



PINS Document Number:
ENO10140/APP/8.1.11

Statement of Commonality

April 2025



Helios Renewable Energy Project

Statement of Commonality

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010140

April 2025

Prepared on behalf of Enso Green Holdings D Limited

Project Ref:	33627/A5/SOCG	
Status:	Draft	Issue
Issue/Rev:	Deadline 2	Deadline 7
Date:	January 2025	April 2025
Prepared by:	AB	AB
Reviewed by:	JB	JB

Stantec
7 Soho Square
London
W1D 3QB

Tel: 020 7446 6888



COPYRIGHT

The contents of this document must not be copied or reproduced in whole or in part without the written consent of Stantec.

All Stantec stationery is produced using recycled or FSC paper and vegetable oil-based inks

CONTENTS

1. Introduction..... 3

1.1. Overview 3

2. Statement of Common Ground Status..... 4

2.1. Summary of Current Position..... 4

Table 2.1 Status of SoCGs 5

3. Commonality 7

3.1. Introduction to Commonality 7

4. Current Position..... 9

4.1. Overview 9

4.2. North Yorkshire Council 9

4.3. Natural England 9

4.4. The Environment Agency..... 10

4.5. National Highways 10

4.6. Historic England..... 10

4.7. North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service..... 10

4.8. Burn Gliding Club..... 11

4.9. Carlton Parish Council 11

4.10. Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council 12

4.11. Camblesforth Parish Council 12

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 some matters not agreed** – the final SoCG has been signed by both parties and there are matters that the Applicant and other party are not in agreement on.

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	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	Final SoCG (unsigned) with some matters not agreed			
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	Final signed SoCG with all matters agreed	N/A – final version submitted at D5.	N/A – final version submitted at D5			
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	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.			
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.	N/A – final version submitted at D2.	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	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	Final signed SoCG with all matters agreed			
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	SoCG in draft	N/A – no SoCG submitted	N/A – no SoCG submitted at	N/A – no SoCG submitted at	N/A – no SoCG submitted at	N/A – no SoCG submitted at	The SoCG with NYFRS will not be	The SoCG with NYFRS will not be			

		at this time.	this time.	this time.	this time.	this time.	completed.	completed.			
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.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	Final signed SoCG with some matters not agreed			
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.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	The SoCG with Carlton PC will not be completed.			
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.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	The SoCG with HC & WB PC will not be completed.	The SoCG with HC & WB PC will not be completed.			
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.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	N/A – no SoCG submitted at this time.	The SoCG with Camblesforth PC will not be completed.			

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																					
Burn Gliding Club																					

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. 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 was submitted at Deadline 4.

4.2.4. Following Issue Specific Hearing 2 the draft SoCG was updated further in respect of landscape and ecology and was submitted at Deadline 5.

4.2.5. The Applicant has updated the SoCG based on NYC's Deadline 5 submissions and following further discussions with NYC. All matters are now noted as being 'Agreed' or 'Not Agreed'. The final version of the SoCG has been submitted at Deadline 7. The parties will arrange for this to be signed and submitted at a future deadline. NYC has advised that it has a formal process for signing SoCGs and at this time it cannot confirm whether this will be achieved by Deadline 8 or Deadline 9.

4.3. Natural England

4.3.1. The agreed SoCG dated 20th March 205 was submitted at Deadline 5.

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 was submitted at Deadline 4 to reflect these discussions.
- 4.4.3. The Applicant has now reached agreement with the Environment Agency on the one remaining issue from Deadline 6 – protective provisions. An updated SoCG has been submitted to the Environment Agency. The Environment Agency has confirmed that it considers all matters to be agreed and that the SoCG will be completed following the Environment Agency's review of the updated dDCO as submitted at Deadline 7.

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 has been actively engaging with Historic England throughout the Examination and discussions on the SoCG have now been concluded. A final signed SoCG has been submitted at Deadline 7 with all matters agreed.

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.

- 4.7.2. The Applicant discussed the SoCG with NYFRS on 4th April 2025. NYFRS advised that they would not enter into a SoCG as there is no statutory requirement for them to do so. They also advised that the appropriate point for the FRS to respond to the Proposed Development would be at consultation from the LPA when the requirement to submit a final Battery Safety Management Plan is discharged, as per Requirement 9 in the dDCO **[REP5-003]**. The Applicant is therefore not continuing to engage with NYFRS regarding the SoCG.

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 was submitted at Deadline 4 (the High-level Investigative Report and the Solar Photovoltaic Glint and Glare Assessment).
- 4.8.3. The Applicant updated the SoCG based on BGC’s Deadline 5 submissions and shared an updated SoCG with BGC on 8th April 2025. BGC returned the SoCG with comments attached on 19th April 2025. The Applicant accepted the changes and both parties signed the final SoCG on 22nd April 2025. The final signed SoCG has been submitted at Deadline 7 with some matters not agreed.

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.
- 4.9.3. The Applicant met with representatives for Carlton Parish Council on 20th March 2025 and discussed the Statement of Common Ground process. The Parish Council contacted the Applicant on 15th April 2025 to advise that it could not agree to the SoCG. The Applicant does not therefore intend to enter into further discussions on the draft SoCG on the basis that there is no common ground between the parties and a SoCG will not be 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.
- 4.10.3. Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council provided a submission at Deadline 5 **[REP5-015]**. The Parish Council set out its continuing objection to the Proposed Development and its objection to the SoCG. The Applicant does not therefore intend to enter into further discussions on the draft SoCG on the basis that there is no common ground between the parties and a SoCG will not be 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 contacted the Parish Council on 10th March requesting confirmation as to whether it would be entering into a SoCG. The Applicant has received no further communication from the Parish Council. The Applicant does not therefore intend to enter into further discussions on the draft SoCG on the basis that there is no common ground between the parties and a SoCG will not be provided.