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Statement of Commonality

February 2025



Helios Renewable Energy Project

Statement of Commonality

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Prepared on behalf of Enso Green Holdings D Limited

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1. Introduction

1.1. Overview

- 1.1.1. This Statement of Commonality ('SoC') has been prepared by Enso Green Holdings D Limited (the 'Applicant') in respect of the Helios Renewable Energy Project Development Consent Order (DCO) (the 'Proposed Development').
- 1.1.2. The purpose of this document is to summarise the status and progress of the Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) and to provide a Statement of Commonality, setting out matters that are common to more than one SoCG.
- 1.1.3. Section 2 summarises the status of each SoCG at each Examination Deadline.
- 1.1.4. Section 3 shows the status of matters that are common to several interested parties which span over multiple SoCGs.
- 1.1.5. Section 4 provides a summary of the current position between the Applicant and other parties. The individual SoCGs provide full detail on specific matters.

2. Statement of Common Ground Status

2.1. Summary of Current Position

2.1.1. This section provides an update on each SoCG, with Table 2.1 providing a high-level position on the status of each SoCG. Within Table 2.1:

- **SoCG in draft** – the draft has been drafted by the Applicant and discussion is ongoing prior to reaching a signed SoCG;
- **Final signed SoCG with all matters agreed** – the final SoCG has been signed by both parties and all matters are agreed; and
- **Final signed SoCG with matters outstanding** – the final SoCG has been signed by both parties are there remain matters outstanding that the Applicant and other party agreed will not be resolved during Examination.

Table 2.1 Status of SoCGs

SoCG Party	Procedural Deadline A	Deadline 1	Deadline 2	Deadline 3	Deadline 4	Deadline 5	Deadline 6	Deadline 7	Deadline 8	Deadline 9	Deadline 10
North Yorkshire Council	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft	SoCG in draft						
Natural England	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft						
The Environment Agency	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft						
National Highways	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	Final signed SoCG with all matters agreed	N/A – final version submitted at D2.	N/A – final version submitted at D2.						
Historic England	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft						
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.						

Burn Gliding Club	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.						
Carlton Parish Council	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.						
Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.						
Camblesforth Parish Council	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.						

3. Commonality

3.1. Introduction to Commonality

3.1.1. This section of the SoC provides an overview of the topics covered in the SoCGs. **Table 3.2** sets out where there is commonality in the topics discussed between the Applicant and the parties, where matters have ongoing discussions, or where the matters have reached a final position with no agreement.

3.1.2. The figure below shows the status of each topic based on the colour provided.

Table 3.1 – Key

Cell	Status
	Matter agreed
	Matter subject to ongoing discussion
	Matter not agreed
	Matter not relevant / raised by party

3.1.3. **Table 3.2** is a live table and will be updated at each deadline.

Table 3.2 – Statement of Commonality

			Topics Considered																		
SoCG Party	Principle	Alternatives	Cultural Heritage	Archaeology	Landscape & Views	Biodiversity	Water Environment	Transport & Access	Public Rights of Way	Noise & Vibration	Climate Change	Socio-Economics	Public Health	Soils & Agricultural Land	Cumulative Effects	Air Quality	Ground Conditions	Safety	Glint and Glare	Gliding	Draft DCO / Requirements
North Yorkshire Council																					
Natural England																					
The Environment Agency																					
National Highways																					
Historic England																					
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service																					
Burn Gliding Club																					
Carlton Parish Council																					
Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council																					
Camblesforth Parish Council																					

4. Current Position

4.1. Overview

- 4.1.1. This section of the SoC provides a summary of the current position between the Applicant and other parties. The individual SoCGs provide full detail on specific matters.

4.2. North Yorkshire Council

- 4.2.1. The Applicant submitted a draft SoCG with North Yorkshire Council (NYC) at Procedural Deadline A and subsequently shared it with NYC directly on 26th November 2024. The draft is based upon the Relevant Representations from NYC **[RR-277 and RR-278]**.
- 4.2.2. NYC provided a more detailed assessment of the Application in its Local Impact Report **[REP2-034]** and the Applicant updated the draft SoCG accordingly taking into account the matters raised in the LIR and following a meeting with NYC on 13th January 2025. The updated draft was shared with NYC on 22nd January 2025.
- 4.2.3. The Applicant met with NYC on 27th January 2025 and agreed a draft SoCG. This was submitted at Deadline 3.
- 4.2.4. The Applicant has further engaged with NYC in relation to Highways, Public Rights of Way, Ecology and Landscape and agreement has been reached on a number of matters. An updated draft SoCG has been submitted at Deadline 4.

4.3. Natural England

- 4.3.1. The Applicant submitted a draft SoCG with Natural England at Procedural Deadline A and subsequently shared it with Natural England directly on 26th November 2024. The draft was based upon the Relevant Representation from Natural England **[RR-268]**. The SoCG submitted at Procedural Deadline A was updated with clarification of timescales for the additional documentation to be submitted by the Applicant. This version of the draft SoCG was submitted at Deadline 2.
- 4.3.2. On 13th January 2025 the Applicant submitted to Natural England a detailed response to Natural England's Relevant Representation **[RR-268]** together with an updated Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA), hereinafter referred to as 'HRA v2'.

- 4.3.3. The Applicant met with Natural England on 21st January 2025 and Natural England confirmed receipt of the additional information and that it had begun the process of reviewing it.
- 4.3.4. Natural England responded through its DAS on 10th February 2025. The Applicant has subsequently provided further information on 21st February 2025 to Natural England in the form of a further updated HRA, hereinafter referred to as 'HRA v3' and additional information in respect of lapwing mitigation. The Applicant's response to Natural England's Relevant Representation is attached at Appendix B – 'Natural England Supplementary Note'.
- 4.3.5. The Applicant met with Natural England on 25th February 2025 to discuss HRA v3 and clarify the matters that remain under discussion. An updated draft SoCG has been submitted at Deadline 4 to reflect these discussions.

4.4. The Environment Agency

- 4.4.1. The Applicant submitted a draft SoCG with the Environment Agency at Procedural Deadline A and subsequently shared it with the Environment Agency directly on 26th November 2024. The draft was based upon the Relevant Representation from the Environment Agency [RR-117]. The Environment Agency confirmed on 27th November that they were satisfied with the SoCG at this stage and had no comments or feedback.
- 4.4.2. The SoCG has been updated with details of the additional assessment work and information prepared by the Applicant and shared with the Environment Agency on 9th January 2025 (the 'Water Environment Supplementary Assessment'). The Applicant has been engaging with the Environment Agency via email in respect of the Water Environment Supplementary Assessment and the majority of matters have now been agreed between the parties. An updated draft SoCG has been submitted at Deadline 4 to reflect these discussions.

4.5. National Highways

- 4.5.1. The agreed SoCG dated 7th January 2025 was submitted at Deadline 2.

4.6. Historic England

- 4.6.1. The Applicant submitted a draft SoCG with Historic England at Procedural Deadline A and subsequently shared it with Historic England directly on 26th November 2024.

The draft is based upon the Relevant Representation from Historic England **[RR-143]**.

- 4.6.2. Historic England advised on 16th December 2024 that they would not progress the SoCG until after the Written Representations stage. The Applicant will continue to liaise with Historic England to progress the SoCG following the publication of their Written Representation. Historic England set out its position in its Written Representation submitted at Deadline 2 **[REP2-028]**. This confirms that there are no matters of disagreement between the parties.
- 4.6.3. The Applicant updated the SoCG accordingly and submitted this to Historic England on 22nd January 2025 with a request that Historic England signed the SoCG as there were no matters outstanding. Historic England advised that they would not sign the SoCG until ExQ1 were published. Since the publication of the “Rule 8(3), Rule 9, Rule 13 and Rule 16 letter” notifying that ExQ1 would not be published, the Applicant has requested that Historic England sign the SoCG, however, no response has been received. The Applicant has therefore submitted the unsigned SoCG at Deadline 4.

4.7. North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

- 4.7.1. The Applicant submitted a draft SoCG with North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) at Procedural Deadline A and subsequently shared it with NYFRS directly on 26th November 2024. The Applicant has been liaising with NYFRS since this date and the NYFRS confirmed on 10th January 2025 that it is awaiting ‘further sector guidance from the National Fire Chiefs Council’ regarding these types of consultation. The Applicant has received no further response from NYFRS and will continue request that the draft SoCG is agreed by NYFRS.

4.8. Burn Gliding Club

- 4.8.1. The Examining Authority (ExA) requested a SoCG be prepared between the Applicant and Burn Gliding Club (BGC) in the Rule 8 letter dated 11th December 2024. The Applicant prepared a draft SoCG based on BGC’s Relevant Representation **[RR-043]** and additional documentation and consultation as set out in the SoCG. This version was submitted at Deadline 2 and shared with Burn Gliding Club on 9th January 2025.
- 4.8.2. The Applicant agreed with BGC to undertake further assessment work based on

additional information provided by BGC on 26th January 2025. The updated assessment work has been submitted at Deadline 4 (the High-level Investigative Report and the Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Assessment). An updated draft SoCG has been shared with BGC for their comment.

4.9. Carlton Parish Council

4.9.1. The Examining Authority (ExA) requested a SoCG be prepared between the Applicant and Carlton Parish Council in the Rule 8 letter dated 11th December 2024. The Applicant prepared a draft SoCG based on Carlton Parish Council's Relevant Representation **[RR-050]**. This draft version was submitted at Deadline 2 and was shared with Carlton Parish Council on 10th January 2025.

4.9.2. Carlton Parish Council acknowledged receipt of the draft SoCG in an email dated 11th January 2025 and advised that it would be discussed at a future Parish Council meeting. The Applicant has not received any further correspondence from Carlton Parish Council ahead of Deadline 4 and an updated draft SoCG has not therefore been provided.

4.10. Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council

4.10.1. The Examining Authority (ExA) requested a SoCG be prepared between the Applicant and Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council in the Rule 8 letter dated 11th December 2024. The Applicant prepared a draft SoCG based on their Relevant Representation **[RR-142]**. This draft version was submitted at Deadline 2 and was shared with Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council on 10th January 2025.

4.10.2. Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council has advised in an email dated 12th January 2025 that a draft SoCG would be discussed at future Parish Council meeting. The Applicant has not received any further correspondence from Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council ahead of Deadline 4 and an updated draft SoCG has not therefore been provided.

4.11. Camblesforth Parish Council

4.11.1. The Examining Authority (ExA) requested a SoCG be prepared between the Applicant and Camblesforth Parish Council in the Rule 8 letter dated 11th December 2024. The Applicant prepared a draft SoCG based on their Additional Submission

[AS-004]. This draft version was submitted at Deadline 2 and was shared with Camblesforth Parish Council on 10th January 2025.

4.11.2. Camblesforth Parish Council acknowledged receipt of the draft SoCG in an email dated 10th January 2025 and advised that it would be discussed at a future Parish Council meeting. The Applicant has not received any further correspondence from Carlton Parish Council ahead of Deadline 4 and an updated draft SoCG has not therefore been provided.