



Planning Inspectorate
Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Section 55

Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Appendix 3 of [Advice on the preparation and submission of application documents](#)

Springwell Solar Farm, October 2024

Springwell Solar Farm Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Relevant sections of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at legislation.gov.uk, here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/>

All other secondary legislation referred to in this checklist is searchable, here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/>

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

Section 55(2) Acceptance of Applications				
1	Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) the Planning Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for Examination.	Date received	28-day due date	Date of decision
		20 Nov 2024	18 Dec 2024	18 December 2024
Section 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only accept an application if it concludes that:		Planning Inspectorate comments		
Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for an order granting development consent				
2	In accordance with sections(s) 14 to 30 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), is the development a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that, in accordance with s31 of the PA2008, it is an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the PA2008, or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Proposed Development set out in Schedule 1 of the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) includes development falling within the categories in s14 of the PA2008. The development is for the construction of a solar photovoltaic array electricity generating facility, and satisfies section 15 of the PA2008, including subsection 1 and subsection 2.</p> <p>This is consistent with the summary provided in section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.3) which states that the application is for an NSIP.</p>		

	<p>which it relates (i.e. which category or categories in s14 to 30 does the Proposed Development fall)?</p> <p>If the development does not fall within the categories in s14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required?</p>	
3	Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)	The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) includes development for which development consent is required.
Section 55(3)(e): The Applicant in relation to the application made has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure)		
4	In accordance with Regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations), did the Applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request the Planning Inspectorate adopt a Screening Opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of that development?	<p>Yes</p> <p>On 5 January 2024 the Applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Regulation 8(1)(b) of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 of its intention to provide an Environmental Statement (ES) in respect of the Proposed Development. The notification was received before the start of statutory consultation on 11 January 2024.</p> <p>A copy of the notification letter is provided at Appendix G-1.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
5	Have any Adequacy of Consultation Representations been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they	<p>Yes</p> <p>There are 18 host and neighbouring authorities, of which 10 responded to the</p>

<p>confirm that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?</p> <p>Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the Consultation Report, and any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received.</p>	<p>Planning Inspectorate’s invitation to make an Adequacy of Consultation Representation (AoCR) dated 21 November 2024.</p> <p>All 10 responding authorities confirmed in their AoCR that either the Applicant had complied with its duties under s42, s47 and s48 of the PA2008 and/ or that their authority had no comments/ objections to make. These local authorities were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Kesteven District Council B • Lincolnshire County Council C • Boston Borough Council A • East Lindsey District Council A • Newark & Sherwood District Council A • Peterborough City Council D • Cambridgeshire County Council D • Leicestershire County Council D • Norfolk County Council D • North Lincolnshire Council D <p>All AoCRs received have been carefully considered and are available to view on the National Infrastructure Planning website:</p> <p>https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010149/documents?stage-2=Adequacy%20of%20Consultation%20Representation&itemsPerPage=25</p>
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Section 42: Duty to consult

Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?		
6	<p>Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed?</p> <p>The persons prescribed are the statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations).</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) on 8 January 2024 at Appendix E-1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(a) consultees is provided at Appendix F-1.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
7	<p>Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation(MMO)?</p> <p>The MMO must be consulted in any case where the Proposed Development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
8	<p>Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43?</p> <p>Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Table 5-1:Section 42 (1)(b) local authorities of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) lists the relevant local authorities that were identified and consulted under s43 and s42(1)(b) on 8 January 2024.</p> <p>The host 'B' authority was consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Kesteven District Council <p>The host 'C' authority was consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lincolnshire County Council <p>The boundary 'A' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boston Borough Council

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Lincoln Council • East Lindsey District Council • Newark and Sherwood District Council • South Holland District Council • South Kesteven District Council • West Lindsey District Council <p>The boundary 'D' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peterborough City Council • Cambridgeshire County Council • Leicestershire County Council • Norfolk County Council • North East Lincolnshire Council • North Lincolnshire Council • North Northamptonshire Council • Nottinghamshire County Council • Rutland County Council <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(b) relevant authorities is provided at Appendix F-1.2 Sample letter sent to prescribed consultees (local authority) of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?	N/A

10	<p>Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories?</p> <p>Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land; Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land; Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 5.4.9 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that all persons identified under s42(1)(d) were consulted on 11 January 2024.</p> <p>Paragraphs 5.4.7 to 5.4.13 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) summarise how the Applicant made diligent inquiry to seek to identify and consult persons with an interest in lands affected by the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1). The full methodology undertaken by the Applicant is provided in Paragraphs 5.4.7 to 5.4.13 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The persons consulted under s42(1)(d) are listed in the Book of Reference (Doc 4.3) of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>A sample of the letter is provided at Appendix F-1.3 Sample letter sent to Category 1 and 2 land interests and Appendix F-1.4 Sample letter sent to Category 3 land interests of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
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Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation

11	<p>Did the Applicant notify s42 consultees of the deadline for receipt of consultation responses; and if so was the deadline notified by the Applicant 28 days or more starting with the day after receipt of the consultation documents?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42 consultees is provided at Appendix F-1 - Sample letters sent to consultees under s42(1)(a), (b) and (d) and non-prescribed consultees of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The sample letter confirmed that consultation commenced on 11 January 2024 and closed on 22 February 2024, providing more than the required minimum time for receipt of responses.</p>
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Section 46: Duty to notify the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application

12	Did the Applicant supply information to notify the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application; and if so, was the information supplied to the Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42 consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant gave notice under s46 on 5 January 2024, which was before the beginning of s42 consultation.</p> <p>A copy of the s46 notification letter is provided at Appendix G-1.1 S46 notification of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and a copy of s46 notification acknowledgement letter from the Planning Inspectorate is provided at Appendix G-1.2 Acknowledgement of receipt of s46 notification of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
Section 47: Duty to consult local community		
13	Did the Applicant prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A copy of the final SoCC is provided at Appendix D-1 – Final SoCC of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
14	Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and, where applicable, 'C' authorities received the consultation documents?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant sent the draft SoCC to North Kesteven District Council ('B Authority') and Lincolnshire County Council ('C' authority) on 14 September 2023 and set a deadline of 13 October 2023 for responses; providing more than the required minimum time for responses to be received.</p>
15	Has the Applicant had regard to any responses received when preparing the SoCC?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Appendix C-4: Regard had to host authority formal feedback on draft SoCC of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) provides a summary of the consultation responses from North Kesteven District Council and Lincolnshire County Council in respect of the draft SoCC and demonstrates how the Applicant had regard to their content.</p>

		<p>Examples of changes from the draft SoCC to the final SoCC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant brought forward four of the proposed public events to week 2 of the consultation period, with the first event taking place on the 24 January 2024. • The Applicant updated the text to include reference to the development of the Community Fund. • The Applicant included a copy of the newsletter in correspondence to the host authorities and political representatives. <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant had regard to the responses received when preparing the SoCC.</p>
16	<p>Has the SoCC been made available for inspection on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>The final SoCC was made available at the following locations, which is reasonably convenient having regard to the location of the Proposed Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sleaford Library, 13 - 16 Market Place, Sleaford NG34 7SR • The Venue, Grantham Road, Navenby LN5 0JJ • The project website www.springwellsolarfarm.co.uk hosted all of the consultation documents, <p>A notice stating when and where the final SoCC could be inspected was published in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lincolnshire Echo on 14 December 2023 <p>The published SoCC notice, provided at Appendix D-2 – Section 47 notice of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states where and when the final SoCC was available to inspect.</p>

		Clippings of the published advertisements are provided at Appendix X of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) .
17	In accordance with Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development; and does it set out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 1.2.1 of the final SoCC at Appendix D-1 – Final SoCC of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) sets out that the development is EIA development and sets out how the Applicant intended to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information.</p>
18	Has the Applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 4.8.6, and Chapter 5 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and Appendix D-4 – Compliance with the SoCC of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) set out how the community consultation was carried out in line with the final SoCC.</p> <p>Table D-1 of Appendix D-4 – Compliance with the SoCC of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) sets out how the Applicant has complied with the commitments set out in the final SoCC.</p>
Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application		
19	Did the Applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4(2) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 5.7.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states:</p> <p><i>“The Applicant published notices containing the prescribed details in the newspapers and on the dates set out in Table 5-5 pursuant to section 48 of the PA 2008 and regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations.”</i></p> <p>Table 5.5 Details of newspaper publication of section 48 notice of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) displays the newspapers and dates of s48 publicity as set out below.</p>

		<p>A copy of the s48 notice is provided at Appendix I-1: Newspaper notices published in compliance with s48 of PA 2008 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>Clippings of the published notices set out below are provided at Appendix I-1: Newspaper notices published in compliance with s48 of PA 2008 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1):</p>	
		Newspaper(s)	Date
a)	for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lincolnshire Echo 	11 January and 18 January 2024
b)	once in a national newspaper;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Guardian 	11 January 2024
c)	once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> London Gazette 	11 January 2024
d)	where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?	N/A	N/A
20	Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in Regulation 4(3) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The published s48 notice, supplied at Appendix I-1: Newspaper notices published in compliance with s48 of PA 2008 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1), contains the required information as set out below:</p>	
Information		Paragraph	

a)	the name and address of the Applicant.	1	b)	a statement that the Applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State	1
c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	4	d)	a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the Proposed Development	3
e)	a statement that the documents, plans and maps were available on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant. The statement must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature and location of the Proposed Development • The address of the website • The place on the website • A telephone number which can be used to contact the Applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps. 	6	f)	the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection	6
g)	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge	9	h)	details of how to respond to the publicity	10
i)	a deadline for receipt of those responses by the Applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published	11			

21	Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above?	No
22	Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person notified to the Applicant in accordance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice was sent to the EIA consultation bodies as part of the s42 consultation, as confirmed in paragraph 5.7.4 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>A sample of the s42 consultation letter provided at Appendix F-1.7 Section 42 enclosure (copy of section 48 notice) of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) confirms a copy of the s48 notice was enclosed.</p>
s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity		
23	Has the Applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Chapter 6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) sets out how the Applicant had regard to the consultation responses received; including whether or not responses led to changes to the application.</p> <p>The actions informed by the consultation responses appear to be reflected in the final form of the application as submitted. Where a particular response has not led to a change in the application, it is sufficiently clear that regard was had to it.</p>
S50(3) Regard to guidance about pre-application procedure		
24	To what extent has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects'?	<p>Appendix M-1 - Compliance with PA 2008: Guidance on the pre-application stage for NSIPs, April 2024 and Appendix M-2: Compliance with the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Fourteen: Compiling the Consultation Report, August 2024 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that the Applicant has had regard to all relevant statutory guidance.</p>

	The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the Applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50.	Paragraph 3.4.4 explains how the Applicant incorporated engagement with AoCM whilst recognising that the AoCM is expected to apply to projects that have not yet commenced formal consultation. The letter to the host authorities, and copies of the letters received from the host authorities is included at Appendix B-3: Early engagement on Adequacy of Consultation .
25	Summary: Section 55(3)(e)	The Applicant has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure) of the PA2008.
s55(3)(f) and s55(5A): The application (including accompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent to which it complies with section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and follows any applicable guidance under section 37(4)		
26	Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations, and does it include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; and a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme? 	Yes Section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.3) explains why the development falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate. Section 5 of the Application Form (Doc 1.3) provides a brief non-technical description of the site and section 6 provides the location of the Proposed Development. A Location Plan (Doc 2.1) has been provided.
27	Is it accompanied by a Consultation Report?	Yes The application is accompanied by a Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and 20 Consultation Report Appendices documents .
28	In accordance with Regulation 5(4) of the APFP Regulations, where a plan comprises three or	Yes

	more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets?	
29	Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP Regulation 5(2)?	The documents and information required by APFP Regulation 5(2) are set out in the documents and locations within the application as listed below. The Guide to the Application (Doc 1.2) and the Electronic Application Index (Doc 1.5) also list the documents submitted and accompanying APFP Regulation references.
	Information	Document
a)	Where applicable, the Environmental Statement required under the EIA Regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	The Application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement (ES) comprising the following: ES –Volume 1 – Main Report (Doc 6.1) ES – Volume 2 – Figures (Doc 6.2) ES – Volume 3 – Appendices (Doc 6.3) ES – Volume 4 – Landscape Visualisations (Doc 6.4)
	Information	Document
b)	The draft Development Consent Order (DCO)	3.1 Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)

		ES – Volume 5 – Non-technical Summary (Doc 6.5)			
		The Scoping Report is provided in Appendix 5.1 of the ES (Doc 6.3) and the Scoping Opinion is provided in Appendix 5.2 (Doc 6.3) .			
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<i>Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30 and in s51 advice)</i>		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<i>Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30)</i>
c)	An Explanatory Memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	3.2 Explanatory Memorandum (Doc 3.2)	d)	Where applicable, a Book of Reference	4.3 Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<i>Yes</i>		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<i>Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30)</i>
e)	A copy of any Flood Risk Assessment	Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 7.16)	f)	A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the matters set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental	Statutory Nuisance Statement (Doc 7.5)

h)			i)	Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances) and if so how the Applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<i>Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30)</i>		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
	A Statement of Reasons and a Funding Statement (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition)	Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1) Funding Statement (Doc 4.2)		A Land Plan identifying:- (i) the land required for, or affected by, the Proposed Development; (ii) where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of Compulsory Acquisition or any rights to use land; (iii) any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements, servitudes and other private rights; and	Land Plans (Doc 2.2)

			(iv) any special category land and replacement land	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<i>Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30)</i>
j)	A Works Plan showing, in relation to existing features:- (i) the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and (ii) the limits within which the development and works may be carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO	2.3 Works Plans (Doc 2.3)	k) Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation	2.4 Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans (Doc 2.4)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<i>Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30)</i>

l)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation eg sites of geological or landscape importance; (ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and (iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan, together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the Proposed Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Volume 2, Figure 2.1: Environmental Considerations (Doc 6.2) Volume 2, Figure 10.1: Landscape Study Area Context Designations of the ES (Doc 6.2) HRA No Significant Effects Report Figure 1: Location of Designated Sites to the Proposed Development (Doc 7.17) (ii) Volume 2, Figure 2.1: Environmental Considerations (Doc 6.2) (iii) Volume 2, Figure 15.1: Watercourses (Doc 6.2) 	m)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (eg scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p>	<p>ES Volume 2, Figure 2.1: Environmental Considerations;</p> <p>ES Volume 2, Figure 9.2: Heritage Assets within the Order Limits;</p> <p>ES Volume 2, Figure 9.3: Heritage Assets within the Study Area of the ES</p> <p>Assessments of the effects have been presented within ES Chapter 9: Cultural Heritage (Doc 6.1)</p>
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		(iv) Supporting assessments are presented in Environmental Statement Chapter 7: Biodiversity (Doc 6.1) ; the HRA No Significant Effects Report (Doc 7.17) ; and Environmental Statement Chapter 15: Water (Doc 6.1) and Appendix 15.1: Water Framework Directive Waterbodies Stage 1 Screening Technical Note.			
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<i>Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30 and in s51 advice)</i>
n)	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	Crown Land Plans (Doc 2.7)	o)	Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal	Location, Order Limits Grid Coordinate Plans (Doc 2.1) Illustrative Layout Plans and Sections (Doc 2.5)

p)			q)	showing details of design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of buildings, structures, drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping	Traffic Regulations Plans (Doc 2.6)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	<i>Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30)</i>
	Any of the documents prescribed by Regulation 6 of the APFP Regulations:	Grid Connection Statement (Doc 7.6)		Any other documents considered necessary to support the application	7.1 Statement of Need 7.2 Planning Statement.pdf 7.3 Design Approach Document.pdf 7.4 Design Commitments.pdf 7.5 Statutory Nuisance Statement.pdf 7.6 Grid Connection Statement.pdf 7.7 Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan.pdf 7.8 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan.pdf 7.9 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan.pdf

				<p>7.10 Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan.pdf</p> <p>7.11 Outline Soil Management Plan.pdf</p> <p>7.12 Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan.pdf</p> <p>7.13 Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan.pdf</p> <p>7.14 Outline Battery Safety Management Plan.pdf</p> <p>7.15 Outline Written Scheme of Investigation.pdf</p> <p>7.16 Flood Risk Assessment.pdf</p> <p>7.17 Habitat Regulation Assessment - HRA - No Significant Effects Report - NSER.pdf</p> <p>7.18 Equality Impact Assessment.pdf</p> <p>7.19 BESS Plume Assessment.pdf</p> <p>7.20 Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan.pdf</p> <p>7.21 Draft Statement of Common Ground – Anglian Water Services Ltd.pdf</p> <p>7.22 Draft Statement of Common Ground – Cadent Gas Ltd.pdf</p>
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				7.23 Draft Statement of Common Ground – National Grid Electricity Transmission.pdf 7.24 Draft Statement of Common Ground – Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service.pdf 7.25 Draft Statement of Common Ground – Exolum Pipeline System Ltd.pdf 7.26 Statement of Commonality.pdf	
	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	N/A		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	N/A
30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at Box 29 (a) to (q) above?				
	<p>Draft DCO</p> <p>The Crown Land Plans (Ref 2.7) have not been included in the list of certified documents in the dDCO. There is a formatting issue within the dDCO where Article 30 is referenced twice. The Applicant is advised to review/amend accordingly.</p> <p>Land Plans (Doc 2.2)</p> <p>For the Sheet 7 of 15 extension, the key plan shows a separate sheet, but this area is only shown on sheet 7 of 15 as an inset. The cut line is not depicted, however it's clear where this area is located from the key plan.</p> <p>On Sheet 7 of 15, an unnumbered plot is shown with a grid pattern (East and below plot 7/14) located on Heath Road (B1191). It is unclear what this plot relates to. The legend describes this as 'Order limits - the area within which authorises development may be carried out, excluding all Crown interests (Secretary of State for Defence)', but it is not listed in the Book of Reference.</p>				

On Sheet 12, the shading for plots 12/10 & 12/11 appears to be incorrect. Plots are coloured Green on the plan (temporary use of land), but the Book of Reference (Doc 4.3) states that these plots are Permanent acquisition of new rights.

Wording for land use in the Book of Reference differs from that on the plans, which could lead to confusion for stakeholders. The Applicant is advised to review/amend the Land Plans and/or the Book of Reference accordingly.

Crown Land Plans (Doc 2.7)

On sheet 2 of 2, an unnumbered plot is shown with a grid pattern (above 7/15 and west of plot 7/16) located on Heath Road (B1191). It is unclear what this plot relates to. The legend describes this as 'Order limits - the area within which authorises development may be carried out, excluding all Crown interests (Secretary of State for Defence)', but it is not listed in the Book of Reference. The Applicant is advised to review/amend accordingly.

Location, Order Limits Grid Coordinate Plans (Doc 2.1)

It is unclear if the inset showing B1191 (Heath Road) on sheet 7 of 15 is to the same scale as the rest of this sheet. The Applicant is advised to review/amend accordingly.

Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans (Doc 2.4)

Scale listed on the key plan (1:100m) is likely incorrect.

A pink line is used for Street Works ('SW' Reference) and for Proposed Alterations to Streets ('A' Reference). This could cause some confusion for stakeholders. The Applicant is advised to review/amend accordingly.

Illustrative Layout Plans and Sections (12 of 16) (Doc 2.5)

There is no key for the Proposed Substation or Battery Energy Storage System. The Applicant is advised to review/amend accordingly.

Environmental Statement Volume 1 Chapter 14 Traffic and Transport (Doc 6.1)

Paragraph 14.1.2. refers to 'Figure 14.5: Swept Path Analysis Drawings' but these have not been provided.

Environmental Statement Chapter 9 Cultural Heritage (Doc 6.1) and ES Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk - Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment (Doc 6.3)

Appendix 9.1: Archaeological Desk - Based Assessment and Stage 1 Setting Assessment sets out that the potential effects on the settings of Dunsby Scheduled Ancient Monument (Paragraph 6.2.5), Scopwick and Blankney Conservation Areas (Paragraph 6.2.37) and Bloxholm Conservation Area (Paragraph 6.2.39) should be considered in ES Chapter 9 (Document Reference 6.1). However, there

is a discrepancy as in the same document Annex 12 considers that they should not be included in ES Chapter 9 (and these assets are not assessed in Chapter 9). See further section 51 advice issued on this matter.

Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 7.16)

The Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) describes that the Proposed Development is primarily located in Flood Zone 1, with a small region within the northeastern corner of the site located in Flood Zones 2 and 3. The FRA does not specify whether the components located within Flood Zone 3 are Flood Zone 3a or Flood Zone 3b or a combination. Flood Zone 3a and Flood Zone 3b are not differentiated on the figures in the FRA. See further section 51 advice issued on this matter.

Section 51 advice has been issued to the Applicant in respect of the above matters:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN010149-000266>

31	<p>In accordance with Regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP Regulations, is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which Regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the Proposed Development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site if required by Regulation 48(1)?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report has been provided (Doc 7.17). The HRA Report identifies relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites. It is considered that the information provided in the report is adequate for acceptance.</p> <p>Note: The Examining Authority will be able to ask questions during the Examination. This may result in additional information being required to inform the HRA Report and the competent authority. Depending upon the type and availability of information required it may not be possible to obtain this during the statutory timetable of the Examination.</p>
32	<p>In accordance with Regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP Regulations, if requested by the Planning Inspectorate, have two paper copies of the</p>	<p>No hard copies requested.</p>

	application form and other supporting documents and plans been provided?	
33	Has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance'?	Yes The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has demonstrated regard to the guidance principles.
34	Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)	The Planning Inspectorate concludes that the application (including accompaniments) has been prepared to a standard that it considers satisfactory. In addition to the discrepancies identified in Box 30 of this checklist, to help facilitate an efficient and effective examination of the application, s51 advice has been provided to the Applicant in conjunction with the decision to accept the application. That advice is published on the National Infrastructure Planning website, here: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN010149-000266
The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended)		
Fees to accompany an application		
36	Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made? The Planning Inspectorate must charge the Applicant a fee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the Applicant fails to pay the fee, the Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee	The fee was received on 12 November 2024; before the application was made.

must be paid at the same time that the application is made	
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Role	Electronic signature	Date
Case Manager	<i>Bart Bartkowiak</i>	18 December 2024
Acceptance Inspector	<i>Jonathan Manning</i>	18 December 2024

