, as detailed and secured in the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12].** No significant impacts are anticipated to PRoW users as closures would be temporary and would be managed in accordance with the measures set out in the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12].**	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Existing footpaths – Stepping Out walks	Comment that the Stepping Out walks are hugely important to the community and would be negatively affected by the Proposed Development as walks would be surrounded by solar panels.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network and protect the cultural heritage of the landscape in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This includes developing the design to retain all PRoW in their existing alignment during operation (Principle 5.1); and considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3). In Springwell East, Solar PV development is discounted from Fields By18, By20, By27, Lf03, Lf02, Md02, Md03, and Md05 as shown by the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3]**. All of these fields are adjacent to existing footpaths including the Stepping Out Scopwick Loop and the Stepping Out Blankney Circuit. As a result, there would be relatively few sections of PRoW where the Solar PV development would occupy land immediately adjacent to both sides of a footpath. Whilst a large amount of the farmland within the tract of the landscape between Blankney, Scopwick and Kirkby Green would be occupied by Solar PV development (including a Satellite Collector Compound), proportionately at least as many fields would remain in agricultural use and break up the mass of development. Views from the PRoWs would therefore be of a mosaic of Solar PV development and arable crop and would remain primarily rural.	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		In Springwell Central and Springwell West there is a much lower concentration of PRoW compared to Springwell East, and no instances where Solar PV development is proposed on both sides of an existing footpath. Solar PV development has been omitted from land adjacent to New England Lane to offset the Stepping Out Navenby and the Viking Way. Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be offset at least 15m from either side of existing and proposed statutory PRoW. In addition to this, Independent Outdoor Equipment (transformer, switchgear and central inverters) and ITS would be offset at least 50m from all existing and proposed statutory PRoW. Both of these offsets would be secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**. New planting, in the form of hedgerows and tree belts, would provide screening and integration of the Proposed Development where it is located close to PRoW. The location of new planting is secured in **Appendix 1: Green Infrastructure Parameters** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. This includes approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. As a result of the mitigation measures summarised above the level of visual change for PRoW users would be reduced and would ensure that PRoWs can continue to be used in the same manner as pre-development of the Site. Further details on the	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		operational design of the Proposed Development and how it has responded to the each of the Project Principles is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** During the construction phase, crossing points would be established to maintain access to routes for all users, whilst considering user and worker safety. The **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** details requirements during the construction phase available at this stage and as discussed with the LCC Highways and PRoW officers.	
Existing footpaths – unclassified country road, Springwell West	Comment that there is an unidentified country road in Navenby near to a small woodland that is used for recreation and that this appears to be included in the Proposed Development with no alternative provided.	The comment is assumed to be related to Gorse Hill Covert and Lane. The woodland is not included within the Order Limits and would therefore not be affected by the Proposed Development. A small portion of Gorse Hill Lane between Gorse Hill Covert and the A15 is included within the Order Limits for site access and may require temporary closure to recreational users for it to be upgraded during construction. This section, approximately 320m long, is shown on the **Traffic Regulations Plans [EN010149/APP/2.6]**. Given the location of works between Gorse Hill Covert and the A15, a temporary diversion is not proposed during the construction period but access for users would be maintained during operation. Should the unidentified country road be that which runs north-south to the west of Gorse Hill Covert, referred to as Gorse	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Lane, this would remain unaffected by the Proposed Development. Proposals for the management of paths during construction and operation are set out in **an Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12]** which has been developed in liaison with the LCC Highways and PRoW officers.	
Existing footpaths – unclassified country road, Springwell West	Comment that there are proposals to put solar panels to areas to the east of the unclassified country road, a well-used footpath from St John the Baptist Church, Temple Bruer to Gorse Hill Lane, and this would have its countryside views spoiled by the Proposed Development. Other comments state that it would be dangerous to	It is assumed that this comment relates to New England Lane which runs from St John the Baptist Church to Gorse Hill Lane. The Applicant is not proposing to use this lane for construction. It lies outside of the Order Limits and there would be no physical impact on the route. The visual effect of the Proposed Development on New England Lane is assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. From the northern part of the lane, as it approaches Gorse Hill Lane there would be views of the Springwell Substation and BESS. Extensive mitigation planting is proposed along the western boundary to soften and partially screen this infrastructure. The assessment acknowledges that there would be a major/moderate adverse (significant effect) on views from this lane during construction and in year 1 of operation but that by year 10 the effect on views would be moderate adverse (not significant) due to mitigation	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	use during construction.	planting which is proposed along the western boundary of the Springwell Substation and BESS. All PRoW would be managed during construction and kept open wherever possible, except when specific construction activities occur across a route. Full details of how these would be managed and users kept safe during construction are set out in the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12].**	
General comment – new cycleways	Comment supporting the ambition to develop cycle friendly paths and where possible all new footpaths should be finished with a cycle friendly surface.	The proposed Public Right of Way on the B1191 linking RAF Digby and Scopwick would be an all-weather surface suitable for cyclists. The Applicant is also proposing to permanently upgrade the existing surface conditions of the Spires and Steeples Trail between Scopwick and the B1188 near Blankney to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would allow better user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users. The surface enhancements would be secured via the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**. There are no other changes to surfaces of paths proposed, as agreed with the Local Highways Authority.	N
General comment – new footpaths	Comment that man-made footpaths are not substitute for	The Applicant has been liaising with the LCC PRoW officers to develop new PRoW and permissive paths to link in with the existing network. These contain a mix of all-weather surface and grassed surfaces, which is typical of the existing PRoW network in Lincolnshire and therefore considered suitable. Full details of	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	countryside paths and Rights of Way.	these proposals are set out in the **Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.12].**	
Maintenance	Comment that permissive footpaths could be removed by landowners at any time.	This has been noted. The Applicant is committed to maintaining permissive pathways within the Order Limits for the duration of the operational phase of the Proposed Development.	N
New footpaths - accessibility	Comment that new footpaths should be accessible for all users.	The Applicant has developed new PRoW and permissive pathways to link in with the existing network in liaison with the LCC Highways and PRoW officers. While not all proposed path enhancements may be accessible for all users, the proposals are an enhancement compared to what is currently accessible. The proposed PRoW on the B1191 linking RAF Digby and Scopwick would be an all-weather surface suitable for cyclists. The Applicant is also proposing to permanently upgrade the existing surface conditions of the Spires and Steeples Trail between Scopwick and the B1188 near Blankney to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would allow better user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users. The surface enhancements would be secured via the **Design Commitments**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		[EN010149/APP/7.4]. There are no other changes to surfaces of paths proposed, as agreed with LCC.	
New footpaths – B1188 to Scopwick	Comment that it would be dangerous to walk into the village from Scopwick House and there would need to be a footpath created along the B1188 to Scopwick.	The Applicant has liaised with LCC Highways and PRoW officers on construction traffic and the types of mitigation measures and enhancements that could be developed across the Order Limits, including in this area. The absence of a footpath between Scopwick House and Scopwick is not linked to the Proposed Development. Further, this is not considered to be required as mitigation as it is not affected by construction traffic associated with the Proposed Development.	N
New footpaths - consultation	Comment that new footpaths should be planned in consultation with the local community.	The Applicant has developed new PRoW and permissive pathways to link in with the existing network in liaison with the LCC Highways and PRoW officers. The Applicant presented its suggestions for new public footpaths at both Phase One Consultation and Phase Two Consultation for feedback from the local community. During both phases, the Applicant actively sought to collect feedback on its proposals for new walking routes. For example, consultation questionnaires for both phases of consultation included a dedicated question on the Applicant's proposals for new public footpaths and sought additional suggestions from respondents. Feedback from both of phases of consultation led to a number of changes being made to the Applicant's proposals for new public	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		footpaths. For example, developing the proposed new PRoW to link RAF Digby and Scopwick, and a new permissive path along the western edge of the Proposed Development linking New England Lane to Temple Road, north of Brauncewell.	
New footpaths - hedgerows	Comment that the 'footpath' corridors proposed would result in further reduction in the amount of hedgerow, restricting wildlife.	Although approximately 1,249m of hedgerow is proposed to be removed to facilitate cabling and access,15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts are proposed to be planted, including alongside footpaths and PRoW. The Proposed Development would deliver a minimum 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from habitat creation and enhancement proposals, with potential to deliver a higher BNG, as detailed in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 7.14: Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**.	N
New footpaths – RAF Digby to Scopwick	Comments on the proposed footpath between RAF Digby and Scopwick. Specific comments felt that the security / access implications associated with incorporating RAF Digby shows that the	The Applicant has engaged with LCC PRoW officers to develop its proposals for new PRoW and permissive pathways as part of the Proposed Development. This includes discussions on the proposed new PRoW which would link the existing gap in footway provision between Heath Farm Autism Centre near RAF Digby and properties on Heath Road, Scopwick. This would not involve land owned by MoD/RAF Digby. The MoD has been consulted on the Proposed Development and has not raised any security concerns on the proposed PRoW.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	proposal is not properly thought out.		
New footpaths – Springwell East	Comment that there is a lack of proposed new footpaths in Springwell East.	The Applicant notes that the area proposed for Springwell East has a significant number of existing PRoW and permissive pathways. Therefore, further additions to the network in this area was not considered necessary and the Applicant focused on creating new routes in Springwell Central and West where there is a much lower concentration of PRoW. This approach was agreed with LCC PRoW officers. However, the Applicant is proposing to permanently upgrade to the existing PRoW between Scopwick and Blankney to bridleway status (approx. length 2,090m). This would include an upgrade of the existing surface conditions of the trail to better allow user access and enjoyment to 'all-weather' standard allowing year-round accessibility for non-motorised users as secured by **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4]**.	N
New footpaths - timescale	Comment that it would be a long time before the proposed new footpaths could be useable.	The construction phasing of the Proposed Development is detailed in the Indicative Construction Programme set out in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description [EN010149/APP/6.1].** While this shows that the overall construction phase is anticipated to be up to 48 months, which is when all elements of the Proposed Development would be operational, it is likely that some elements of the Proposed Development would be completed earlier within the construction	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		period. This includes proposed new footpaths where it is practical and safe to do so.	
New footpaths - timescale	Comment that the proposed new footpaths would be welcome if created for longevity and not as a short-term initiative.	The Applicant is proposing to create 3.7km of new PRoWs that would be permanent. In addition, a further 8.6km of permissive pathways are proposed, which would be in place for the duration of the operation of the Proposed Development.	N
Principle of development	Comment that the proposals for new footpaths are lip service the community and a veiled attempt to win over public acceptance.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to enhance the local footpath and cycle network in accordance with the Project Principle 5.4, as set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. New PRoW and permissive paths would be secured by the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]** and have been developed in liaison with LCC Highways and PRoW officers. This includes approximately 3.49km of additional PRoW and approximately 8.58km of additional permissive paths. The Applicant considers that the introduction of proposed new PRoW and permissive pathways would improve accessibility by non-motorised users across the Proposed Development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Screening	Comments that the plan does show screening on a small number of locations, strategically placed to obscure views of the villages but the Applicant has underestimated the importance of the actual footpaths to the public and what part they play, on a daily basis.	The Applicant has developed the design of the Proposed Development to provide a sensitive response to the local PRoW network in accordance with the Project Principles set out in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3]**. This includes developing the design to retain all PRoW in their existing alignment during operation (Principle 5.1), protecting the amenity of the Spires and Steeples Trail (Principle 5.2), and considering views and the experience of people using the Stepping Out Walks and other local footpaths (Principle 5.3). Specific mitigation measures that have been incorporated into the design of the Proposed Development, in response to the Project Principles, are summarised below. Solar PV development has been discounted from specific fields within the Order Limits to break up the amount of development along the footpaths and to create green infrastructure corridors aligned to existing footpaths. For example, in Springwell East, Solar PV development was discounted from Fields By18, By20, By27, Lf03, Lf02, Md02, Md03, and Md05 to allow for the creation of green infrastructure corridors. All of these fields are adjacent to existing footpaths, including the Stepping Out Scopwick Loop and the Stepping Out Blankney Circuit. As a result, there are relatively few sections of PRoW where the Solar PV development would occupy land immediately adjacent to both sides of a footpath. The exclusions of these fields from	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Solar PV development would be secured by the spatial extents shown on the **Works Plans [EN010149/APP/2.3].** Perimeter fencing surrounding the Solar PV development would be offset at least 15m from either side of existing and proposed statutory PRoW. In addition to this, Independent Outdoor Equipment (transformer, switchgear and central inverters) and ITS would be offset at least 50m from all existing and proposed statutory PRoW. Both of these offsets would be secured by the **Design Commitments [EN010149/APP/7.4].** New planting, in the form of hedgerows and tree belts, would provide screening and integration of the Proposed Development where it would be located close to PRoW. The location of new planting is secured by the **Appendix 1: Green Infrastructure Parameters** of the **Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.9]**. This includes approximately 15,563m of new hedgerow and 16ha of new tree belts. Examples of where new planting has been used to screen views from PRoW include new hedgerow planting along the Spires and Steeples Trail and other PRoW in Springwell East and Springwell Central, and new tree belt planting to the south of Long Plantation. As a result of the mitigation measures summarised above the level of visual change for PRoW users would be reduced and would ensure that PRoWs can continue to be used the same as	

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		pre-development of the Site. Further details on the operational design of the Proposed Development and how it has responded to the each of the Project Principles is provided in the **Design Approach Document [EN010149/APP/7.3].** **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** considers physical impacts on existing PRoW routes across the Order Limits. Visual effects on users of PRoW within and surrounding the Order Limits are assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. The assessment acknowledges the value of PRoW and the visual amenity experienced by the public. It acknowledges that there would be some significant visual effects on certain PRoW, particularly during construction and in the early years of operation. As detailed above, following Phase Two Consultation further information has been provided on proposed mitigation measures, specifically the proposed green infrastructure, which is illustrated in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plan [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. Following establishment, there would remain some significant effects on visual amenity, but these would be much reduced in terms of both scale and geographic extent.	
Visual impact	Comment that there would be a negative	Visual effects on users of PRoW within and surrounding the Order Limits are assessed in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 10:**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	visual impact for users of the footpaths and bridleways that cross the Proposed Development.	**Landscape and Visual [EN010149/APP/6.1].** The assessment acknowledges that there would be some significant visual effects on certain PRoW, particularly during construction and in the early years of operation. Following Phase Two Consultation, further information has been provided on proposed mitigation measures, specifically the proposed green infrastructure, which is illustrated in **ES Volume 2, Figure 3.3: Green Infrastructure Parameters Plan [EN010149/APP/6.2]**. Following establishment, there would remain some significant effects on visual amenity, but these would be much reduced in terms of both scale and geographic extent.	
Traffic and transport			
A15	Comment that there are dips and bends in the A15 which could affect visibility.	Construction traffic turning on and off the A15 would be mostly utilising junctions with Gorse Hill Lane and Temple Road/B1191. Both of these junctions already benefit from adequate visibility to meet design standards. New right turning lanes would be provided to ensure that traffic approaching from behind a waiting vehicle would not be required to stop. These improvements are outlined in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** and have been agreed with the Local Highways Authority.	N
A15	Query how vehicles turning off and onto the	Construction traffic turning on and off the A15 would be mostly utilising junctions with Gorse Hill Lane and Temple Road/B1191.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	A15 would be managed as this would have an impact on traffic flow, especially during peak times.	Both of these junctions would be improved to ensure that vehicles have adequate space to wait and turn without affecting other road users. These improvements are outlined in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** and have been agreed with the Local Highways Authority.	
A15	Comment that the A15 is the only suitable road in the area for transporting heavy equipment.	Routes for HGVs have been considered in detail to ensure impacts are minimised and HGVs only use appropriate roads. These are outlined and secured through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. A number of abnormal loads would be required to transport transformers. An Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) routing assessment has been undertaken and a preferred route identified utilising National Highways approved routes and in liaison with Lincolnshire Highways AIL team. This includes use of the A15 to reach the proposed location of the Springwell Substation which can be accessed directly from the A15 via a new section of road along Gorse Hill Lane. Details of the proposed AIL route are included in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N
A607	Comment that construction traffic should not be routed onto the A607 as it is	Roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. This does not include the use of the A607	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	not suitable for heavy traffic and would impact on villages.	or any other roads through Navenby. This was also the case in the assessment within the PEIR. The volume of worker traffic travelling through Navenby is predicted to be low and would not result in significant changes in traffic volumes. Sustainable travel and car sharing has been considered to further reduce worker traffic, as outlined in the **Transport Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), which notes the majority of construction workers would likely route via the A15 north and south.	
Access point	Comment objecting to the proposed site access closest to Glebe Farm, an alternative access should be used for Springwell Central.	As a result of feedback from Phase Two Consultation, ongoing technical work and the results of environmental assessments, the Applicant is no longer proposing to locate a site access close to Glebe Farm. No new site accesses are proposed between Navenby Lane and RAF Digby on the B1191. Proposed site accesses are set out in **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**.	Y
Access points	Comment that proposed access points into solar areas would be hazardous.	All construction access points, outlined in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**, have been designed to meet current design standards and would be further developed and agreed with the Local Highways Authority.	N
Airport	Comment that there is a local airport which	The Applicant considers that routing construction traffic on the public highway as set out in the **Outline Construction Traffic**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	could be used for construction to alleviate pressure on the road network.	**Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Proposed Development. Wherever possible, the Applicant has sought to reduce traffic on the local road network, for example, through the use of internal access tracks. It is not considered that any airports would be affected by the traffic associated with the Proposed Development. Impacts on aviation receptors have been considered in the relevant Environmental Statement assessments. For example, **ES Volume 3, Appendix 5.4: Glint and Glare Study [EN010149/APP/6.3]** and **ES Volume 3, Chapter 7: Biodiversity [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	
Alternative routes	Query why no routes from the south or south-east have been included and whether materials could come in from the B1188 from the south such as Boston. Other comments noted that this would mean traffic would need to come through Blankney and Scopwick villages.	HGVs have been assessed as arriving from both north and south along the A15 and onward routes have been considered in detail to ensure impacts are minimised and HGV traffic only uses specified routes. These are outlined and secured through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**, which states that HGVs will not travel through Blankney or through the centre of Scopwick to reach Springwell East and that monitoring and enforcement measures will be secured within supplier contracts.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Assessment	Query if a traffic survey has been conducted to ascertain peak times for local commuter traffic and how this would inform the construction management plan to reduce potential impacts.	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken based on traffic surveys at peak times on the local road network. Construction workers typically travel outside of the local peak times due to their working hours of 07:00-19:00 on weekdays and so are expected to travel to and from the site either side of their shifts starting and ending. However, the assessment provides robustness by including around a third of construction workers travelling during peak hours. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority. The assessments indicate that there are no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N
B1188	Comment that the proposed route along the B1191 from Digby through Scopwick shows the crossing of the B1188 across a single-track lane which is misleading.	HGV routes are considered and secured through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**, which indicates that HGVs would only use the B1191 between the A15 and Scopwick. Following consultation feedback and further assessment, the Applicant is proposing to use a relatively short section of the B1188 between the B1191 and the site access for Springwell East. This would be controlled via the Principal Contractor through monitoring and enforcement measures secured within supplier contracts, as outlined within	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
B1188/B1191 junction	Comment expressing concern that the junction of Heath Road and Main Street would become more dangerous.	The Applicant has assessed the likely significant effects arising from the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Proposed Development on traffic and transport, including in relation to junctions in Scopwick. In undertaking its assessments, the Applicant has followed the IEMA 2023 guidelines which outlines assessment requirements pursuant to road safety. This included assessment of accident clusters in consultation with LCC as the Local Highways Authority and review of the most recent Personal Injury Collision (PIC) data available as provided by the Authority. Both **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** outline these assessments. The assessments show that, with the proposed embedded mitigation, and management across the Order Limits in place (set out in **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**), there would be no material impacts in terms of capacity or significant effects in relation to road safety at the B1188/B1191 junction. Only a small number of construction workers are predicted to use the Main Street/B1188 junction given the route options and destinations it serves	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		beyond Scopwick. HGV routes are considered and secured through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. No HGVs would use the Main Street/B1188 junction.	
B1188/B1191 junction	Comment that there is poor visibility at the road junction into Scopwick from the B1191, increasing traffic would increase road accidents and casualty rates.	The Applicant has assessed the likely significant effects arising from the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Proposed Development on traffic and transport, including in relation to the B1191/B1188 junction. In undertaking its assessments, the Applicant has followed the IEMA 2023 guidelines which outlines assessment requirements pursuant to road safety. This included assessment of accident clusters in consultation with LCC as the Local Highways Authority and review of the most recent Personal Injury Collision (PIC) data available as provided by the Authority. One collision has occurred in this location within the five-year period subject to LCC data. **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** outline these assessments. The assessments show that, with the proposed embedded mitigation, and management across the Order Limits in place (set out in **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**), there would be no material impacts in	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		terms of capacity or significant effects in relation to road safety at the B1188/B1191 junction.	
B1188/B1202 junction	Comment that turning right at the B1202/B1188 junction is already dangerous and this would be exacerbated by the Proposed Development.	The routes proposed to be used for HGVs during construction have been considered in detail following Phase Two Consultation. Following feedback from consultation and further assessments, HGVs are no longer proposed to utilise the B1202 (and therefore the B1202/B1188 junction). Monitoring and enforcement measures to restrict its use would be secured within supplier contracts, as outlined within the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. While construction workers (LGVs) are likely to travel through the junction to reach the Springwell East Primary Construction Compound, this is predicted to be a low number, with the majority of these travelling along the B1188 from the north and only a small number using the B1202. This is outlined within the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** which concludes that there would be no significant effects on the local road network or its users.	Y
B1191	Comments on the use of the B1191, including that it is already busy, that it is not designed to take construction traffic, that it could	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network, including the potential for HGVs to travel along the B1191. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority and the assessments indicate that, following these measures, there would be no significant residual	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	make the road more dangerous, that it has sharp bends and there would be more accidents. Other comments raised the number of properties that are adjacent to the B1191 that could be impacted, including from noise from traffic.	effects from construction traffic. These assessments are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The highway network would be improved at specific locations to mitigate the impact of additional construction traffic. This would involve improving; the A15/B1191 junction, widening the carriageway on B1191 south of Ashby de la Launde, road marking improvements at B1191/Navenby Lane junction and B1191/RAF Digby junction. The details of the proposed highway improvements are outlined in the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**.	
Condition of road network	Query who would be responsible for repairing the roads at the end of the construction traffic.	The Principal Contractor would be responsible for undertaking condition surveys on the road network used by construction traffic associated with the Proposed Development before, during and after the construction phase. Should any damage be attributed to the construction activities associated with the Proposed Development, remedial repairs would be undertaken to return the infrastructure to the same condition as before the Proposed Development to the reasonable satisfaction of the LHA as detailed in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N
Construction route	Comments that the one-way system	The routes proposed to be used for HGVs during construction have been considered in detail following Phase Two	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	proposed by the Applicant is not sufficient.	Consultation. Following feedback from consultation and further assessments, HGVs are no longer proposed to utilise the B1202 or Bloxholm Lane (and therefore the one-system shown at Phae Two). The routes proposed to be used for construction traffic have been agreed with the Local Highway Authority. These are outlined in and would be controlled by the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
Construction route	Comment that no regard has been given to reality of the routes proposed for construction traffic.	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority and the assessments indicate that, following these measures, there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic. These assessments are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
General comment	Comment that rural roads are already blighted by farming traffic and HGVs.	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority and the assessments indicate that, following these measures, there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic. These assessments are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1] and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
General comment	Comment that outbound traffic seeking to reach the SRN via Newark should travel south along the A15 to either the Holdingham Roundabout on the A17 or north to the Lincoln bypass south of Bracebridge Heath rather than use routes through Navenby, Boothby Graffoe or Harmston.	Roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. It is proposed that HGVs leaving the Site would continue their journeys using the Strategic Road Network including the A15. This does not include the use of any roads in Navenby, Boothby Graffoe or Harmston. This was also the case in the assessment within the PEIR. The volume of worker traffic travelling through these villages is predicted to be low and would not result in significant changes in traffic volumes. Sustainable travel and car sharing has been considered to further reduce worker traffic, as outlined in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**, which also notes that a very limited number of construction workers are likely to route through these villages, with the majority to route via the A15 (north and south).	N
General comment - construction	Query about how construction vehicles interacting with farming traffic which currently use B roads would be managed.	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network, including the potential for HGVs to travel along the B1191 and a short section of the B1188. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority. This includes works to ensure the safe two-way movement of HGVs. The assessments indicate that there are no significant residual	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		effects from construction traffic, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The highway network would be improved at specific locations to mitigate the impact of additional construction traffic. This would involve improving; the A15/B1191 junction, A15/Gorse Hill Lane junction, providing two passing bays on Temple Road, widening the carriageway on B1191 south of Ashby de la Launde, road marking improvements at B1191/Navenby Lane junction and B1191/RAF Digby junction. The details of the proposed highway improvements are outlined in the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**.	
General comment - construction	Comment that there would be four years of traffic disruption for local residents.	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority and the assessments indicate that, following these measures, there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic. These assessments are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
General comment - construction	Comment that there would be damage to	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network where traffic movements would	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	the road system across the whole of the UK due to the Proposed Development.	be at their greatest and within a study area agreed with the Local Highway Authority. Beyond this study area, it is predicted that the volume and impacts of traffic would be negligible. Assessments of roads within the study area indicate that there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
General comment - construction	Comment that traffic movements should be self-contained and minimised to reduce effects.	The Applicant agrees with this comment and has sought to reduce effects on the local road networks as far as practicable. Once construction traffic has arrived at Primary Construction Compounds, the Applicant is proposing to use internal haul roads to access working areas wherever practicable. The only exception to this is the Secondary Construction Compound for Springwell Central which is not connected internally to a Primary Construction Compound. It would be associated with compounds for Springwell West and Springwell East and use the B1191 to travel between them. There would also be a need to cross some public roads, but this has been minimised where practicable (see **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]** and **Traffic Regulations Plans [EN010149/APP/2.6]**). More information about the use of internal haul roads is available in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Assessments of roads within the study area indicate that there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
General comment – construction	Comment that the Applicant has not fully considered its plans on how it would move people and materials through the local area.	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority and the assessments indicate that, following these measures, there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic. These assessments are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
Green Man Lane	Comment that Green Man Lane is unsuitable for HGV traffic and should not be used, which is already impacted from noise, drainage issues and damage to the road. Other comments suggested that traffic	The Applicant is not proposing to use Green Man Road or Green Man Lane during the construction phase. Roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	calming measures, or upgrades to the road should be implemented.		
Green Man Road	Comment that the construction and maintenance of the Proposed Development would lead to an increase in vehicle movements on Green Man Road which is already subject to noise pollution and road damage to HGVs. Green Man Road is a residential road and is unsuitable for HGVs – traffic calming and speed restrictions should be put in place.	The Applicant is not proposing to use Green Man Road or Green Man Lane during the construction phase. Roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N
High Street, Navenby	Comment that High Street, Navenby is	Roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	already dangerous and congested and this would be exacerbated by the Proposed Development.	**[EN010149/APP/7.8]**. This does not include the use of any roads through Navenby. This was also the case in the assessment within the PEIR. The volume of worker traffic travelling through Navenby is predicted to be low and would not result in significant changes in traffic volumes. Sustainable travel and car sharing has been considered to further reduce worker traffic, as outlined in the **Transport Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), which notes the majority of construction workers would likely route via the A15 north and south.	
Impact on farm traffic	Comment that there would be an impact on farm traffic which use the surrounding roads.	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network. This has included baseline traffic surveys, which encompasses farm traffic. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority. This includes works to ensure the safe two-way movement of HGVs. The assessments indicate that there are no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
Impact on residential properties	Comment that it would be inappropriate to use tracks close to	As a result of feedback from Phase Two Consultation, ongoing technical work and the results of environmental assessments, the Applicant has refined its proposals for site accesses. This	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	residential properties during construction. Specific reference is made to Glebe Farm.	has included moving site accesses away from residential properties, including the following changes: • Access on Heath Road that was adjacent to Mill House is now approximately 300m away from this property. • Access on the road between the A15 and Thompson's Bottom that was approximately 450m from Toll Bar Cottages is now approximately 800m away from this property. • Access on the B1188 north of Scopwick that was approximately 100m from Scopwick House is now approximately 600m north of this property. • Access on Heath Road close to Peacock Lodge has been removed, with the closest access now approximately 450m away from this property. The Applicant is no longer proposing to locate a site access close to Glebe Farm. No new site accesses are proposed between Navenby Lane and RAF Digby on the B1191. Proposed site accesses are set out in **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**.	
Internal movements	Comment requesting more information about how personnel would	Construction workers would arrive at Primary Construction Compounds where staff parking would be provided. From the Primary Construction Compounds, it is envisaged that workers	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	be moved to and from each entry point.	would be transported by minibus to relevant working areas and Secondary Construction Compounds where appropriate. The Applicant is proposing to use internal haul roads to access working areas wherever practicable. The only exception to this is the Secondary Construction Compound for Springwell Central which is not connected internally to a Primary Construction Compound. It would be associated with compounds for Springwell West and Springwell East and use the B1191 to travel between them. There would also be a need to cross some public roads, but this has been minimised where practicable (see **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]** and **Traffic Regulations Plans [EN010149/APP/2.6]**). More information about the use of internal haul roads is available in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
Longwood Lane Quarry	Suggestion that Longwood Lane Quarry could be used for construction equipment. Respondent suggests a side entrance off Bloxholm Lane or off the B1188 opposite the	It is not possible at this time to define suppliers of material for the Proposed Development. Any changes to create an access to Longwood Lane Quarry would be the responsibility of the owner and subject to a planning application to the Local Planning Authority. Following Phase Two Consultation, the Primary Construction Compound in Springwell East has been relocated further to the north with a dedicated access point off the B1188 provided.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	proposed construction compound. This would reduce the impact of the proposed compound in terms of damage to the land as well as visually.		
Main construction compound – Springwell East	Comment stating that the volume of traffic arriving at the main construction compound in Springwell East would be disruptive for nearby residential properties.	Following Phase Two Consultation, the proposed site access into Springwell East has been moved away from residential properties at Scopwick House to mitigate the potential impacts from turning traffic. At Phase Two Consultation, this access was approximately 100m from Scopwick House. The revised location means that the site access is now approximately 600m north of this property. A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network, including surrounding the Springwell East Primary Construction Compound. The assessments indicate that there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic in this area, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	Y
Maintenance	Query how often the tracks and paths would	All paths would be managed through the duration of the Proposed Development in accordance with the **Outline Public**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	be maintained and repaired during the life of the Proposed Development and how they would be left once decommissioned.	**Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan (PRoWPPMP) [EN010149/APP/7.12]**. Details and specifications including maintenance agreements for the new paths and signage would be agreed between the Applicant and the relevant planning authorities as part of the detailed **PRoWPPMP** prior to the operational phase as secured by Requirement in the **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1].** It is expected that decommissioning would include removing any permissive paths, with the land returned to the landowner. New PRoW are expected to remain in situ, maintained and managed by the Local Highways Authority.	
Metheringham	Comment that the main impact of the Proposed Development would be on the local roads in the Metheringham area.	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network, including Metheringham. Where necessary, junction improvements and other minor works have been agreed with the Local Highway Authority. These assessments indicate that there are no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
Mitigation measures	Comment suggesting traffic management measures and road upgrades that should	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority. The assessments indicate that there	Y

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	be put in place to mitigate the impact of the Proposed Development on the local road network. Suggestions include traffic lights at east-west junctions of the A15, as well as road widening and installation of hard shoulders on minor roads off the A15.	are no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].** The highway network would be improved at specific locations to mitigate the impact of additional construction traffic. This would involve improving; the A15/B1191 junction, A15/Gorse Hill Lane junction, providing two passing bays on Temple Road, widening the carriageway on B1191 south of Ashby de la Launde, road marking improvements at B1191/Navenby Lane junction and B1191/RAF Digby junction. The details of the proposed highway improvements are outlined in the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**.	
Mitigation measures	Comment that the traffic disruption could not be mitigated to an any acceptable level no matter what supposed measures are put in place.	A detailed assessment of construction traffic has been undertaken on the road network. Where necessary, junction mitigation and other minor works has been agreed with the Local Highway Authority. The assessments indicate that there are no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	N
Navenby	Comment that the construction traffic would impact on the	Roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. This does not include the use of any	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	local road network in and around Navenby, which is unsuitable for HGVs.	roads through Navenby. This was also the case in the assessment within the PEIR. The volume of worker traffic travelling through Navenby is predicted to be low and would not result in significant changes in traffic volumes. Sustainable travel and car sharing has been considered to further reduce worker traffic, as outlined in the **Transport Assessment** (see **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14 [EN010149/APP/6.3]**), which notes the majority of construction workers would likely route via the A15 north and south.	
Navenby Lane	Comment that Navenby Lane is very narrow and unsuitable for heavy traffic.	Navenby Lane would not be used by HGV traffic, except to cross between fields to the north and south as set out in **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. Roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. Only a limited number of construction workers (LGVs) are predicted to use Navenby Lane as a through route to reach Primary Construction Compounds.	N
Parking	Query where construction worker's cars would be parked.	Construction workers would park within the Primary Construction Compounds, the locations of which are shown in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**. Sufficient parking spaces would be provided to prevent overspill parking onto the local road network. **Appendix 1: Outline Travel Plan** of the **Outline**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8] includes measures to encourage car sharing which is expected to reduce traffic volumes and the need for parking. This could include a worker commuter bus service to reduce traffic on the local road network, should there be a need to do so.	
Public transport	Comment that the Applicant has suggested using public transport to move staff yet there is not a suitable public bus service into the area in terms of frequency/number of buses/bus times.	Proposed working hours are 7am-7pm on weekdays and 7am-12 noon on Saturdays. It is therefore anticipated that the times workers would travel to and from the Site would represent times when public transport is limited or not available. The **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** includes the provision for a worker commuter bus service from Lincoln to alleviate traffic on the A15 and therefore potential impacts at the A15/B1202 junction in the event that the Local Highway Authority does not deliver a safety improvement scheme in this location before construction commences.	N
Public transport	Comment encouraging use of public transport by construction workers, including regular buses on the B1188 and B1191 which could add request stops, and use of Metheringham	Proposed working hours are 7am-7pm on weekdays and 7am-12 noon on Saturdays. It is therefore anticipated that the times workers would travel to and from the Site would represent times when public transport is limited or not available. The **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** includes the provision for a worker commuter bus service from Lincoln to alleviate traffic on the A15 and therefore potential impacts at the A15/B1202 junction in the event that the Local	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Station/a shuttle service.	Highway Authority does not deliver a safety improvement scheme in this location before construction commences.	
Railway	Comment stating that the railway bordering the Site to move materials should be used to reduce congestion on roads.	Transportation of goods by rail would require extensive works to the railway to create new sidings and offloading facilities, with road transportation still required to move goods to the majority of the Site. Such works would be likely to trigger other environmental impacts given the surroundings of the railway and would be disproportionate for a project of this scale. Therefore, the Applicant is not proposing to use the railway network to move goods to the Proposed Development. The Applicant considers that routing construction traffic on the public highway as set out in the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** is appropriate and proportionate to the scale of the Proposed Development.	N
Road safety	Comment expressing concern about safety on the local road network during the construction phase, due to the number of additional vehicles on the network. Other comments noted that the local road network	The Applicant has assessed the likely significant effects arising from the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Proposed Development on traffic and transport. In undertaking its assessments, the Applicant has followed the IEMA 2023 guidelines which outlines assessment requirements pursuant to road safety. This included assessment of accident clusters in consultation with LCC as the Local Highways Authority and review of the most recent Personal Injury Collision (PIC) data available as provided by the Authority. Both **ES**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	was already dangerous with a high number of accidents recorded.	**Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** outline these assessments. The assessments show that, with the proposed embedded mitigation, and management across the Order Limits in place (set out in **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**), there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are summarised in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3].**	
Speed limit	Comment suggesting that the speed limit on the B1188 between Blankney and Scopwick should be changed to a maximum of 30mph.	Speed limits are strictly controlled based on criteria to be applied by highway authorities. The proposed access onto the B1188 has been designed to suit the existing speed limit and meets all design standards. Therefore, a change of speed along the B1188 between Blankney and Scopwick was not considered necessary. The Applicant has engaged with LCC Highways to discuss and agree appropriate speed mitigation measures associated with the Proposed Development where these are required. The Applicant is proposing some speed limit changes as part of its DCO, and this is shown on the **Traffic Regulations Plans**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		[EN010149/APP/2.6] and **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**.	
Suitability of road network	Comment that traffic at some junctions already use verges when passing and this would be dangerous with HGV traffic. Specific reference to B1188, B1202/A15, B1191.	A detailed assessment of the suitability of the local road network for construction traffic, including HGV movements, has been undertaken in consultation with the Local Highways Authority. Where necessary, and following discussions with the Local Highways Authority, junction mitigation and other minor works are proposed. The location of improvements include the A15/B1191 junction, A15/Gorse Hill Lane junction, provision of two passing bays on Temple Road, widening the carriageway on B1191 south of Ashby de la Launde, road marking improvements at B1191/Navenby Lane junction and B1191/RAF Digby junction and are outlined in the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. HGVs would not utilise the A15/B1202 junction and only a short section of the B1188 would be used between the B1191 and the site access to Springwell East where adequate space is available. Assessments presented in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]** conclude that there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic. HGV routes and details of improvements are	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	
Thompson's Bottom	Comment that the lane from A15 to Thompson's Bottom is proposed to be used as an access point for all construction traffic to the areas proposed for solar panels and query how construction vehicles and equipment could come down a one-track road with no passing places and an ancient stone wall on one side without causing major traffic issues. Other comments felt that the road was already busy and felt that the stone wall could need to be demolished.	This road would only be crossed by construction traffic to access the fields either side as shown on the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. Construction traffic would not be allowed to travel along it. Roads to be used by HGVs are set out and controlled through the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Traffic management	Comment that dangerous junctions could not be marshalled.	The Applicant is not proposing to marshal any junctions along the routes used by construction traffic. Where necessary, and following discussions with the Local Highways Authority, junction mitigation and other minor works are proposed. The location of improvements include the A15/B1191 junction, A15/Gorse Hill Lane junction and road marking improvements at B1191/Navenby Lane junction and B1191/RAF Digby junction. These are outlined in the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**. The assessments indicate that there are no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** sets out measures to control HGV traffic movements.	N
Traffic management	Comments that car sharing for construction workers would likely be variable and insufficient as even if it was successful there would	The assessments are based upon a conservative minimum occupancy of 1.5 per vehicle. Experience on other major construction projects indicates that this is expected to be higher in reality, at 2-3 per vehicle. The assessments are contained within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	still be at least 300 cars travelling in and out of the area daily. Other comments requested more information on alternative measures that have been considered to reduce volume of traffic.	**[EN010149/APP/6.1]** and **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The Applicant has assessed the methods by which staff could travel to the Site and set out mitigation measures to minimise any potential impacts. For instance, the **Appendix 1: Outline Travel Plan** of the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** includes measures to encourage car sharing while providing a worker commuter bus service to avoid critical junctions, which would reduce traffic volumes and the need for parking.	
Traffic management	Comments that a park and ride scheme for construction workers should be considered.	The Applicant considers that the proximity of the Springwell West Primary Construction Compounds to the A15 would negate the need for a Park and Ride scheme. The location of the Springwell East Primary Construction Compound presents challenges for a successful Park and Ride due to the multiple routes available. However, this also disperses the traffic to a minimal level in each direction, which is demonstrated in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** includes the provision for a worker commuter bus service from Lincoln to alleviate traffic on the A15 and therefore potential impacts at the A15/B1202 junction in the event that the Local Highway Authority does not deliver a safety	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		improvement scheme in this location before construction commences.	
Traffic management	Comment that the movement of workers needs to be factored into the oCTMP as well as the Travel Plan.	The Travel Plan forms part of the **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.8]** and includes measures to encourage car sharing as well as the provision for a worker commuter bus services should this be required.	N
Use of internal tracks	Comment supporting the use of internal tracks where possible, appreciating that roads would need to be crossed to get between parts of the site.	The use of internal tracks has continued to form an integral part of the design of the Proposed Development to facilitate the movement of workers and materials from Primary Construction Compounds to working areas. Crossing points of public roads would be required in a number of locations to reach working areas, as set out in **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010149/APP/2.4]**.	N
Volume of construction traffic	Comment that it is difficult to know how frequent proposed traffic would be.	Construction workers would travel to and from Site on a daily basis (Monday to Saturday), around the start and finish times of their shift (07:00-19:00 on weekdays, 07:00-12:00 on Saturdays). HGVs would travel throughout the working day at a regular frequency, as detailed in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The peak traffic volumes would therefore be focused on construction workers, who would be travelling mostly outside of local network peak hours, with a relatively low frequency of HGVs during the	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		day. Neither of these types of traffic are predicted to result in significant impacts to road users, as demonstrated in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
Volume of construction traffic	Query how the Applicant proposes to offset the increase in vehicles during peak construction periods where it has been estimated that there could be 1 lorry every 15 minutes.	HGVs would travel throughout the working day at a regular frequency, as detailed in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The peak traffic volumes would therefore be focused on construction workers, who would be travelling mostly outside of local network peak hours, with a relatively low frequency of HGVs during the day. Neither of these types of traffic are predicted to result in significant impacts to road users during peak hours as demonstrated in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	N
Volume of construction traffic	Comment that there are three RAF bases in close proximity to the Proposed Development which causes a lot of traffic in peak hours.	The Applicant has undertaken baseline surveys to understand traffic movements on the local road network, which takes into account movements associated with RAF bases in the vicinity of the Proposed Development. Results of these surveys have informed the proposed routes of LGV and HGV movements associated with the construction phase. The assessments indicate that there would be no significant residual effects from construction traffic, which are provided in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport [EN010149/APP/6.1]** and	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]. Construction workers would travel to and from Site on a daily basis (Monday to Saturday), around the start and finish times of their shift (07:00-19:00 on weekdays, 07:00-12:00 on Saturdays). HGVs would travel throughout the working day at a regular frequency, as detailed in the **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**. The peak traffic volumes would therefore be focused on construction workers, who would be travelling mostly outside of local network peak hours, with a relatively low frequency of HGVs during the day. Sensitivity assessments, which include all existing traffic, shows there would be minimal impact across the road network even with a third of workers travelling during these periods, as demonstrated in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
Volume of construction traffic	Comment that moving construction workers at peak times would mean potential 'rat runs' are created as people try and avoid bottlenecks.	Construction workers would travel to and from Site on a daily basis (Monday to Saturday), around the start and finish times of their shift (07:00-19:00 on weekdays, 07:00-12:00 on Saturdays). The peak traffic volumes would therefore be focused on construction workers, who would be travelling mostly outside of local network peak hours. Sensitivity assessments, which include all existing traffic, shows there would be minimal impact across the road network even with a third of workers	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		travelling during these periods, as demonstrated in **ES Volume 3, Appendix 14.1: Transport Assessment [EN010149/APP/6.3]**.	
Water			
Assessment	Comment that further scientific investigation would be prudent to know the full and long-term effect this Proposed Development would have on the hydrology of the area.	The effects on water quantity and water quality have been described as part of the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) and the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16].** It is concluded from the Flood Risk Assessment and **Outline Drainage Strategy** that there would be no increased water quantities leaving the Site within the long-term, nor would there be any degradation of the water quality leaving the Site. The Outline Surface Water Drainage is based on well-established surface drainage principles which are accepted methods of water quality and water quality control.	N
Consultation	Query if responses from the Environment Agency and water board will be published.	All responses received to Phase Two Consultation, including from the Environment Agency and organisations with an interest in water, are summarised within this document (**Appendix J-1 and J-2 of the Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.2]**). The Applicant has also engaged with organisations on water resources throughout the pre-application stage. A table summarising this engagement is provided in **Table 15.1** within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Contamination	Comment that the Applicant has not explored the levels of pollution, and the levels of heavy metal toxicity produced from the breakdown of the panels and associated infrastructure, batteries etc.	Activities involving the use of chemicals or fuels, or any material with the potential to damage the environment (soil or groundwater), would be managed in line with industry best practice to prevent accidental releases. This would be secured by the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]**, **Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.13].** The Proposed Development is anticipated to generate some Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) through operation and maintenance, and a substantive amount of WEEE at decommissioning which would include Solar PV modules, batteries, and substation equipment, as well as other smaller quantities of WEEE from supporting electrical infrastructure. As such, these would be recovered and recycled by an authorised re-processor as required by the WEEE Regulations 2013. To ensure that this is done to "Best Available Treatment Recovery and Recycling Techniques", a list of up-to-date authorised re-processors would be established prior to the operational phase of the Proposed Development and kept up to-date throughout the operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development. This is secured through the **Outline Operation Environment Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.10]** and **Outline Decommissioning Environment Management Plan**	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		[EN010149/APP/7.13], both of which would be secured by Requirements in the DCO (see **Draft DCO [EN010149/APP/3.1]**.	
Drainage	Comment that local dykes are often blocked as they cannot cope to increased run off from buildings and many have been filled in due to other developments in the area.	There are no plans to block or fill in local dykes (ditches), an easement from existing dykes would be provided as part of the embedded mitigation outlined in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]**. As part of the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) it is confirmed there would be no increased rate of surface water runoff from the Proposed Development.	N
Flood risk	Comment that flooding in the local area would worsen as a result of the Proposed Development, which already experiences flooding regularly.	Flooding would not worsen as a result of the Proposed Development as is demonstrated by the assessments undertaken (see **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]**). As part of the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**) it is confirmed there would be no increased rate of surface water runoff from the Proposed Development. It is confirmed within the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]** that there would be no increase in flood risk offsite as a result of the Proposed Development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Flood risk	Comment that there would be a reduced ability for the land to absorb rainwater as there would be no natural soakaways.	The guidance provided within NPS EN-3 in Paragraph 3.10.75 concludes that: 'as solar PV panels will drain to the existing ground, the impact will not, in general, be significant'. This confirms the approach that Solar PV modules can be treated as permeable features as part of the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**). For all other areas of proposed hardstanding which would limit the natural rainwater absorption into the ground, the **Outline Drainage Strategy** has detailed how surface water attenuation features would be provided to ensure no increase in water quantity leaving the Site.	N
Flooding – Scopwick	Comment that the Proposed Development could exacerbate existing flooding issues for properties in Scopwick. At the moment, water comes down the dyke from Trundle Lane when the water table is high. Query if the Proposed Development could make flooding worse or	The **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]** confirms there would be no increased flood risk offsite as a result of the Proposed Development as surface water runoff would be managed as per the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**). The potential to decrease surface water runoff from the Proposed Development via the use of infiltration-based SuDS is still to be confirmed following further site investigation and percolation testing. A study of the catchment area draining towards Scopwick showed that relatively limited areas of the Site drains towards Scopwick which would limit the opportunity to provide surface water flood alleviation from within the Site boundary. Measures	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	if the Proposed Development could do anything to alleviate the problem.	to reduce groundwater flooding within Scopwick are assumed to also be limited.	
Mitigation	Comment that the Applicant should invest in soil and drainage management.	The drainage management that would be included as part of the Proposed Development is provided within the **Outline Drainage Strategy** (which forms an appendix to the **Flood Risk Assessment [EN010149/APP/7.16]**). Examples of drainage measures include providing attenuation to manage rainfall from hardstanding areas within the Site, and restricting surface water discharge from leaving hardstanding areas using flow control methods. The management of the soil would be undertaken in line with the **Outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.11]** which supports this Application. Examples of measures to protect soils that are incorporated in the **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** include timing of soil operations to minimise soil damage (as wet soils are more susceptible to damage); retaining soil profiles to minimise changes to existing soil environment; avoiding compaction of soil; ameliorating existing compaction of soil; following procedures for storing soils for re-use to ensure damage does not occur; methods for soil aftercare and restoration works; procedures for trenching.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Soil compaction	Comment that during the construction and decommissioning phase there would be substantial destruction of the soil structure from vehicles and piling leading to an elevated risk of water runoff from the site with potential for contamination for the natural watercourses and there is no mention how this would be mitigated.	It is acknowledged within **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]** that without mitigation there would be an increased risk of silt-laden runoff entering the water environment as a result of construction and decommissioning activities. Therefore, mitigation measures specific to management of water quality have been detailed further in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]** as part of the additional mitigation measures proposed as part of the Proposed Development. These measures include, for example silt fencing methods. These measures are secured within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** which would be provided to manage water quality during construction. The **Outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) [EN010149/APP/7.11]** which supports this Application, would ensure that impacts to soil quality and soil structure are minimised. Based on the conclusions in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 11: Land, Soil and Groundwater [EN010149/APP/6.1]**, the impact to soil (including the structure of the soil) from the works involved in the construction and decommissioning phases would not be significant. The **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** provides a strict set of procedures that dictate when soil conditions would be suitable for works to be carried out (including a visual assessment and soil consistency tests). The **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** also includes procedures to ensure that soil profiles are retained during and after works (particularly after	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
		any excavation and reinstatement of topsoil and subsoil), that compaction is avoided and ameliorated where possible, that soils that are to be stored are appropriately managed, and that aftercare and restoration works are also controlled to prevent damage to soils, and ensure that ground conditions after decommissioning would be as close as possible to pre-construction conditions. The **oSMP [EN010149/APP/7.11]** would cover vehicle movements that are involved in construction (including piling), operation and decommissioning works.	
Water run off	Comment that the Applicant does not have a plan to mitigate water run off/pollution during construction.	Surface water runoff and the potential of water pollution during construction have been considered in detail as part of the assessments undertaken and it is concluded can be mitigated effectively. Mitigation measures specific to management of water quality have been detailed further in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 15: Water [EN010149/APP/6.1]** as part of the additional mitigation. An **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010149/APP/7.7]** would be provided to manage water quality during construction, examples include providing silt fencing.	N
Miscellaneous			
Applicant	Query why a foreign company is allowed to	The Applicant is registered in England and Wales (company number 13484004). The Proposed Development is a joint	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	put forward the Application.	venture between two companies both registered in England and Wales – EDF Renewables UK (06456689) and Luminous Energy (08416646).	
Fosse Green	Comment objecting to the Fosse Green development.	The proposed Fosse Green development is not part of the Proposed Development and would be subject to its own DCO Application. The Applicant has considered the proposed Fosse Green development as part of its cumulative effects assessment. More information is provided in **ES, Volume 1, Chapter 16: Cumulative Effects [EN010149/APP/6.1]**.	N
Funding	Comment that the Applicant should publish a project balance sheet with costs, returns and beneficiaries.	The Applicant does not believe that this information is required to enable meaningful consultation on the Proposed Development. As part of the Application, the Applicant has included a **Funding Statement [EN010149/APP/4.2]** to demonstrate how the Proposed Development would be funded.	N
Funding	Comment that the Proposed Development is subsidised by taxpayers and therefore people are paying twice for any energy produced.	The Applicant is bringing forward the Proposed Development as a private venture and it would not be funded using government subsidies. A **Funding Statement [EN010149/APP/4.2]** has been submitted as part of the Application to demonstrate how the Applicant would fund the construction of the Proposed Development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
General comment	Comment that there is an imbalance of power between the Applicant and those opposing the Proposed Development and the concerns put forward by the local community should be afforded equal weight to the Applicant.	The Applicant has sought to enable anyone with an interest in the Proposed Development to share their feedback and help shape its proposals. This is evidenced through the **Consultation Report [EN010149/APP/5.1]**. Should the Application be accepted for examination, there are a number of opportunities for interested parties to participate in the examination and share their views. All interested parties are given equal weight through the examination period and more generally through the DCO process.	N
General comment - solar	Comment that solar development supports authoritarian regimes.	The Applicant opposes the abuse of human rights and forced labour anywhere in the global supply chain. The procurement process for the Proposed Development has not yet started and would begin should development consent be granted. As part of this process, the Applicant would take a rigorous approach to ensuring its suppliers comply with relevant legislation (such as the Modern Slavery Act 2015) and its requirements as set out in an ethical procurement policy (for a summary, see **Outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]**).	N
General comment - support	Comment expressing a general statement of support for the	This is noted and welcomed.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Proposed Development.		
Human rights	Comment that there is concern about the supply of raw materials for the batteries due to human rights concerns e.g. cobalt.	The Applicant opposes the abuse of human rights and forced labour anywhere in the global supply chain. The procurement process for the Proposed Development has not yet started and would begin should development consent be granted. As part of this process, the Applicant would take a rigorous approach to ensuring its suppliers comply with relevant legislation (such as the Modern Slavery Act 2015) and its requirements as set out in an ethical procurement policy (for more information, see **Outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [EN010149/APP/7.20]**).	N
Impact on local temperatures	Comment that there is ongoing work looking into the impact of solar farms on local temperatures, as there could be an environmental risk to the local biome. This is especially important due to the proximity of the Proposed Development to	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]** assesses the impact of GHG emissions arising as a result of the Proposed Development on the climate in line with industry guidance. Microclimate impacts are not considered within the ES as it is anticipated that there would be negligible / no impact to local temperatures as a result of the Proposed Development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
	Coningsby, where the highest temperature in the UK to date has been recorded.		
Impact on local temperatures	Comment expressing concern about photovoltaic heat islands as scientific studies have shown that surrounding temperatures can increase, and this could be significant due to the size of the Proposed Development.	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]** assesses the impact of GHG emissions arising as a result of the Proposed Development on the climate in line with industry guidance. Microclimate impacts are not considered within the ES as it is anticipated that there would be negligible / no impact to local temperatures as a result of the Proposed Development.	N
Impact on local temperatures	Comment that developers rely heavily on the Albedo values of solar panels versus arable land/roofs/desert etc which does not tell the whole story.	**ES Volume 1, Chapter 8: Climate [EN010149/APP/6.1]** assesses the impact of GHG emissions arising as a result of the Proposed Development on the climate in line with industry guidance. Microclimate impacts are not considered within the ES as it is anticipated that there would be negligible / no impact to local temperatures as a result of the Proposed Development.	N

Topic	Summary of comments	Response	Design change (Y/N)
Motivation	Comment that the landowners involved in the Proposed Development are only motivated by profit.	The Applicant does not believe that the motivations of private landowners are a relevant consideration in providing feedback on the Proposed Development.	N

Springwell
Solar Farm

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