



East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO Offshore Windfarms

Applicants' Responses to Examining Authority's Written Questions

Volume 11 - 1.9 Land Use

Applicants: East Anglia ONE North Limited and East Anglia TWO Limited

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Applicable to East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO







Revision Summary										
Rev	Rev Date Prepared by Checked by Approved by									
001	02/11/2020	Paolo Pizzolla	Lesley Jamieson / Ian Mackay	Rich Morris						

	Description of Revisions								
Rev	Page	Section	Description						
001	n/a	n/a	Final for Deadline 1						

Applicants' Responses to ExA WQ1 Volume 11 2nd November 2020





This document is supported by the following appendices:

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2	East Anglia ONE Substation Detailed Design Document
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4	Ecological Mitigation Works
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Glossary of Acronyms

AA	Appropriate Assessment						
AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic						
ADD	Acoustic Deterrent Devices						
AEOI	Adverse Effect on Integrity						
ALOI	Abnormal Indivisible Load						
AIS	Abriormal indivisible Load Air Insulated Switchgear						
ALC							
ALO	Agricultural Land Classification Agricultural Liaison Officer						
ANO	Air and Navigation Order						
AONB							
APP	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty						
	Application Document						
AST	Assured Shorthold Tenancies						
ATC	Automatic Traffic Counts						
BCT	Bat Conservation Trust						
BEIS	Department of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy						
BMV	Best and Most Versatile						
BoR	Book of Reference						
BT	British Telecom						
CA	Compulsory Acquisition						
ccs	Construction Consolidation Sites						
Cd	Candela						
CfD	Contract for Difference						
CIA	Cumulative Impact Assessment						
CIEEM	Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management						
CION	Connection and Infrastructure Options Note						
COCP	Code of Construction Practice						
dB	Decibels						
DCO	Development Consent Order						
DML	Deemed Marine Licence						
DMO	Destination Management Organisation						
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges						
EA	Environment Agency						
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment						
EM	Explanatory Memorandum						
EMP	Ecological Management Plan						
ES	Environmental Statement						
ESC	East Suffolk Council						
ESCA	European Subsea Cables Association						
ESDAL	Electronic Service Delivery for Abnormal Loads						
ETG	Expert Topic Group						
ExA	Examining Authority						
ExQs	Examining Authorities First Written Questions						
FID	Final Investment Decision						
FRA	Flood Risk Assessment						
GEART	Guidelines for the Environmental Assessment of Road Traffic						
GIS	Gas Insulated Switchgear						
GLVIA	Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment						
На	Hectares						
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling						
HE	Historic England						
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle						
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HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
ICPC	International Cable Protection Committee
IPSIP	In Principle Site Integrity Plan
Km	Kilometres
kV	Kilovolt
LAT	Lowest Astronomical Tide
LCA	Landscape Character Assessment
LCT	Landscape Character Type
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
LIQ	Land Interest Questionnaire
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
LMP	Landscape Management Plan
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LSE	Likely Significant Effects
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
M	Metres
MCA	Marine Coastguard Agency
MCTC	Manual Classified Turning Counts
MHWS	Mean High Water Sprints
MMMP	Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MW	Megawatt
MWh	Megawatt Hours
NALEP	The New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership
NATS	National Air Traffic Service
NCTA	National Coastal Tourism Academy
NE	Natural England
NGET	National Grid Electricity Transmission
Nm	Nautical Miles
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPS	National Policy Statement
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
OAMP	Outline Access Management Plan
OCTMP	Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan
OFTO	Offshore Transmission Owner
OLEMS	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Strategy
OMLP	Outline Management and Landscape Plan
ORJIP	Offshore Renewables Joint Industry Programme
OTP	Outline Travel Plan
PD	Procedural Decision
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Impact Report
PEMP	Project Environmental Management Plan
PIL	Persons with an interest in Land
PPG	Planning Practice Guidance
PRoW	Public Right of Way
PS	Policy Statements
PTP	Port Travel plan
PVA	Population Viability Analysis
RAG	Red Amber Green
RLoS	Radar Line of Sight
RR	Relevant Representation
1313	1 Notes and Noprocontation







RTD Red Throated Diver RWS Rijkswaterstaat SAC Special Area of Conservation SCCA Suffolk County Council SCCAS Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service SCHAONB Suffolk Coats and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty SLVIA Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment SMP Shoreline Management Plan SNS Southern North Sea SOCG Statement of Common Ground SoS Secretary of State SPA Special protected Area SPR ScottishPower Renewables SSSI Site of Special Scientific Interest STEM Science, Technology and Engineering and Mathematics SUDS Sustainable Urban Drainage System SZC Sizewell C TCE The Crown Estate TH Trinity House TMZ Transponder Mandatory Zone TP Temporary Purchase TPO Tree Purchase Order TWT The Wildlife Trust UK United Kingdom UKCP United Kingdom UKCP Unexploded Ordinance VP Viewpoint WQ Written Question WSI Written Scheme of Investigation ZTV Zone of Theoretical Visibility	RSPB	Deval Conjety for the Dretaction of Dirds				
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Glossary of Terminology

Applicants	East Anglia TWO Limited / East Anglia ONE North Limited
Cable sealing end compound	A compound which allows the safe transition of cables between the overhead lines and underground cables which connect to the National Grid substation.
Cable sealing end (with circuit breaker) compound	A compound (which includes a circuit breaker) which allows the safe transition of cables between the overhead lines and underground cables which connect to the National Grid substation.
Construction consolidation sites	Compounds associated with the onshore works which may include elements such as hard standings, lay down and storage areas for construction materials and equipment, areas for vehicular parking, welfare facilities, wheel washing facilities, workshop facilities and temporary fencing or other means of enclosure.
Construction operation and maintenance platform	A fixed offshore structure required for construction, operation, and maintenance personnel and activities.
The Councils	East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council
Development area	The area comprising the onshore development area and the offshore development area (described as the 'order limits' within the Development Consent Order).
East Anglia ONE North project	The proposed project consisting of up to 67 wind turbines, up to four offshore electrical platforms, up to one construction, operation and maintenance platform, inter-array cables, platform link cables, up to one operational meteorological mast, up to two offshore export cables, fibre optic cables, landfall infrastructure, onshore cables and ducts, onshore substation, and National Grid infrastructure.
East Anglia TWO project	The proposed project consisting of up to 75 wind turbines, up to four offshore electrical platforms, up to one construction, operation and maintenance platform, inter-array cables, platform link cables, up to one operational meteorological mast, up to two offshore export cables, fibre optic cables, landfall infrastructure, onshore cables and ducts, onshore substation, and National Grid infrastructure.
East Anglia TWO windfarm site	The offshore area within which wind turbines and offshore platforms will be located.
European site	Sites designated for nature conservation under the Habitats Directive and Birds Directive, as defined in regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and regulation 18 of the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. These include candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas.
Generation Deemed Marine Licence (DML)	The deemed marine licence in respect of the generation assets set out within Schedule 13 of the draft DCO.
Horizontal directional drilling (HDD)	A method of cable installation where the cable is drilled beneath a feature without the need for trenching.
HDD temporary working area	Temporary compounds which will contain laydown, storage and work areas for HDD drilling works.







Inter-array cables	Offshore cables which link the wind turbines to each other and the offshore electrical platforms, these cables will include fibre optic cables.
Jointing bay	Underground structures constructed at intervals along the onshore cable route to join sections of cable and facilitate installation of the cables into the buried ducts.
Landfall	The area (from Mean Low Water Springs) where the offshore export cables would make contact with land, and connect to the onshore cables.
Link boxes	Underground chambers within the onshore cable route housing electrical earthing links.
Meteorological mast	An offshore structure which contains metrological instruments used for wind data acquisition.
Mitigation areas	Areas captured within the onshore development area specifically for mitigating expected or anticipated impacts.
Marking buoys	Buoys to delineate spatial features / restrictions within the offshore development area.
Monitoring buoys	Buoys to monitor <i>in situ</i> condition within the windfarm, for example wave and metocean conditions.
National electricity grid	The high voltage electricity transmission network in England and Wales owned and maintained by National Grid Electricity Transmission
National Grid infrastructure	A National Grid substation, cable sealing end compounds, cable sealing end (with circuit breaker) compound, underground cabling and National Grid overhead line realignment works to facilitate connection to the national electricity grid, all of which will be consented as part of the proposed East Anglia TWO / East Anglia ONE North project Development Consent Order but will be National Grid owned assets.
National Grid overhead line realignment works	Works required to upgrade the existing electricity pylons and overhead lines (including cable sealing end compounds and cable sealing end (with circuit breaker) compound) to transport electricity from the National Grid substation to the national electricity grid.
National Grid overhead line realignment works area	The proposed area for National Grid overhead line realignment works.
National Grid substation	The substation (including all of the electrical equipment within it) necessary to connect the electricity generated by the proposed East Anglia TWO / East Anglia ONE North project to the national electricity grid which will be owned by National Grid but is being consented as part of the proposed East Anglia TWO / East Anglia ONE North project Development Consent Order.
National Grid substation location	The proposed location of the National Grid substation.
Natura 2000 site	A site forming part of the network of sites made up of Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas designated respectively under the Habitats Directive and Birds Directive.
Offshore cable corridor	This is the area which will contain the offshore export cables between offshore electrical platforms and landfall.
Offshore development area	The East Anglia TWO / East Anglia ONE North windfarm site and offshore cable corridor (up to Mean High Water Springs).







Offshore electrical infrastructure	The transmission assets required to export generated electricity to shore. This includes inter-array cables from the wind turbines to the offshore electrical platforms, offshore electrical platforms, platform link cables and export cables from the offshore electrical platforms to the landfall.			
Offshore electrical platform	A fixed structure located within the windfarm area, containing electrical equipment to aggregate the power from the wind turbines and convert it into a more suitable form for export to shore.			
Offshore export cables	The cables which would bring electricity from the offshore electrical platforms to the landfall. These cables will include fibre optic cables.			
Offshore infrastructure	All of the offshore infrastructure including wind turbines, platforms, and cables.			
Offshore platform	A collective term for the construction, operation and maintenance platform and the offshore electrical platforms.			
Onshore cable corridor	The corridor within which the onshore cable route will be located.			
Onshore cable route	This is the construction swathe within the onshore cable corridor which would contain onshore cables as well as temporary ground required for construction which includes cable trenches, haul road and spoil storage areas.			
Onshore cables	The cables which would bring electricity from landfall to the onshore substation. The onshore cable is comprised of up to six power cables (which may be laid directly within a trench, or laid in cable ducts or protective covers), up to two fibre optic cables and up to two distributed temperature sensing cables.			
Onshore development area	The area in which the landfall, onshore cable corridor, onshore substation, landscaping and ecological mitigation areas, temporary construction facilities (such as access roads and construction consolidation sites), and the National Grid Infrastructure will be located.			
Onshore infrastructure	The combined name for all of the onshore infrastructure associated with the proposed East Anglia TWO / East Anglia ONE North project from landfall to the connection to the national electricity grid.			
Onshore preparation works	Activities to be undertaken prior to formal commencement of onshore construction such as pre–planting of landscaping works, archaeological investigations, environmental and engineering surveys, diversion and laying of services, and highway alterations.			
Onshore substation	The East Anglia TWO / East Anglia ONE North substation and all of the electrical equipment within the onshore substation and connecting to the National Grid infrastructure.			
Onshore substation location	The proposed location of the onshore substation for the proposed East Anglia TWO / East Anglia ONE North project.			
Platform link cable	Electrical cable which links one or more offshore platforms. These cables will include fibre optic cables.			
Safety zones	A marine area declared for the purposes of safety around a renewable energy installation or works / construction area under the Energy Act 2004.			
Scour protection	Protective materials to avoid sediment being eroded away from the base of the foundations as a result of the flow of water.			
Transition bay	Underground structures at the landfall that house the joints between the offshore export cables and the onshore cables.			
Transmission DML	The deemed marine licence in respect of the transmission assets set out within Schedule 14 of the draft DCO.			





ExA. Question Ref.	Question n addressed to			ExA. Question		Applicants' Response				
1.9 Land Use										
1.9.1	The Applicant	1	2	ES chapter 21 Land Use [APP-069] Table 21.1 shows that the main topic raised in consultation in relation to land use is loss of agricultural land, both for the cable route and at the substation, and this is reflected in RRs. a) Is the substation referred to in Table 21.1 [APP-069] the East Anglias substations or the National Grid substation, or should the reference be to both substations? b) If the reference in Table 21.1 [APP-069] is to the East Anglias substations only, was the National Grid substation consulted on and what was the outcome?	a) b)	The reference to substation in <i>Table 21.1</i> of <i>Chapter 21 Land Use</i> (APP-069) encompasses both Project onshore substations (i.e. East Anglia ONE north and East Anglia TWO), the National Grid substation and associated infrastructure. Consultation from the first public information days in 2017 onwards included the National Grid substation. As above the reference in the table should have been to both Project substations and National Grid Substation. The outcome was as specified in <i>Table 21.1</i> with concerns regarding loss of agricultural land.				
1.9.2	The Applicant	1	2	Paragraph 18 [APP-069] refers to utilities within or adjacent to the highway boundary and states that "[m]ajor utilities have been covered by identifying protective provisions in the draft DCO, and with the use of crossing agreementsThe continuation of water supplies will be ensured." a) Please clarify what constitutes a major utility;	a) b)	It is the view of the Applicants that major utilities are any electricity, gas, water and sewerage undertakers and telecommunication operators. The protective provisions in the <i>draft DCO</i> (APP-023) apply to the whole of Order Land.				





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question	Applicants' Response		
				 b) What about utilities elsewhere along the cable route and at the substations; c) Please state which utilities are covered by protective provisions and which by crossing agreements; d) Are there any utilities which are not covered either by protective provisions or by crossing agreements? 	 c) Electricity, gas, water and sewerage undertakers and telecommunication operators are covered by protective provisions and where crossing agreements have been requested in addition, the Applicants are seeking agreement on these. d) The Applicants are not aware of any utilities that are not covered either by protective provisions or by crossing agreements. 		
1.9.3	The Applicant	1	2	Decommissioning Table 21.2 Decommissioning [APP-069] refers to the onshore cable. a) Would the use of cable ducts make removal and recovery of the cables more straightforward?	Should the onshore cables be installed within ducts it would be possible to remove them via the jointing bays without excavating the cable route. If this approach was taken to decommissioning it is likely that the ducts themselves would remain in-situ. No decision has been made regarding the final decommissioning policy for the onshore infrastructure as it is recognised that industry best practice, rules and legislation change over time. An Onshore Decommissioning Plan will be provided, as secured under		





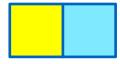
ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question		Applicants' Response		
	The Applicant	1	2	Mitigation Table 21.3 [APP-069] Table 21.3 describes embedded mitigation and best practice. a) How will biosecurity issues be addressed? b) Will occupiers of land as well as landowners be consulted in respect of pre-construction surveys and land drainage during construction? c) How will land drainage during construction be managed in the event that no discussion or agreement with affected landowners is possible?	1	adopting best practice soil handling to prevent the spread of plant and animal diseases including the Environment Agency (EA) (2010) guidance: Managing Invasive Non-native Plants.		
					c)	relevant parties in respect to preconstruction surveys and land drainage, this will include occupiers of land if it is appropriate to do so. If the Applicants were not able to engage with the relevant parties, then the Applicants would still follow the Surface Water and Drainage Management Plan included as part of the final Code of Construction Practice provided for in Requirement 22 of the <i>draft DCO</i> (APP-023) to manage land drainage appropriately.		





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question	Applicants' Response
1.9.5	The Applicant	1	2	Impact monitoring Paragraph 26 [APP-069] refers to monitoring of actual impacts and says that: "[f]inal details of monitoring will be agreed post-consent with the Local Planning Authority and relevant stakeholders." • Who are the relevant stakeholders?	Relevant stakeholders include Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Coastal District Councils, and affected landowners.
1.9.6	The Applicant	1	2	Land use and agricultural impact assessment: Design Manual for Roads and Bridges Paragraph 36 [APP-069] details two main sources of guidance on methodology for assessing impacts on land use and agriculture. The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) was relaunched by Highways England in March 2020, the Highways Agency having ceased to exist in April 2015. • Are there any significant differences between the old and new versions of DMRB that would have a material impact on your assessment methodology?	The key elements of assessment methodology relate to establishing baseline conditions and how impact significance (receptor sensitivity and impact magnitude) is established. There is no material difference between the 2015 and 2020 guidance with regards to establishing an accurate baseline. The Applicants have identified designated and non-designated sites (section 21.3.3 of Chapter 21 Land Use (APP-069)) and undertaken an Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey (section 21.5.3) in accordance with both the DMRB 2015 and 2020 guidance. With regards to impact significance, the sensitivity weighting to land use receptors presented in section 21.4.3.1 of Chapter 21 Land Use (APP-069) for the purpose of EIA is in





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question	Ap	plicants' Response
					gui 2 la gui ser lev ass ter ma	eping with the 2020 DMRB idance. For example, ALC Grade 1-and is identified in the DMRB 2020 idance as being of highest nsitivity. This is offered the highest rel of sensitivity in the Applicants' sessment. The same is true in ms of corresponding definitions of agnitude for the purpose of EIA ection 21.4.3.2).
1.9.7	The Applicant	1	2	Agriculture: land take effects Table 21.8 [APP-069] defines high, medium and low magnitudes of impact, with reference to permanent loss of more than 10ha or temporary loss of more than 20ha of Grade 4 land as having a low impact, and with a small area (less than 1000m2) permanently lost having a negligible impact. Table 21.9 [APP-069] shows significance of impact and paragraph 48 states that "The assessment of impact significance is qualitative and reliant on professional experience, interpretation and judgement." Please provide further detailed justification for how the magnitude of impacts of loss of best and most versatile agricultural land is determined: in particular — a) why do you consider that a medium to long term loss of 20ha of land is to be regarded as a medium magnitude impact rather than a high magnitude impact?	a) b)	Medium to long term loss of 20ha of land is regarded as medium magnitude instead of high due to the emphasis on the impact being of a temporary nature as opposed to permanent. Permanent loss of 20ha or more is regarded as a high magnitude. The Applicants also refer to the Land Use Clarification Note (ExA.AS-11.D1.V1) submitted at Deadline 1. The Applicants are in discussion with all landowners of agricultural holdings affected by severance as a result of the Projects. Access for farm vehicles to land severed by the Projects would be maintained where practicable in consultation





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to	ExA. Question	Applicants' Response
		b) How is severance, whether temporary or per taken into account, particularly severance a with smaller agricultural holdings? c) how does the methodology assess smaller and or other holdings for which a 10ha permane 20ha temporary loss would be seen by the condition and/or occupiers as having more than a neglimpact?	with individual landowners and occupiers and adherence to safety procedures. Where necessary, crossing points would be agreed pre-construction. Access to individual fields would be





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question	Ap	plicants' Response
					d)	through land agreements to agree compensation, future land use and reinstatement and the end of the life cycles of the Projects. The Applicants have not assessed individual landholding affected by the Projects. For the purpose of EIA, the Applicants have identified the total worst-case footprint of the onshore development area and ascertained the total loss (ha) of agricultural land for each ALC (<i>Table 21.12</i> of <i>Chapter 21 Land Use</i> (APP-069)).
1.9.8	The Applicant	1	2	Agriculture: land take effects Paragraph 63 [APP-069] says that farms range in size from 5ha to more than 100ha: a) is this within Suffolk as a whole, or is this referring to farms with land within the onshore development area? b) what size is each landholding affected by the project? and c) bearing in mind the quality of land affected by the project, what is the significance of the impacts of the project on such landholdings during construction, operation and decommissioning, and in combination with the other East Anglia project?	a) b)	This refers to farms within Suffolk as a whole. The Applicants also note that paragraph 63 states that "farms range in size from less than 5ha to more than 100ha". The Applicants have not assessed individual landholdings affected by the Projects. For the purpose of EIA, the Applicants have identified the total worst-case footprint of the onshore development area and ascertained the total loss (ha) of agricultural land for each ALC (<i>Table 21.12</i> of <i>Chapter 21 Land</i>



ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to	ExA. Question	Applicants' Response
			Use (APP-069)). Also see response to ExA Question 1.9.7 c) above.
			c) The impact during construction is no greater than minor adverse (section 21.6.1 of Chapter 21 Land Use (APP-069)).
			The operation phase, and therefore permanent, land take for one Project is 33.59ha (onshore substation and National Grid Infrastructure including landscaping). The cumulative land take for both Projects (both onshore substations and National Grid infrastructure including landscaping) is 37.2ha. Whilst the sensitivity of the Grade 2-3 agricultural land has been assessed as high, the magnitude of impact is low due to the total area lost representing 0.01% of Suffolk's total farmed resource. In the context of the county, the residual impact is assessed to be of minor adverse significance. As described in the Land Use Clarification Note submitted at Deadline 1 (ExA.AS-11.D1.V1),





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			the local level impact significance is major adverse. This does not materially affect the primary mitigation which will involve the Applicants entering into private agreements with relevant landowners/occupiers within the study area shown in <i>Figure 21.1</i> (APP-268) regarding compensation, future land use and reinstatement and the end of the life cycles of the Projects. No decision has been made regarding the approach to final decommissioning for the onshore infrastructure as it is recognised that industry best practice, guidance and legislation change over time. For all three substations (East Anglia TWO, East Anglia ONE North and the National Grid substation) the permanent cumulative land take would be
			37.2ha (which includes 22.78ha of landscaping). The cumulative impact of the Projects is no greater than minor adverse (section 21.7.1).





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to		ExA. Question	Applicants' Response
1.9.9	The Applicant	1	Agriculture: land take effects: best and most versatile land NPS EN1 (paragraph 5.10.8) says that "Applicants should seek to minimise impacts on the best and most versatile agricultural land (defined as land in grades 1, 2 and 3a of the Agricultural Land Classification and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality (grades 3b, 4 and 5)" and this is responded to in Table 21.8 [APP-069] which defines a high impact in terms of best and most versatile land as the permanent loss of over 20 hectares (ha)of the best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land (grades 1, 2 or 3) Table 21.12 shows the percentages of the various grades of land within the onshore development area. Paragraph 70 states that "the biggest percentage of agricultural land is Grade 3 and Grade 4 In total, 65.9% is moderate to poor quality". Paragraph 112 states that "[t]he sensitivity of the receptor is considered to be medium, because the majority of the land area is either Grades 3 or 4". a) Given that the NPS defines Grade 3a (but not Grade 3b) as best and most versatile agricultural land, please explain why you have included Grade 3 land with Grade 4;	Paragraph 70 should say "In total, 65.9% of the onshore development area is high/moderate to poor quality agricultural land (Grade 3 and Grade 4). The sentence that follows remains valid which states "There is no agricultural land of the highest quality within the onshore development area". The highest quality land equates to ALC Grade 1. Paragraph 70 describes the baseline environment as opposed to establishing impact significance. Best and most versatile (BMV) land is considered in line with the NPS and is reflected by an assignment of high magnitude (Table 21.8) and this is factored into impact significance.
			 b) Given that the NPS defines Grade 3a as best and most versatile agricultural land, please explain why Table 21.12 does not subdivide Grade 3 land; 	As specified in the footnote on p26 of Chapter 21 Land Use (APP-069), no sub-grades of ALC Grade 3 (3a or 3b) were identified within the onshore development area, therefore only ALC





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			Grade 3 is considered in the assessment.
		c) Why does Table 21.8 define best and most versatile in terms of Grade 3 rather than 3a per the NPS?	Table 21.8 of Chapter 21 Land Use (APP-069) defines all of ALC Grade 3 land as BMV. No sub-grades of ALC Grade 3 (3a or 3b) land were identified within the onshore development area, therefore only ALC Grade 3 is considered in the assessment. The Applicants' assessments are therefore conservative as all Grade 3 land is deemed BMV and assigned high magnitude.
		d) How much of the Grade 3 land is Grade 3a and so included in the NPS definition of best and most versatile agricultural land?	As described in response to question c), a precautionary approach has been taken whereby all Grade 3 land irrespective of sub-grade is assumed to be BMV.
		e) What percentage of agricultural land within the onshore development area is hence best and most versatile?	Based on the Applicants' precautionary approach described in response to questions c) and d), 62.9% of the land within the footprint of the onshore development area is of BMV classification (i.e. ALC Grade 2 and 3).





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to	ExA. Question	Applicants' Response
		f) How much of the Grade 3 land is Grade 3b and hence defined in the NPS as being of poorer quality?	see the Applicants' response to question c).
		g) What percentage of agricultural land within the onshore development area is hence of poorer quality? and	The percentage of agricultural land within the onshore development area of poorer quality (Grade 4 and nonagricultural land) is 37.1%.
		h) Please explain how the test in paragraph 5.10.8 of the NPS is satisfied in respect of the choice of connection point, the cable route and the related infrastructure (reworking agricultural land calculations if necessary to do so).	Paragraph 5.10.8 of NPS EN-1 states "Applicants should seek to minimise impacts on the best and most versatile agricultural land (defined as land in grades 1, 2 and 3a of the Agricultural Land Classification) and preferably use land in areas of poorer quality (grades 3b, 4 and 5) except where this would be inconsistent with other sustainability considerations."
			During the site selection process the Applicants assigned weighting to Agricultural Land Classifications as described in Appendix B of Appendix 4.2 Red Amber Green (RAG) Assessment for Onshore Substations Site Selection in the





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					Sizewell Area (APP-443). Grade 1 was assigned red, Grade 2 and 3 amber and Grade 4 green which reflect the BMV ALC classifications. This formed part of the Applicants' quantitative site selection assessment alongside other site constraints.
					The amount of BMV land within the entire onshore development area as a percentage of total BMV land in Suffolk is 0.14%. This is negligible in the context of Suffolk's regional farming resource. There is no agricultural land of the highest quality (Grade 1) within the proposed onshore development area. It is the view of the Applicants therefore that the NPS has been complied with.
1.9.10	The Applicant	1	2	Agricultural production: value and losses Paragraph 65 [APP-069] says that "[t]he agricultural sector is estimated to be worth £400 million, and continues to play an important part in the county's economy" a) Is this £400 million per year, or another time period? b) What is the financial, economic and employment loss in terms of crops and other agricultural output per year over the lifetime of the project?	 a) £400 million per year. b) The operation phase, and therefore permanent, land take for the Project onshore substation and National Grid Infrastructure would total 33.59ha (including landscaping). The cumulative land take for both Projects (both onshore substations and National Grid infrastructure including





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to	ExA. Question	Applicants' Response
			landscaping) is 37.2ha. Whilst the sensitivity of the Grade 2-3 agricultural land has been assessed as high, the magnitude of impact is low due to the total area lost representing 0.01% of Suffolk's total farmed resource. In the context of the county, the residual impact is assessed to be of minor adverse significance. The Applicants will provide an estimate of the annual agricultural loss associated with the permanent land take at deadline 3. In addition, there would also be losses associated with cropping and agricultural output related to the construction phase of the Projects. The Applicants have sought specialist advice from chartered surveyors Dalcour Maclaren who have undertaken a comprehensive assessment of the compensation liability arising from the Projects. Included in the assessment is ccompensation for loss or injury that will arise as a consequence of temporary occupation of land for the





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			undertaking of temporary works for the cable installation, substation construction, overhead line diversion, and other associated works including road widening, visibility splays and drainage.
			The estimate covers loss of crops, business losses, losses associated with above ground structures, reinstatement costs and extra field workings, temporary site compounds, claimants justified time and loss of subsidies and grants. Loss of subsidies includes all losses associated with the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) being the governments rural grants and payments in support of the farming industry.
			It should be noted although losses detailed above aremost part related to the construction phase, residual liability associated the impact of yields once the land is returned to normal agriculture use is also accounted for.





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						The total estimate for Compensation arising from Temporary Works, as included in Annex 3 of the Funding Statement, is £2.647m (10% contingency and interest at 2% per annum for a period of 8 years through to 2026 has been applied). As advised in the response to WQ 1.3.58, Dalcour Maclaren will keep estimates such as these under review, and if appropriate will update the assessment if and when more data or information becomes available.
1.9.11	The Applicant	1	2	Agricultural production: value and losses In paragraph 96 [APP-069] you say that "the quality and availability of agricultural land could reasonably be expected to decline over time". statement? our assessment of impacts over the lifetime of the project?	a)	Paragraph 96 is based on the preceding paragraphs 94 and 95. Paragraph 94 states "The baseline review of land use and agriculture in section 21.5 shows that the primary land use within the onshore development area is agricultural, (arable and pastoral farmland) with some areas of woodland and improved grassland."





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to	ExA. Question	Applicants' Response
			Paragraph 95 states "Chapter 22 Onshore Ecology notes that species associated with farmland environments have declined over the short and long term, with farmland birds and butterflies both declining. Soil erosion is expected to occur naturally over time, depending on weather conditions (exacerbated by climate change) and farming practices."
			Decline in species associated with farmland is chiefly due to modern practices (leading to monocultures, loss of hedgerows for larger fields etc) which have widely reported and accepted impacts upon biodiversity, and climate change. Decline in availability relates directly to the decline this quality.
			Thus Paragraph 96 states "Consequently, the quality and availability of agricultural land could reasonably be expected to decline over time".
			b) There is no effect on the assessment. This section of the baseline is for context on wider





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question	Ap	plicants' Response
					с)	trends and does not relate to the subsequent impact upon specific areas. The losses referred to in the preceding answers will not be mitigated directly, these are not impacts associated with the Projects, they are wider trends. In terms of direct impacts from the Projects, the Applicants are in
						discussion with affected parties through land agreements to agree compensation, future land use and reinstatement and the end of the life cycles of the Projects.
1.9.12	The Applicant	1	2	Agricultural impacts: timing Paragraph 101 [APP-069] says that "[t]he exact timing and duration of works at any location are not known at this time." a) Is it your intention that the Agricultural Liaison Officer (ALO) communicate this information as part of the Stakeholder Communications Plan within the Code of Construction Practice secured through R 22 in the dDCO? b) What other duties will the ALO perform and at what stage in the design, construction, operation and decommissioning of the works? (eg crossing points para 105).	a) b)	The Applicants may well choose to use an Agricultural Liaison Officer (ALO), equally the Applicant has found that some parties prefer a direct relationship with the Applicants. The Applicants are sensitive to the individual preferences of its stakeholders and would form its Stakeholder Communications Plan on this basis. The Applicants may well choose to use Agricultural Liaison Officer





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		c) Will decisions on timing take into account the practicalities of agriculture and the farming year? d) How might this be secured?	for certain works and have to date, sought the advice of land agents throughout the development process. The duties of the ALO will depend on a number of factors and the remit of what is agreed between the contractor in the contract but could include as examples: Be the first point of contact between landowners or occupiers and the Applicants appointed contractors. Facilitate any pre-entry meetings between parties. Attendance at appropriate meetings. Witness the recorded schedule of condition being undertaken. Manage the site access notification process. Keep the landowner or occupiers abreast of the project programme and key activities, including prior to





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			construction and construction activities.
			 Escalate any landowner or occupiers issues.
			 Record and manage any complaints procedure.
			 Support the negotiation and settlement of any claims that may arise.
			 Work with all parties to identify and agree any snagging items that need addressed
			c) The approach is bespoke and reflects the particular needs of the specific agricultural unit. The Applicants have experience in such matters and will work with farmers to achieve a practical outcome.
			d) It is the view of the Applicants that the implementation is bespoke and there is not a single approach. It does therefore not lend itself to a third party approval process. It also has links to compensation which is a matter





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						between the Applicants and the land interest affected. In addition there are requirements in the draft DCO (APP-023) relating to the restoration of land used temporarily for construction as set out in the response to ExA question 1.9.16.
1.9.13	The Applicant	1	2	Agricultural impacts: magnitude and duration	a)	Yes, this refers to the magnitude
				Section 21.4.3 and tables 21.8, 21.9 and 21.10 [APP-069] refer to the magnitude and significance of impact on a receptor. Referring to the landfall and the onshore cable route, paragraph 112 states that "[t]he magnitude of effect is considered to be negligible given that there is no permanent change to land use for the onshore cable route and landfall, with only temporary restriction to agricultural activities". Please: a) confirm that you are referring to the magnitude of impact; b) explain what time period constitutes temporary; and c) explain why the restriction on agricultural activities is only temporary.	b) c)	of the impact. As described in <i>Table 21.8</i> of <i>Chapter 21 Land Use</i> (APP-069), a temporary time period is defined as less than five years. The restriction on agricultural activities is temporary because there would be no above ground infrastructure at the landfall and onshore cable route, therefore impacts occur only during construction. There will be no permanent change to land use for the onshore cable route and
1.9.14	The Applicant	1	2	Agricultural impacts: magnitude and significance Section 21.4.3 and tables 21.8, 21.9 and 21.10 [APP-069] refer to the magnitude and significance of impact on a receptor.	a)	Yes, this refers to the magnitude of the impact.





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question	Aŗ	oplicants' Response
				Referring to the onshore substation and National Grid infrastructure, paragraph 121 acknowledges that the sensitivity of the receptor is high due to the quality of the agricultural land. Given that paragraph 116 says that "a total of approximately 46.28ha of agricultural land could be taken out of existing use", please: a) confirm that you are referring to the magnitude of impact; and b) explain why you consider the magnitude to be negligible.	b)	The magnitude is negligible given that land will be reinstated following the construction phase which is a temporary change (defined as negligible in <i>Table 21.8</i> of <i>Chapter 21 Land Use</i> (APP-069)). Areas of land where reinstatement is not possible are assessed as an operational impact.
1.9.15	The Applicant	1	2	Paragraph 133 [APP-069] refers to impacts on land drainage and says: "[d]rains are likely to be at a depth of between 0.5m – 1.5m, made of ceramic, plaster or other appropriate materials". a) Do you mean similar materials? b) How would the drains be located? c) What measures will you take to ensure when you truncate the drainage systems temporarily that you do not cause flooding? d) How would the field drainage be reinstated following the installation of the cable if only one project is constructed? e) How would the field drainage be reinstated following the installation of the cable if both projects are constructed, whether concurrently or with a delay?	a) b)	Yes this should be "other similar materials". There has been good engagement on this matter amongst the Applicants, landowners, occupiers and their representatives with drainage plans being provided. Appropriate measures to control flooding if the Applicants require to truncate the drainage systems will form part of the Surface Water and Drainage Management Plan and the Flood Management Plan produced as part of the final Code of Construction Practice as provided for in Requirement 22 of the <i>draft DCO</i> (APP-023).





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question	Aŗ	oplicants' Response
				f) What would the approval process be for this?	d)	Following construction, field drainage systems would be reinstated in consultation with landowners / occupiers. A post construction drainage assessment would be undertaken by a specialist drainage contractor which will ultimately determine the design of the drainage reinstatement.
					e)	The process would be same whether it is only one project is constructed, if both projects are constructed, concurrently or with a delay. The post construction drainage assessment will ultimately determine the design of the drainage reinstatement.
					f)	This would be approved between the Applicants and landowners, occupiers and their representatives, with this process being governed by the land agreements.
1.9.16	The Applicant	1	2	Agricultural impacts: land drainage	a)	This is correct
				Paragraph 138 [APP-069] says that: "[f]urther mitigation measures, as secured within the CoCP and detailed within the	b)	This is correct. Further mitigation will include the use of a specialist drainage contractor. The text in





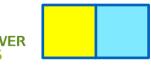
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		OCoCP submitted with this DCO application, may include the use of a specialist drainage contractor to undertake surveys and create drawings prior to and post construction to locate drains and ensure appropriate reinstatement." a) Do you mean that the mitigation measures will be detailed within the CoCP and outlined within the OCoCP? b) Surely the outline CoCP should say that further mitigation 'will' include the use of a specialist drainage contractor? c) What do you mean by "appropriate reinstatement"? d) How will details of the proper and necessary reinstatement be agreed with those affected?	the CoCP will be updated to reflect this at Deadline 3. c) Appropriate reinstatement equates to restoring field drainage systems so that they function in the same way as prior to construction i.e. draining water as effectively as before. d) Restoration of land will be controlled under the requirements of the DCO and land agreements. Under Requirement 29 of the draft DCO (APP-023), any land used temporarily for construction of the onshore works and not ultimately incorporated in permanent works or approved landscaping must be reinstated in accordance with such details as the relevant planning authority in consultation with the relevant highway authority may approve. Requirement 29 provides that reinstatement must be undertaken within twelve months of completion of the relevant stage of the onshore works or such other period as agreed with the relevant planning authority. In addition, in relation to temporary use of land for carrying out the Projects, Article 26(4) of the draft DCO (APP-023) provides that before giving up possession of land of





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					which temporary possession is taken, the undertaker must remove all temporary works and restore the land to the reasonable satisfaction of the landowners.
1.9.17	The Applicant	1	2	Agricultural impacts: soils Paragraph 141 [APP-069] says that "A range of embedded mitigation measures may be employed" in respect of soils, and goes on to list these. • Surely the measures listed will be employed as part of the soil management plan referred to in paragraph 142 and secured by R 22 of the dDCO?	The measures listed in paragraph 141 are indicative and not all will necessarily be required or appropriate, dependent upon the actual conditions for affected locations. The mitigation measures will be set out in the Soil Management Plan as required. This will be produced by a competent contractor and agreed with the relevant planning authority, in advance of construction commencement.
1.9.18	The Applicant	1	2	In respect of common land, we note from paragraph 93 [APP-069] that the onshore development area does not encroach on any common land and this is shown on Figure 21.6. In paragraph 150 line 1 presumably you mean "discrete" and in line 5 you mean that "there will be no interaction". • Please explain how "no interaction" will be achieved and why "[t]here will be no impact to common land" (paragraph 151) given that the onshore development area will directly abut Thorpeness Common and Sizewell Common and consequently access to these areas of	It is the case that 'discreet' in line 1 of paragraph 150 should read 'discrete'. Line 5 of paragraph 150 should read "project will have no interaction with areas of common land (above or below ground)". This should be taken to mean that the Projects will not encroach upon common land. Paragraph 151 goes on to state that "Areas of common land will not be subject to closures or loss of access





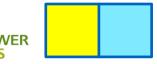
ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question	Applicants' Response
				common land will not be possible from the sides adjacent to the onshore development area, namely the north and west sides of Thorpeness Common and the north and west sides of Sizewell Common: Figure 21.6 [APP-273] refers.	because they can be accessed from the side which is not adjacent to the onshore development area". The Projects will not interfere with any rights on common land.
1.9.19	The Applicant	1	2	Utilities effects Table 21.15 [APP-069] says that there will be no cumulative impacts on utilities. • If the East Anglia projects are constructed consecutively, please explain in more detail why there will be no cumulative impact in respect of utilities, particularly if both projects are consented but it has not been decided whether the second project will proceed.	Table 21.15 in Chapter 21 Land Use (APP-069) is based on construction scenario 2 (i.e. both the Projects being consented and constructed sequentially) as the worst case. However, a detailed consideration of the Projects' potential cumulative impacts upon utilities is given in Appendix 21.1 of the ES (APP-499). As noted in Table A21.2.3 of Appendix 21.1 (APP-499), the impact on utilities will be the same regardless of construction scenario. Scenario 2 is selected as the worst case only as the wider footprint could potentially intersect additional utilities. Section 21.3.5 of Appendix 21.1 (APP-499) states that the Applicants will be required to contact potentially affected utility providers and identify the location of existing services on the ground prior to construction. There will be protective provisions and/or crossing agreements in place in





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					relation to major utilities. The Applicants will undertake utility crossings or diversions in accordance with the appropriate standards for such crossings or works. The continuation of water supplies will be ensured. Therefore, no impacts associated with existing utilities are anticipated during the construction of the Projects.
1.9.20	The Applicant	1	2	Paragraph 187 and Table 21.16 deal with cumulative impacts, and Table 21.17 [APP-069] shows that the projects considered for cumulative assessment are the Sizewell C New Nuclear Power Station and the demolition and relocation of facilities at the operational Sizewell B Power Station complex. Further to the "status" column in Table 21.16 we note that Sizewell C has been accepted for examination and Sizewell B has received planning consent. We also note from paragraph 192 that there is no physical overlap with the Sizewell projects in terms of land use. a) Has the planned de-fuelling and building demolition project at Sizewell A (shut down on 31 December 2006) been considered? b) What impact, if any, will this East Anglia project, either alone or in combination with the other East Anglia	a) Decommissioning of Sizewell A was not considered in the assessment of cumulative effects. Decommissioning began in 2007, with 99% of radiological hazards being removed from site during the first eight years of the process. The site is due to go into the 'care and maintenance' phase of decommissioning in 2027 and some works are ongoing to prepare for this. However, this phase will last approximately 80 years with very limited activity occurring onsite. There will be no major works at the site until after care and maintenance is complete and therefore decommissioning of Sizewell A was not considered in the assessment of cumulative effects.





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to		ExA. Question	Ap	plicants' Response
			project and cumulatively with the above projects, have on the Sizewell evacuation route?	b)	An Emergency Planning Assessment under the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2019 has been undertaken for the Projects by the Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit. This confirmed that provided an appropriate change to the offsite emergency plan is made, and emergency arrangements made by the Applicants are in place prior to any work taking place, the existing offsite radiation emergency arrangements for Sizewell B can be adequately maintained. Requirement 33 of the <i>draft DCO</i> (APP-023) provides for an emergency incident response plan and confirms that this plan must be carried out as approved. The Applicants will continue to liaise with the Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit in relation to this matter.
Outline Pu	ıblic Rights of Way Stra	ategy [/	APP-581]		
1.9.21	The Applicant	1 2	Paragraph 6 says that there are "PRoW that fall within the onshore development area but which will not have an interaction with the proposed project and therefore are not subject to temporary control measures. This includes the Suffolk Coastal Path PRoW which crosses the onshore development area at	a)	Where the Applicants have stated 'will not have an interaction', this refers to not requiring temporary or permanent management measures as a result of the





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		landfall. Construction works are underground works only (specifically horizontal directional drilling), therefore there is no interaction and no temporary control measures are required." Please a) explain what you mean by an interaction; b) list these PRoW; c) explain what measures you will take to avoid nuisance and ensure the safety, amenity and quiet enjoyment by those using them in the vicinity of the construction works, with particular reference to the Suffolk Coastal Path; and d) state where these measures are secured.	Project as they will not be directly impacted. b) All PRoWs within or adjacent to the onshore development area are shown on ES Figure 30.1 (APP-438) and are listed in Table 30.7 in Chapter 30 Tourism, Recreation and Socioeconomics (APP-078). Note that the first column header of the table should read 'PRoW ID No'. Only the footpaths outlined in the Outline PRoW Strategy (APP-581) have an interaction with the Projects and will require management measures. c) and d) Practical and effective measures will be implemented by the Applicants to minimise nuisance to users of the PRoWs identified in the Outline PRoW Strategy (APP-581). The Suffolk Coastal Path crosses the onshore development area at the landfall. Construction activities at this location will be restricted to underground trenchless techniques only. Noise Given the nature of trenchless techniques, the main source of nuisance is likely to be localised visual impacts as opposed to





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			noise. As a worst-case scenario, HDD has been assumed to be in operation at the landfall location for 24 hours a day during certain periods and assessed accordingly. This has been assessed as having negligible significance (section 25.6.1.1 of Chapter 25 Noise and Vibration (APP-073).
			Construction phase noise will be controlled through the production of a Construction Phase Noise and Vibration Management Plan post-consent, which is to be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in advance of construction works commencing. This will form part of the Code of Construction Practice secured under Requirement 22 of the <i>draft DCO</i> (APP-023). The specific control measures set out within the Construction Phase Noise and Vibration Management Plan will be complied with during the construction phase.
			<u>Visual Amenity</u>
			Section 3.3 of the Outline CoCP (APP-578) describes the screening and fencing proposals for the Project. The landfall Construction Consolidation Site





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					and trenchless technique temporary working area will be securely fenced with hoarding and access from the local road network, suitable for haulage equipment, will be installed along the onshore cable route to the drilling site. Safety Construction works at this location are restricted to underground works only (trenchless techniques), therefore there is no direct interaction between the proposed Project and the Suffolk Coast Path PRoW and no temporary control measures are required.
1.9.22	The Applicant	1	2	 Paragraph 12 gives two instances of temporary closure without a diversion, namely PRoW E-363/027/0 (bridleway) shown on the top left of sheet 3 of the Temporary Stopping Up Of PRoW Plan [APP-013] and the southern extent of PRoW E-260/017/0(footpath) shown bottom right on sheet 9 of the Temporary Stopping Up Of PRoW Plan [APP- 013]. 	Regarding PRoW E-363/027/0: The Applicants have submitted an Application for Inclusion of Additional Land (ExA.AS-18.D1.V1) to the Examinations at Deadline 1, which amends the Order limits in this area to accommodate a temporary diversion of this PRoW. An updated Temporary Stopping Up Of PRoW Plan (APP-013) will be submitted to Examination at Deadline 3.





ExA. Question Ref.	Question addressed to			ExA. Question	Applicants' Response
				 a) indicate in each case the extent of PRoW to be closed temporarily without a diversion; and b) explain why no diversion is to be provided. 	Regarding PRoW E-260/017/0: The Applicants have reviewed the temporary stopping up of this PRoW and will incorporate a temporary diversion of this PRoW along existing PRoW E-354/007/0 and temporary PRoW TEMP24. An updated Temporary Stopping Up of PRoW Plan (APP-013) will be submitted to Examination at Deadline 3.
1.9.23	The Applicant	1	2	The second bullet point in paragraph 15 states that "where impacted by the works, the surveyed PRoW will be restored to its original condition or otherwise as agreed with the LPA (with approval from the Local Highway Authority)" a) What detailed measures would be required to ensure that these footpaths and routes are reinstated following closure or diversion, including those parts outside the Order limits which may have become overgrown? and b) how would such measures be secured, including prompt timescales for completion?	Requirement 32 of the <i>draft DCO</i> (APP-023) requires a PRoW strategy to be submitted to and approved by the [relevant planning authority (after consultation with the relevant highway authority)] prior to any works commencing that would affect a PRoW. This PRoW strategy will set out the duration of each temporary closure and will require the reinstatement of each PRoW by the end of the allocated temporary closure period. The Applicants consider that Requirement 32 and adherence to an approved PRoW strategy (approved







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			by the relevant panning authority) to be sufficient control for such works.