



Botley West Solar Farm

Change Request 2: Consultation Report

12 September 2025

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**Consultation on the Applicant's Intention to Submit a Request to
the Examining Authority to Change the DCO Application: 23 July
to 22 August 2025**

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1 Introduction

1.1 The Project

- 1.1.1 Photovolt Development Partners GmbH (PVDP) on behalf of SolarFive Ltd (the Applicant) submitted its application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for Botley West Solar Farm (the “Project”) on 15 November 2024. The DCO Application was subsequently accepted for Examination on 13 December 2024. The Project is now in the examination stage, which is expected to close on 13 November 2025.
- 1.1.2 The Application is for development consent to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facility with a capacity of 840 megawatts (MW) and export connection to the National Grid. The Project will accommodate ground mounted PV generating stations (incorporating solar arrays); grid connection infrastructure cable route corridors; accesses and environmental mitigation and enhancement measures.
- 1.1.3 Botley West Solar Farm (the “Project”) extends from an area of land in the north, situated between the A4260 and the Dorn River Valley near Tackley and Wootton (Northern Site Area), through a central section, situated broadly between Bladon and Cassington (Central Site Area), and connecting to a section further south near to Farmoor Reservoir and north of Cumnor (Southern Site Area), where the Project will connect to the National Grid transmission network.
- 1.1.4 Following the submission and acceptance of the DCO Application, the Applicant has continued to engage with affected landowners and key consultees (hereafter referred to as “Interested Parties”) to further refine aspects of the DCO Application.
- 1.1.5 The Applicant is now making a request to change the DCO Application to amend the Order Limits to reflect the outcome of engagement with those Interested Parties and to further refine some minor extents of land falling within the Order Limits (the “Change Request”).

1.2 Purpose of this Report

- 1.2.1 The Consultation Report outlines the Applicant’s consultation undertaken on the Proposed Changes ahead of submitting a Change Request.
- 1.2.2 This consultation was held between 23 July and 22 August 2025, as requested by the Examining Authority (“ExA”) in its Notification of Applicant’s Intention to Submit a Request for Proposed Changes to the DCO Application [PD-011] (and provided as Appendix B to this report).
- 1.2.3 The Applicant monitored the delivery of consultation notifications to consultees. The Applicant did not receive confirmation of delivery for two

Interested Parties, and therefore reissued the consultation notifications to them on 04 August 2025. The requested deadline for comments from these parties was extended to 3 September 2025, to ensure they were provided with 30 days to respond.

- 1.2.4 This report (and/or the supporting documents submitted as part of the Change Request) sets out the information required for change requests in accordance with the PINS Guidance. This report provides an overview of the consultation undertaken in respect of the Change Request.

2 Summary of Proposed Changes

- 2.1.1 Following the submission and acceptance of the DCO Application, the Applicant has continued to engage with Interested Parties. This has informed a series of changes proposed by the Applicant to the DCO Application. These changes are intended to, amongst other things, alleviate concerns in relation to potential environmental impacts and reduce land take where suitable alternative proposals are available.
- 2.1.2 The Applicant is also seeking to further refine some minor extents of land falling within the Order Limits that are no longer considered necessary and propose other refinements that have become available following ongoing design work and the continued engagement with landowners and stakeholders.
- 2.1.3 As a result of this engagement, the Applicant is now making a request to change the DCO Application to amend the Order Limits to reflect the outcome of negotiations with Interested Parties and to further refine some minor extents of land falling within the Order Limits (the “Change Request”).
- 2.1.4 The changes that form part of this Change Request (the “Proposed Changes”) include reductions or modifications of the Order Limits or minor refinements to the proposed layout of the Project. The Proposed Changes comprise the following:
- Change 1. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area south-west of Bladon, and removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane;
 - Change 2. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area near to Oxford airport;
 - Change 3. Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the Main Project substation as shown on Sheet 13b of the Works Plans **[AS-005]**;
 - Change 4. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce solar installation on land east of Lower Road;

- Change 5. Refinement of Project layout and design to remove installation areas overlapping with Flood Zones 2 and 3;
- Change 6. Refinement of Project layout and design to include an additional installation area within the Southern Site;
- Change 7. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove small parcels of land owned by Oxfordshire County Council (Estates);
- Change 8. Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the Public Rights of Way proposed to be stopped up and diverted back to definitive alignment;
- Change 9. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove an area of land along Wharf Road;
- Change 10. Clarification of the role of the community educational Facility; and
- Change 11. Refinement of Project layout and design to secure the latest design parameters for the new National Grid substation.

- 2.1.5 The initial proposals for the changes were set out in the Applicant's Notification of Intention to Submit a Request to Change the Application (Change Request 2) (provided as Appendix A to this report).
- 2.1.6 For the purposes of consultation, the specific nature of the changes, alongside references to visual summaries, were presented in the Applicant's Change Request Explanatory Note (provided as Appendix E to this report).
- 2.1.7 The final Change Report (submitted alongside this Consultation Report) includes the full description and change plans for the Proposed Changes.
- 2.1.8 The Proposed Changes involve reductions or modifications to the Order Limits only. As the Change Request will not involve any increase or extension of the Order Limits, they do not necessitate any Compulsory Acquisition relating to new plots of land and/or interests.
- 2.1.9 Appendix D (Map Issued to Consultees) illustrates the location of the Proposed Changes in relation to the current Order Limits.

3 Consultation Methodology

3.1 Legislative Background

- 3.1.1 In accordance with Planning Inspectorate (PINS) guidance ‘*Changes to an application after it has been accepted for examination (August 2024)*’ (the “PINS Guidance”) the Applicant submitted a notification of its intention to formally submit this request for a change to the DCO Application on 1 July 2025 (the “Change Notification”). A response was published by the Examining Authority (ExA) on 11 July 2025.
- 3.1.2 In considering the scale and nature of the Change Request and the extent of any consultation undertaken, the Applicant had regard to PINS Guidance, which replaced the previous *Advice Note Sixteen: requests to change applications after they have been accepted for examination (March 2023)* (version 3).
- 3.1.3 The PINS Guidance states:
- “The applicant should consult all those persons prescribed under section 42(1)(a) to (d) of the Planning Act 2008 who would be affected by the proposed change, giving a minimum of 28 days from receipt of the information about the proposed change for responses”.*
- If a targeted approach to the identification of those affected by the proposed change is adopted, then detailed justification should be provided about why the applicant considers it is not necessary to consult all the prescribed persons.”*
- 3.1.4 The Applicant considers that the reductions and modifications to the Order Limits associated with the Proposed Changes are minor and would not result in a materially different DCO Application than that accepted for examination.
- 3.1.5 Further information on the materiality of the proposed changes is set out in the Change Request Report (submitted alongside this Consultation Report).
- 3.1.6 Given the specific circumstances of this Change Request and the nature of the Proposed Changes, the Applicant considers it would not have been proportionate to consult all prescribed consultees set out under Section 42(1)(a) to (d) of the Planning Act 2008 that have been previously consulted in respect of the Project.
- 3.1.7 Having reviewed and carefully considered all prescribed consultees and key stakeholders from the previous non-statutory, statutory and targeted consultations for the Project (carried out during the pre-application stage), the Applicant determined that the majority of previous consultees will not

be materially impacted by the Proposed Changes, beyond the impacts already assessed and consulted on as part of the DCO Application.

- 3.1.8 The PINS guidance expressly allows for a targeted approach to the identification of those affected by a change application, provided the Applicant can offer justification as to why it is deemed unnecessary to consult all prescribed persons.

3.2 List of Consultees

- 3.2.1 In considering a targeted approach to the consultation, the Applicant identified the following categories of consultees as being relevant to consult at this stage on the Proposed Changes:
- Relevant land interests specifically affected by and interested in the proposed changes;
 - Relevant Statutory Undertakers;
 - Host Local Authorities for the Project;
 - Host Parish Councils for the Project; and
 - Specific organisations where engagement and feedback has directly informed the Proposed Changes (e.g. Historic England's involvement in Change 1, and Oxford Airport's involvement in Change 2).
- 3.2.2 The Applicant proposed this approach in their notification letter to the ExA on 1 July 2025 (Appendix A).
- 3.2.3 The ExA responded to the Applicant's Change Notification letter on 11 July 2025 (Appendix B). In their response, the ExA welcomed further consultation, and while they commented on the timing of the consultation they did not suggest any additional consultees.
- 3.2.4 The Applicant therefore consulted with the consultees set out in Table 1.

Table 1: Consultees contacted as part of the Change Request Consultation

Category	Consultees
Statutory Undertakers	Oxfordshire County Council BT Group plc Openreach Limited Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution Limited Thames Water Utilities Limited Gigaclear Limited Southern Gas Networks plc Virgin Media Limited Vodafone Limited Network Rail Infrastructure Limited National Grid Electricity Transmission plc Environment Agency Southern Electric Power Distribution plc
Local Authorities	West Oxfordshire District Council Vale of White Horse District Council Cherwell District Council Oxfordshire County Council
Parish / Town Councils	Cassington Parish Council Woodstock Town Council Hanborough Parish Council Bladon Parish Council Begbroke Parish Council Kidlington Parish Council Eynsham Parish Council Cumnor Parish Council Wootton Parish Council Shipton-on-Cherwell and Thrupp Parish Council Tackley Parish Council Yarnton Parish Council Freeland Parish Council Steeple Barton Parish Council
Landowners	18 individual landowners
Additional Organisations Identified by the Applicant	Historic England Oxford Airport

3.3 Consultation Length

- 3.3.1 The ExA noted the Applicant's offer to undertake targeted consultation for a period of 30 days prior to submitting the Change Request formally. However, the ExA commented on the timing of this consultation relative to the ongoing Examination and associated deadlines. As a result, the ExA recommended a 30-day consultation effectively between Deadlines 3 and 4 in the Exam Timetable. The ExA's full response to the Applicant's notification can be found in Appendix B.
- 3.3.2 Following the ExA's advice, the Applicant held a 30-day period of targeted consultation on the Change Request between 23 July and 22 August 2025.
- 3.3.3 The Applicant monitored the delivery of consultation notifications to consultees. The Applicant did not receive confirmation of delivery for two Interested Parties, and therefore reissued the consultation notifications to these parties on or before 04 August 2025. The requested deadline for comments from these parties was extended to 3 September 2025, to ensure they were provided with 30 days to respond.

3.4 Consultation Letters

- 3.4.1 The Applicant sent individual letters to consultees (listed above) on 23 July 2025, in order to explain the consultation, the materials available and how consultees could respond. The letters confirmed a 30-day consultation period and were confirmed via royal mail tracking to land by 23 July. Each letter was enclosed with:
- A covering letter describing the consultation and detailing the changes proposed (Appendix C).
 - A Site Location Plan, annotated with each of the proposed changes (Appendix D).
- 3.4.2 A copy of this letter is provided as Appendix C to this report.

3.5 Consultation Emails

- 3.5.1 In addition to sending hard copy letters, the Applicant notified consultees by email (where contact details were available) on 23 July 2025.
- 3.5.2 This email explained the nature of the consultation and included PDF copies of the consultation letter (Appendix C) and links to consultation materials, along with a URL link to the Documents Library hosted on the Applicants Project website (https://botleywest.co.uk/document_library.html), where all consultation materials could be found.

- 3.5.3 A copy of this email is provided as Appendix F to this report.
- 3.5.4 The Applicant also sent follow up reminder emails to parish councils, host local authorities, Historic England, and Oxford Airport on 19 August 2025.

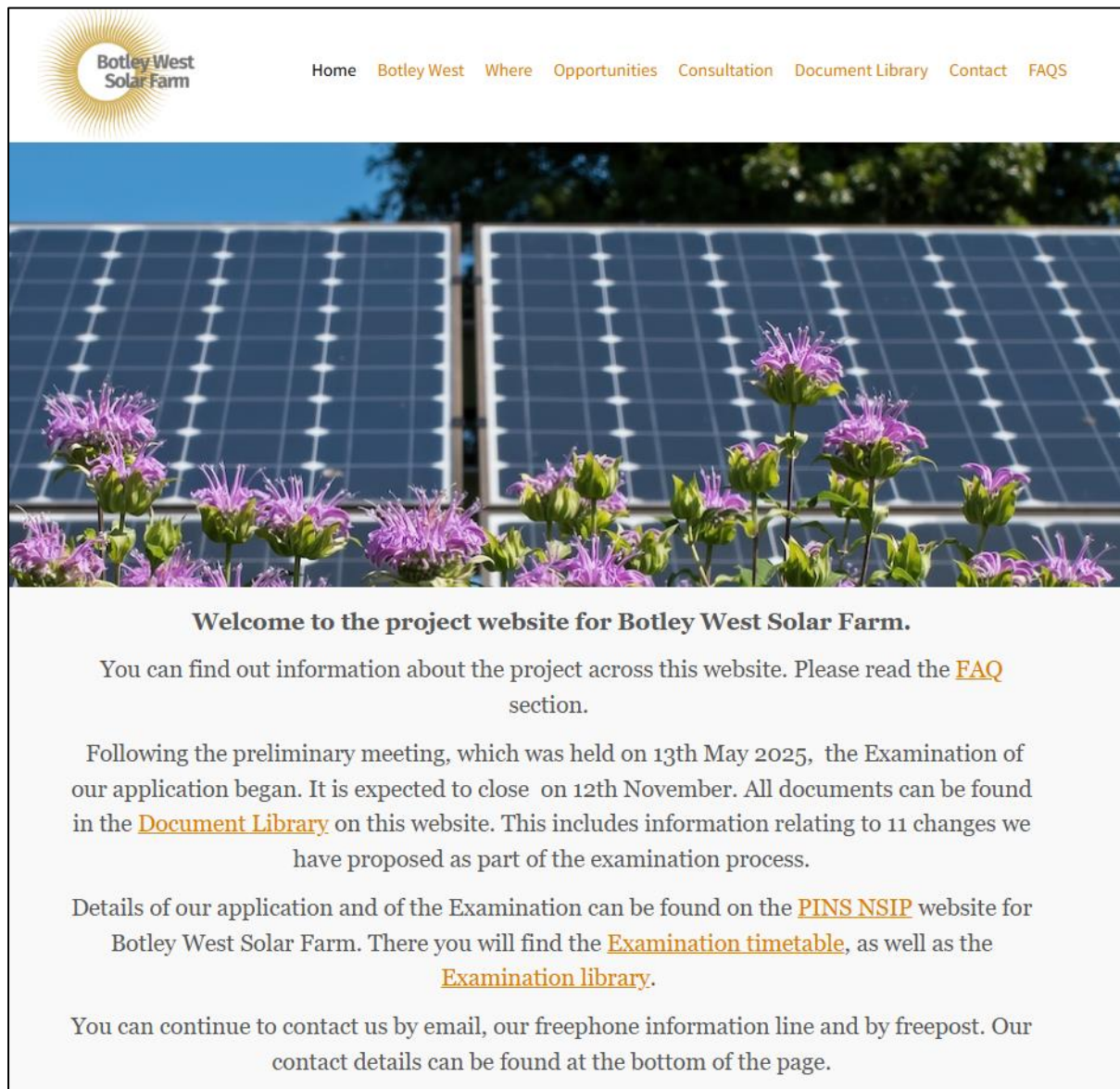
3.6 Change Request Explanatory Note


- 3.6.1 The Applicant produced a Change Request Explanatory Note to describe the Proposed Changes. A copy of the Explanatory Note is provided as Appendix E to this report.
- 3.6.2 The Change Request Explanatory Note was publicised by the consultation letters and emails, and made available to access from the Document Library hosted on the Applicant's Project website or by request.
- 3.6.3 This document;
- Introduced the consultation, why it is taking place, and the nature of the Proposed Changes;
 - Explained how consultees could take part and provide feedback;
 - Listed all 11 Proposed Changes and explained the nature of each change, including whether they involved a reduction in Order Limits; and
 - Reference plans of each change were appended to the Explanatory Note.
- 3.6.4 A copy of the Explanatory Note and associated plans is provide as = Appendix E to this report.

3.7 Website Updates

- 3.7.1 At the start of the consultation period on 23 July 2025, the Applicant updated the Project website (www.botleywest.co.uk) to state that the Change Request and consultation was taking place. All documents were also uploaded to the Document Library (https://botleywest.co.uk/document_library.html), as shown in the screenshots in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Screenshots of Project Website





[Home](#) [Botley West](#) [Where](#) [Opportunities](#) [Consultation](#) [Document Library](#) [Contact](#) [FAQS](#)

Document Library

Examination Documents

Examination Documents

Proposed changes to the DCO Application (July 2025)

Change Request: Explanatory Note - July 2025

Download

Appendix 1: Change 1

Download

Appendix 2: Change 2

Download

Appendix 3: Change 3

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Appendix 4: Change 4

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Appendix 5: Change 5

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Appendix 6: Change 6

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Appendix 7: Change 7

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Appendix 8: Change 8

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Appendix 9: Change 9

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Appendix 10: Change 10

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Appendix 11: Change 10

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Appendix 12: Change 11

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4 Feedback

4.1 Method of Feedback

- 4.1.1 As stated in the letters and emails sent to consultees, stakeholders could provide feedback on the Proposed Changes in writing (by FREEPOST BWSF, no stamp or further details required), or by email (to info@botleywest.co.uk).
- 4.1.2 Consultees could also speak with the Project team via freephone on 0808 175 3085.

4.2 Feedback Received

- 4.2.1 Between 23 July and 22 August 2025, the Applicant received feedback from eight consultees. Feedback is listed in Appendix G, alongside how the Applicant has had regard to the comments received.
- 4.2.2 Feedback was received from the following consultees:
- Bladon Parish Council;
 - Cumnor Parish Council;
 - Oxfordshire County Council;
 - Vale of White Horse District Council;
 - Cherwell District Council;
 - West Oxfordshire District Council;
 - Historic England; and
 - Network Rail.
- 4.2.3 In addition to the submission from Historic England, ICOMOS provided the Applicant with a Technical Review ahead of Deadline 4, which references the Change Request 2 consultation. The Applicant has considered the full submission by ICOMOS and will be responding in writing at Deadline 5 of the Exam Timetable.

4.3 The Applicant's consideration of feedback

- 4.3.1 The Applicant has considered and responded to all feedback received, as set out in Appendix G of this report.
- 4.3.2 The Applicant has welcomed comments from consultees supporting various Proposed Changes and has sought to clarify and respond to any queries and feedback made on specific changes.

- 4.3.3 The consideration of the feedback received from both the public and technical consultees, and across both phases of consultation has informed the refinements of the Project and the proposals presented as part of the Change Request.
- 4.3.4 Features of the Proposed Changes that have developed in response to the Applicant's consideration of feedback include the Applicant proposing to remove the education facility from the project and use the land shown for that purpose for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and other ecological mitigation measures.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1.1 Between 23 July and 22 August 2025, the Applicant carried out a consultation on the Proposed Changes.
- 5.1.2 The response deadline was extended for two Interested Parties where the Applicant could not evidence them having received the materials.
- 5.1.3 The consultation carried out was informed and complied with the PINS Guidance and the advice received from the ExA in relation to the Change Request.
- 5.1.4 The Applicant has considered and responded to all feedback received, as set out in Appendix G to this report.
- 5.1.5 Following consideration of the feedback received, the Applicant has submitted the Change Request alongside this Consultation Report and other supporting documents. The feedback has supported the benefits associated with the Proposed Changes. The Applicant also notes that stakeholders will continue to have opportunities to provide comments on the Proposed Changes, should they be accepted, throughout the remainder of the Examination.

Appendix A: Applicant's Change Request Notification Letter



Photovolt Development Partners GmbH (PVDP) on behalf of SolarFive Ltd
16 Great Queen Street,
Covent Garden,
London,
WC2B 5AH

1 July 2025

FAO: Simon Raywood
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Directorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

BY EMAIL:

BotleyWestSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Application ref: EN010147

Application by Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP) on behalf of SolarFive Ltd (the Applicant) for a Development Consent Order for Botley West Solar Farm

Notification of Intention to Submit a Request to Change the Application (Change Request 2)

Dear Mr Raywood,

The purpose of this letter is to notify the Examining Authority (ExA) that the Applicant will be making a request to change the above application (the Change Application). In summary, these changes are:

1. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area south-west of Bladon, and removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane;
2. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area near to Oxford airport;
3. Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the main Project substation as shown on Sheet 13b of the Works Plans [**AS-005**];
4. Refinement of Project layout and design to reduce solar installation on land east of Lower Road;
5. Refinement of Project layout and design to remove installation areas overlapping with Flood Zones 2 and 3;
6. Refinement of Project layout and design to include an additional installation area within Southern Site;
7. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove small parcels of land owned by Oxfordshire County Council (Estates);
8. Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the Public Rights of Way currently proposed to be stopped up and diverted back to definitive alignment;



9. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove an area of land along Wharf Road;
10. Clarification of the role of the community educational facility; and
11. Refinement of Project layout and design to secure the latest design parameters for the new National Grid substation.

The changes are explained in more detail below.

Introduction

Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP), on behalf of SolarFive Ltd (the “Applicant”), submitted its application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Botley West Solar Project (the “Project”) on 15 November 2024 (the “DCO Application”). The DCO Application was accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate on 13 December 2024.

Following the submission and acceptance of the DCO Application, the Applicant has continued to engage with affected landowners and key stakeholders. The changes proposed through the Change Application are predominantly as a result of proactive engagement by the Applicant with these Interested Parties in order to, amongst other things, alleviate any concerns in relation to potential environmental impacts and reduce land take where suitable alternative proposals are available. These changes demonstrate the continued application of the mitigation hierarchy by the Applicant in accordance with NPS EN-1, (e.g. at paragraph 4.1.15).

The Applicant has also used this as an opportunity to further refine some minor extents of land falling within the Order Limits that, upon further design refinement in relation to the proposed layout of the Project, are no longer considered necessary. The Applicant is also proposing other scheme refinements that have become available as a result of the other refinements which are being sought in response to stakeholder feedback. These refinements will be included in full as part of the Change Application.

In considering the scale and nature of the Change Application, the Applicant has had regard to ‘Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Changes to an application after it has been accepted for examination’ (2024) (the “Guidance”), published by the Planning Inspectorate. The Applicant informally notified the Planning Inspectorate via email on 27th June 2025 that a change application was to be made. This letter formally notifies the ExA that the Applicant is preparing a Change Application and provides an outline of the scope and nature of the proposed changes to inform the ExA’s decision on procedural implications of the Change Application and the need, scale and nature of any consultation to be carried out in respect of the proposed changes

A description of the proposed changes is set out below with reference to plot numbers as referred to in the submitted Book of Reference [REP1-010] and work numbers from the Work Plans [AS-005] (as relevant).

Description of proposed changes

Change 1: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area south-west of Bladon and removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane (see Appendix A attached to the Notification)

This proposed change relates to two areas of land near Bladon, including:

- 1) To the south-west of Bladon it is proposed to reduce the Order Limits by approximately 31ha, involving the removal of a solar installation area of approximately 25ha, along

with associated maintenance roads, fences and gates. The 275Kv cable corridor route option remains along the southern edge of this location. The remaining land is to be removed from the Order Limits and will continue in agricultural use by the landowner; and

- 2) To the south-east of the main settlement at Bladon, east of Grove Road and north of Heath Lane, the Applicant proposes the removal of a further solar installation area of approximately 17.6ha, along with associated maintenance roads, fences and gates. The Order Limits is not proposed to be amended in this area and the land will be retained within the Order Limits. Whilst the solar array and associated infrastructure is proposed to be removed, the resultant freed up area of land will be retained for meadow grazing, contributing further to the Projects biodiversity net gain (BNG). The community food growing and educational areas, together with the upgrading of the right of way that crosses this area would remain as part of the Project.

The primary purpose of this proposed change is to protect the setting of the Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site, in response to feedback received from Interested Parties including Historic England. In their Written Representation [REP1-086], Historic England advised that *'further refinements could avoid much of the harm to the WHS, Blenheim Palace listed building and Registered Park and Garden, by removing solar panel development from the fields marked 2.1, 2.2, 2.5 and 2.20-2.26'* (paragraph 5.56). These changes are being sought to address those concerns expressed by Historic England and comprise the full removal of all solar panels and associated infrastructure from those fields identified by Historic England in its Written Representation.

Change 1 will result in alterations to the Order Limits by reducing the area of land included within the Order Limits. The change will not result in any new land interests, as no new land is sought to be brought into the Order Limits. In terms of resultant environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. avoiding harm to the setting to the WHS, improved landscape and visual effects and wellbeing effects), with no residual adverse effects, overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported. From a planning perspective this change is expected to improve the openness of the Green Belt in this location.

Change 2: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area near to Oxford airport

As a result of discussions with Oxford Airport and in response to its concerns regarding the safe operation of their airfield, the Applicant has agreed to further revise its layout to accommodate their concerns by reducing the Order Limits in the safety area.

This change will result in alterations to the Order Limits in the form of a reduction of approximately 53 ha. The installation area would also reduce by approximately 41 ha. This change will also include the re-siting of the existing secondary substation approximately 25-50m to the north, which itself will be reduced in height to approximately 5m, with associated lattice structure lightning rods being no higher than 10.5m. The temporary construction compound will either be re-sited to the north adjacent to the newly positioned substation or moved through approximately 90 degrees from its current position.

The final position of the adjusted Order Limits will be confirmed once the compound position has been settled (following further noise assessment work), and in any event will be resolved before any consultation is undertaken in relation to this change. A suitable plan will be produced at that stage to accompany this change and a full suite of updated documents will be submitted with the formal Change Application.



The freed-up land will continue to be used for agricultural purposes, managed by the landowner. The change will not result in any new land interests, as no new land is sought to be brought into the Order Limits. In terms of environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. improved landscape and visual amenity, improved safety, improved wellbeing) and no residual adverse effects, overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported.

From a planning perspective this change is anticipated to improve the openness of the Green Belt in this location and remove the concerns of Oxford Airport, the OHA's and other interested parties regarding safe operation of the airport, as well as removing any risk of coalescence between Begbroke and Kidlington.

Change 3: Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the main Project substation as shown on Sheet 13b of the Works Plans [AS-005] (see Appendix A attached to the Notification)

Sheet 13a of the Works Plans [AS-005] identifies the existing layout of the Main Project substation alongside the New National Grid Substation, if the New National Grid Substation is to be delivered under the DCO.

Sheet 13b of the Works Plans identifies the layout of the Main Project substation and additional solar array, if the new National Grid substation is to be delivered by National Grid on adjacent land to the west beyond the Order Limits. The current layout shows the additional solar array directly in place of the land reserved for the new National Grid substation and the Project main substation remaining to the east of that land parcel.

However, the Applicant is proposing to adjust the layout shown on Sheet 13b such that the Project main substation would be moved to the western side of the land parcel within the Order Limits, closer to where the new National Grid substation is proposed to be relocated. The additional solar array would then be to the eastern side of the land parcel shown on Sheet 13b. This would allow for a shorter, more efficient and more cost-effective cable connection to the National Grid substation. This was recognised by the ExA in the Issue Specific Hearing 1 (on DCO and Strategic Matters) and the Applicant is seeking this change partly in response to that suggestion.

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. In terms of environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. less BMV permanently lost and reduced noise impact to sensitive receptors), and no significant residual adverse effects, overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported.

Change 4: Refinement of Project layout and design to reduce solar installation on land east of Lower Road (see Appendix A attached to the Notification)

The Applicant is aware of a restrictive covenant which prevents the construction of 'buildings' over Plots 6-18, 6-19, 8-06, 8-07, 8-13, 8-14, 8-15, 8-16, on which the Applicant proposes solar arrays and related infrastructure. In any event, the draft DCO would facilitate the extinguishment of that restrictive covenant to allow the development to proceed. Notwithstanding, the Applicant has continued to engage with the affected landowner to try and find a reasonable alternative proposal. To date, the IP has maintained his position that he does not want solar installation over the relevant land parcel. The Applicant is therefore proposing to reduce its powers of solar installation over a large part of the affected land, specifically immediately to the west and south of the IP's property. This would result in a loss



of approximately 2.7 ha of installation area and the re-routing of part of the 33kV cable. The freed-up land would remain within the Order Limits and remain in agricultural use and managed for BNG.

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. In terms of environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. reduced landscape and visual impacts on sensitive receptors, improved wellbeing effects, including use of PRoW), and no significant residual adverse effects, overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported.

Change 5: Refinement of Project layout and design to remove installation areas overlapping with Flood Zones 2 and 3 (see Appendix A attached to the Notification)

As a result of a base mapping error, the Applicant has identified minor anomalies where the solar installation slightly overlaps with Flood Zone 2 or 3 throughout the Project site. The Applicant is committed to not develop within Flood Zone 2 or 3 and so is proposing to correct this mapping anomaly. This has resulted in a small loss of installation area in several locations amounting to approximately 0.72 ha.

No new land interests would be engaged as a result of this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. Given the minor nature of the proposed modification, it is considered that there are no new or materially different likely significant environmental effects that would arise as a result of this change.

Change 6: Refinement of Project layout and design to include an additional installation area within Southern Site (see Appendix A attached to the Notification)

The Applicant has recently become aware of a change in the EA mapping of parts of Flood Zone 2. In particular, an area within the Order Limits was previously excluded from development because it was within Flood Zone 2. This is an area of approximately 2.41 ha, within the Southern Site. The Applicant now wishes to utilise this area for additional solar array as a result of the change in Flood Zone status.

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. In terms of environmental effects, whilst the Applicant is aware that this land is still susceptible to surface water flooding, which will be subject to further analysis and mitigation, it is unlikely that this change will lead to new or materially different likely significant environmental effects to those currently reported.

Change 7: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove small parcels of land owned by Oxfordshire County Council (Estates) (see Appendix A attached to the Notification)

This change is sought to refine the Order Limits so that these sections of the Order Limits only include the extent of the public highway (i.e. land of Oxfordshire County Council in its capacity as highway authority) and do not involve land owned by Oxfordshire County Council in its 'Estates' capacity. The amount of land proposed to be removed is approximately 0.005ha only.

This change will result in a reduction to the Order Limits but will not impact on the nature or extent of the works proposed to be carried out in these locations. No new land interests will be engaged through this change, as no additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. Given the minor nature of the proposed modification to the Order Limits, it is considered that this change will not result in any new or different likely significant environmental effects.



Change 8: Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the Public Rights of Way currently proposed to be stopped up and diverted back to definitive alignment - (see Appendix A attached to the Notification)

Prior to submission of the Applicant's DCO Application, the Applicant became aware that there was a difference between the aerial data showing the used footpath routes on the ground and the Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) definitive data set of their alignment. The data showed that the routes used by the public deviated from the definitive data set alignment. The Applicant therefore sought powers to alter the alignment of the PRoW to reflect the 'desire lines' on the ground. However, following ongoing discussions with OCC, the Applicant is seeking to remove those powers to adopt the OCC definitive alignments which will result in a change to the submitted plans.

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. Given the minor nature of the change it is considered that there are no new or materially different likely significant environmental effects that would arise as a result of this change.

Change 9: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove an area of land along Wharf Road

The Applicant is proposing to reduce the area required along Wharf Road following feedback from the landowner (Siemens Healthcare Limited). The area of Wharf Road to be removed (part of plot 11-29) falls within the landowner's gated area, which is secured and would require notice of entry each time access is required. Furthermore, removing the area would lessen the potential impact on the operations of the site, which requires uninterrupted access. It has been agreed with the landowner that this area will not be taken under an Option Agreement as it is no longer needed to facilitate the development. An alternative route for the cable is facilitated through the Order Limits, by routing north before the gated area and running parallel in an adjacent parcel of land.

This change will result in alterations to the Order Limits and a reduction in the area of land included within the Order Limits. The precise extent of the change will be discussed with Siemens and once settled form part of the formal Change Request. A suitable plan will be produced at that stage to confirm the extent of the change. The change will not result in any new land interests, as no new land is sought to be brought into the Order Limits, and no likely new or different significant environmental effects are anticipated as a result of this change.

Change 10: Clarification of the role of the community educational facility

The proposed community education facility has been included in the original project, as seen in Chapter 16 of the Environmental Statement [APP-053] and the outline Operational Management Plan [APP-234] (oOMP). Illustrative 3D Views of the Educational Facility are also available at [APP-107]. As set out in Chapter 16 and the oOMP, further details (including the location, size and scale) of the facility will be finalised during the detailed design phase and included within the detailed Operational Management Plan (as secured under Requirement 12 of the draft DCO). This is explained in the Applicant's response to the ExA's Written Question Q1.7.11 submitted at Deadline 2.

Whilst the facility was in the original project, it is proposed to be included as part of the Change Application to provide absolute clarity, as the Applicant will be seeking to update Chapter 6: Project Description and the draft DCO to include express reference to the community educational facility. This is to remove any doubt as to whether the community education facility forms part of the proposed development. It is considered that this change will not result in any new or materially different likely significant environmental effects.

Change 11: Refinement of Project layout and design to secure the latest design parameters for the new National Grid substation

The area currently set aside for the NGET substation amounts to up to 3.8 ha. The parameters for that substation include a 76m x 31m footprint of main building and 14m height of main building, as secured in the Outline Layout and Design Principles [REP1-014]. The Guide to the Application, Statement in Respect of Statutory Nuisance and the Explanatory Memorandum were each updated at Deadline 2 to ensure any references to these parameters are consistent.

However, following its engagement with National Grid, amendments to those parameters are required to ensure that the secured design details adequately facilitate the delivery of the New National Grid Substation. The Applicant is also looking to secure additional parameters to give greater clarity on the proposed design. This will be secured in an updated version of the Outline Layout & Design Principles (to be submitted as part of the formal Change Application).

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. Similarly to Change 10, whilst the infrastructure is already captured in the original project, it is proposed to be included as part of the Change Application for absolute clarity and to remove any doubt as to whether the newly proposed design of the new National Grid substation falls within the scope of the assessed parameters. Given the minor nature of the change it is considered that there are no new or materially different likely significant environmental effects that would arise as a result of this change.

Scope and extent of proposed changes

Due to the relatively minor nature of the proposed changes and the fact they relate to scheme refinements, there is no material change to the substance of the Project compared to that which was submitted with the DCO Application. The Applicant also notes that the changes look to give effect to changes proposed by Interested Parties and therefore seeks to refine the Project progressively in response to ongoing engagement – as such, the Applicant's position is that the proposed changes are in general terms to be more favourable to Interested Parties than the existing proposals.

The combined effect of the changes, due to them largely being reductions in the extent of the Order Limits and/or involving no additions to the Order Limits, will not result in materially new or different effects to those assessed in the Environmental Statement [APP-036 to APP-224] (as may have been updated during Examination).

Since the proposed changes have been identified early into the Examination phase of the Project and in response to comments received by and representations made by Interested Parties, there will be no prejudice to prospective Interested Parties or to the prospective Examination Timetable.

The changes involve a reduction in the Order Limits or scheme refinements and would not impact on additional land interests not previously identified. The Change Application will not involve any material increase or extension of the Order Limits and does not require additional Compulsory Acquisition relating to new plots of land and/or interests.

The Applicant notes that under the PINS Guidance, there is no requirement to submit a plan in the change notification showing the location of all proposed changes. However, for illustrative purposes, Appendix A sets out preliminary plans illustrating the location of the proposed changes 1 and changes 3 to 8. The plan of the final Order Limits reduction for Changes 2 and 9 is being finalised in light of discussions with Oxford Airport and the relevant



landowner respectively and is therefore not provided at this stage, whilst a plan in relation to Change 10 is already available (see the Illustrative 3D Views of the Educational Facility [APP-107]). A complete and final suite of new and updated application documents in relation to all changes will be submitted as part of the formal Change Application following consultation on those changes.

Amended and Updated Documents

As a result of Changes 1 to 11 referred to above, the following documents are envisaged to be newly submitted or updated with the Change Application, with both track changed and clean versions submitted (where relevant), to enable the ExA and Affected Parties to identify the amendments that have been made from the previous iteration of the documents submitted:

Document Name	Document reference
Guide to the Application	TBC – updated at Deadline 2 submitted alongside this Change Request Notification
Draft Development Consent Order (DCO)	As above.
Explanatory Memorandum	As above.
Schedule of Changes to the draft DCO	As above.
Location Plan	AS-024
Streets, Access and Rights of Way Plans	AS-004
Works Plans	AS-005
Land Plans	AS-006
Hedgerow Removal Plans	AS-007
Traffic Regulation Measures Plans	AS-008
Masterplans and Location plan	AS-019, AS-020 and AS-024
Operational Development Areas plan	AS-021
Landscape, Ecology and Amenities Plan	AS-022
Temporary Facilities Plan	AS-023
Book of Reference	REP1-010
Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference	REP1-017
Land and Rights Negotiation Tracker	TBC – updated at Deadline 2 submitted alongside this Change Request Notification
Compulsory Acquisition (CA) Schedule and Land Rights Tracker	As above.
Environmental Statement Addendum	<i>New Document</i>
Chapter 6 of the Environmental Statement: Project Description	APP-043
Outline Layout and Design Principles	REP1-014

Change Request Report	<i>New Document</i>
Chapter 7 of the Environmental Statement: Historic Environment	CR1-003
Appendix 7.4 of the Environmental Assessment: Heritage Impact Assessment for the Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site	APP-141
Appendix 7.5 of the Environmental Statement: Settings Assessment	TBC – updated at Deadline 2 submitted alongside this Change Request Notification
Outline Written Scheme of Investigation	TBC – updated at Deadline 2 submitted alongside this Change Request Notification
Additional Photomontages for Historic Environment Assessment	TBC – new document at Deadline 2 submitted alongside this Change Request Notification

Consultation

In determining how to consult on the Change Application, the Applicant has had regard to PINS Guidance. The Planning Inspectorate encourages applicants to provide Affected Parties with the opportunity to engage in the change process prior to the Change Application being made to the ExA. The Guidance states that it will be necessary for applicants to carry out ‘appropriate consultation’ with the ExA advising on the need, scale and nature of consultation that may be required, having regard to the scope of the changes proposed.

In this case, all of the changes comprise reductions to the Order Limits or refinements to the proposed layout of the Project. There are no additions to the Order Limits being proposed.

In terms of the scope and extent of the changes proposed through the Change Application, the Applicant considers that the effect of the proposed changes would not be so substantial as to constitute a materially different project. Following the proposed changes, the Project will be substantially the same as the project which was initially applied for.

Given the specific circumstances of this proposed change, the Applicant considers it would not be appropriate or proportionate to consult all prescribed consultees set out under section 42(1)(a) to (d) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) that were previously consulted through the non-statutory, statutory and targeted consultations carried out in respect of the Project. The Guidance expressly allows for a targeted approach to the identification of those affected by a change application: *“If a targeted approach to the identification of those affected by the proposed change is adopted then detailed justification should be provided about why the applicant considers it is not necessary to consult all the prescribed persons. For example, the proposed change would not affect the functions of statutory undertakers”*.

On this basis, the Applicant proposes to carry out targeted consultation to reflect the nature of the changes sought through the Change Application. The Applicant intends to consult with parties who may be directly affected by the proposed changes, including:

- Land interests specifically affected by and interested in the proposed changes;
- Statutory undertakers whose utilities/infrastructure may be located in the vicinity of the proposed changes;



Since the proposed changes are reductions to the Order Limits not impacting on the extent of the Order Limits, there is no new Category 3 land as defined by section 57 of the PA 2008. Given this, there are no new claimants as a result of the Change Application and no new or different significant effects arising from the proposed changes to enable a relevant claim to be made.

Having reviewed and carefully considered all prescribed consultees and key stakeholders from the previous non-statutory, statutory and targeted consultations for the Project (carried out during the pre-application stage), the Applicant has determined that the majority of previous consultees will not be materially impacted by the proposed changes, beyond the impacts already assessed and consulted on as part of the DCO Application.

However, in the interest of fairness and transparency, prior to carrying out the consultation, the Applicant will notify the relevant planning leads at each authority of its intention to submit the Change Application. In addition, the Applicant will discuss the proposed reductions in Order Limits with each relevant planning authority prior to the submission of the Change Application to ensure that the relevant authority understands the context in which the changes are proposed and any potential concerns or queries can be discussed and resolved. The Applicant will also provide the opportunity to discuss any ongoing issues prior to the Change Application being submitted to the ExA following completion of the consultation period.

The Applicant also proposes to consult Historic England (due to their involvement in Change 1) and Oxford Airport (due to their involvement in Change 2).

In total therefore, the Applicant has identified approximately 47 consultees (excluding unknown interests), to be consulted; several of which have been engaged on an ongoing basis in relation to changes prior to and following submission of the DCO Application. These stakeholders are listed below:

- Approximately 10 statutory undertakers;
- Approximately 18 individual Land Interests associated with the 11 changes;
- Four relevant host local authorities;
- 13 relevant host parish councils;
- Historic England; and
- Oxford Airport.

An Environmental Statement (ES) [**APP-036 to APP-224**] was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the DCO Application and certain individual documents have been updated during (pre-)Examination. The Applicant is currently preparing supporting environmental information to accompany the Change Application in the form of an ES Addendum, albeit the proposed changes are not considered likely to result in new or different significant effects. In any case, the Applicant expects that the proposed changes will improve the environmental position of the proposed Project, on the basis that a key driver for many of the proposed changes is to respond to feedback received from bodies showing concerns of the impact on the Environment.

While it is acknowledged that the ES Addendum would form supplementary environmental information, there is no statutory requirement to consult on this, including in respect of the consultation requirements under Regulation 20 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations), as the ES Addendum does not constitute "further information" for the purposes of the EIA Regulations. This is because the proposed changes are not likely to result in any new or different significant effects, such that it is not relevant to the ExA's ability to reach a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the Project (per Regulation 3 of the EIA Regulations). Further, as the change is concerned



with the removal of land and reduction of the Order Limits, such that there is no 'additional land' included, the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (CA Regulations) are not engaged.

The proposed changes to the DCO Application are a result of ongoing discussions and feedback from Affected Parties. While the Applicant considers that the CA Regulations will not be engaged, the Applicant recognises the importance of ensuring all potentially Affected Parties have an opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed changes.

The guidance states that the Applicant should allow a minimum of 28 days for consultation responses, from receipt of the information about proposed changes. Given the limited and localised nature of the changes proposed through the Change Application, the fact that the proposed changes have arisen following consultation so far, as well as the ongoing discussions with the owners/occupiers of the affected land interests in relation to the proposed changes, the Applicant does not expect to receive many new comments from the consultation. However, the Applicant is willing to propose a 30-day consultation period in respect of the Change Application. This in line with the guidance and in recognition of potentially reduced availability over the summer months and noting that a bank holiday would fall within this period, hence an additional couple of days allowed.

The 30-day period is proposed to be no later than between Tuesday 5 August and 11:59pm on Thursday 4 September 2025.

Timing and Procedure

The Applicant has considered the appropriate approach to bringing forward the Change Application in the context of the requirements of the Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent (DCLG) and the PINS Guidance. The Applicant considers that the changes can be adequately considered in full by the ExA, and the Change Application decided, such that it will not impinge on the commencement of the examination. The Applicant has set out a table below with an indicative proposed programme for the Change Application:

Action	Indicative timings	Comment
Informal notification	27 June 2025	Informal email to the ExA of the intention to submit a Change Application
The change notification	1 July 2025	This document, submitted alongside Deadline 2.
Advice from the Examining Authority	22 July 2025	Whilst the Applicant appreciates this is within the ExA's discretion, the Applicant has assumed up to 3 weeks.
Consultation on proposed changes	4 September 2025	This allows 6 weeks to give time for a consultation period of 30 days (exceeding the 28 days minimum), with surplus time for consultation material to be updated in line with any advice from the ExA.
Submit Change Application	30 September 2025	Time to finalise the Change Application following the consultation period, taking into account any feedback. This will allow all the information to be available in the



		Examination ahead of the week reserved for hearings w/c 6 October 2025.
Decision	21 October 2025	Again, the Applicant appreciates this is within the ExA's discretion, but has assumed up to 3 weeks. There is flexibility allowed ahead of the close of Examination on 15 November.

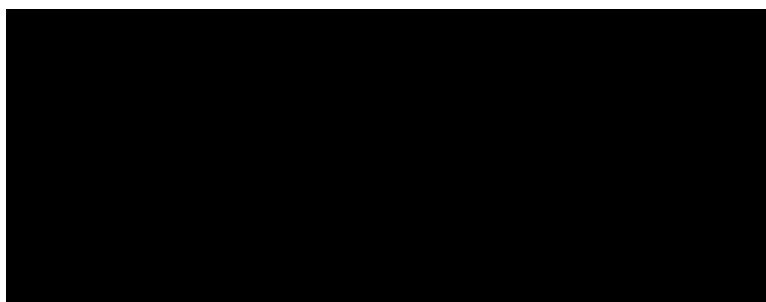
As shown above, the Applicant proposes to submit the Change Application to the ExA following completion of the consultation period, no later than 30 September 2025.

Closing remarks

The Applicant trusts that this letter is useful to the ExA in setting out the intention of the Applicant to submit the Change Application and providing an overview of the scope and nature of the changes proposed.

The Applicant looks forward to receiving the ExA's procedural advice on the Change Application in due course

Yours sincerely,



(On behalf of the Applicant)

Photovolt Development Partners GmbH (PVDP) on behalf of SolarFive Ltd.

Enc:

Appendix A – Preliminary plans illustrating the location of proposed changes

Appendix B: ExA Response to Notification Letter



Planning Inspectorate

National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Customer Services: 0303 444 5000
e-mail: BotleyWestSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The Applicant,
Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP)
on behalf of SolarFive Ltd

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010147

By email only

Date: 11 July 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 89 (3)

Application by Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP) on behalf of SolarFive Ltd (the Applicant) for an Order Granting Development Consent for Botley West Solar Farm

Notification of Applicant's Intention to Submit a Request for Proposed Changes to the DCO Application

The Applicant gave notice to the Examining Authority (ExA) at Deadline 2 in the Examination timetable on 1 July 2025, of its intention to submit a request for proposed changes to the above application [[REP2-045](#)]. This letter provides advice to the Applicant about the procedural implications of the proposed changes.

The Proposed Changes

The Applicant has submitted notification of eleven proposed changes to the application [[REP2-045](#)], which relate to the following elements of the Proposed Development:

- Change 1: Complete removal of 31ha of land from the Order limits near Bladon. A further additional area of 17.6ha would remain within the Order limits but repurposed for biodiversity net gain (BNG) instead of for solar installation.
- Change 2: Reduction in the Order limits of a total of 53ha in proximity to Oxford Airport, including relocating a planned secondary substation some 50 metres north of the originally shown location. A temporary construction compound would also be re-orientated.
- Change 3: An alternative included in the DCO so that, if the National Grid substation is provided outside of the Order limits, the space vacated would be filled with the applicant's own main project substation, with backfill of solar panels.

- Change 4: Removal of a solar installation from 2.7ha of land in proximity to Lower Road, though the land would remain in the Order limits, remain in agricultural use and managed for BNG.
- Change 5: Removal of approximately 0.72ha of solar installation where the installation would have overlapped either Flood Zones 2 or 3.
- Change 6: In the southern site area, in the existing Order limits, an increase in the solar installation by a total of 2.41ha onto land previously thought to be Flood Zone 2 but actually falls into Flood Zone 1.
- Change 7: Removal of 0.005ha of land owned by Oxfordshire County Council in an Estates capacity.
- Change 8: The Applicant originally sought powers to alter the alignment of Public Rights of Way (ProW) to reflect desire lines observed on aerial mapping. Following discussion with Oxfordshire County Council, the applicant is seeking to remove those powers and stick to the adopted definitive alignments for PRoW.
- Change 9: Part of plot 11-29 (Siemens Healthcare Limited) to be removed with cable routing to run to the north of that land.
- Change 10: Formal recognition of the proposed community educational facility as part of the Proposed Development.
- Change 11: Should the National Grid substation be delivered within the Order limits, updated parameters for that substation would be incorporated into the Outline Layout and Design Principles document.

The Applicant's notification letter indicates that no additional land outside of the Order Limits would be required, with reductions in the Order Limits only. Therefore, according to the Applicant, all the proposed changes relate to land already proposed for Compulsory Acquisition or Temporary Possession. Assuming this continues to be the case (and the Applicant can demonstrate that this is indeed the case), the ExA is satisfied that The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (the CA Regulations) would not be engaged.

The Applicant's notification also states that none of the proposed changes would be expected to result in any new or different likely significant environmental effects compared to those effects reported in the submitted Environmental Statement. The Applicant would however provide an addendum to the Environmental Statement to provide the necessary environmental information related to the change request. The ExA expects that environmental information will be submitted as part of any formal change request, alongside updates to relevant management plans and application plans. We would expect this to include full consideration of any hydrological (including Water Framework Directive) and ecological (Habitats Regulation Assessment) implications.

The ExA notes that the proposed changes seek to respond to concerns raised by landowners and by the local authorities. Each potential change is relatively contained in scope and appears to relate to site-specific matters raised. In light of the above considerations, the ExA is satisfied that the proposed changes, whether considered individually or taken together, would not be so substantial as to amount to a materially different project from that which was applied for.

We note the engagement with landowners that has taken place in formulating some of the proposed changes as stated in the notification letter, although note larger reductions of solar installations may not yet have been widely disseminated. We note the Applicant's offer to undertake targeted consultation for a period of 30 days prior to submitting the change request formally for the ExA to accept.

Our current view is that the further public consultation is welcomed and the process for the change request should follow the steps set out in the next section of this letter.

Next steps

The ExA notes the timetable contained within the Applicant's change request notification letter and the table provided therein [REP2-045]. It concerns the ExA that there would be, in the applicant's proposal, a potential pinch point at the close of the Examination.

Therefore, the ExA strongly recommends the following programme for the consideration of the change request.

ACTION	TIMING	COMMENT
Change Request Notification (Applicant)	1 July 2025	Applicant's notification letter received at Deadline 2
Change Request Response (i.e. this letter)	11 July 2025	This letter constitutes advice to the applicant on proceeding with the change request during the Examination.
Consultation on proposed changes (Applicant)	23 July to 22 August 2025	30 days consultation effectively between Deadlines 3 and 4 in the Exam Timetable.
Submit Change Request Application (Applicant)	12 September 2025	Deadline 5 in the Exam Timetable
Decision on whether to accept the change request (ExA)	30 September 2025	To enable full clarity and disclosure for the Hearings to be held w/c 6 October 2025. In the interests of fairness to Interested Parties and Affected Persons, the ExA will seek to make its decision earlier than 30 September 2025 where at all possible.
Responses to the change request to be formally submitted. (Interested Parties, Affected Persons, Statutory)	7 to 10, 20 October 2025	Initial oral submissions may be made during the Hearings to be held w/c 6 October 2025; written submissions by Deadline 6

Consultees, Statutory Undertakers et al)		in the Examination timetable.
--	--	-------------------------------

The Applicant is asked to submit a formal change request which responds fully to the points made above and contains sufficient information to enable the ExA to prepare further questions, if necessary. The ExA strongly advises that the change application is submitted at the earliest opportunity in the interests of fairness and reasonableness. The ExA notes the list of application documents to be updated as a result of the proposed changes and expects that all such updates will be submitted at the same time as the Change Application.

Effect on the Examination Timetable

If the ExA decides to accept the proposed changes, all Interested Parties will have an opportunity to make representations on the changed application during the Examination in line with the principles of fairness and reasonableness.

Our current view, which may be subject to change depending on the content of the Change Application, is that representations on the changed application could be accommodated within the existing deadlines as set out in the Examination timetable, in accordance with the programme above.

If you have any questions about any of the matters raised in this correspondence, please contact the Case Team using the details provided in this letter.

Yours faithfully

David Wallis

David Wallis
Lead Member of the Examining Authority

This communication does not constitute legal advice.
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

Appendix C: Example Letter Issued to Consultees

23 July 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Proposed Changes to the Botley West Solar Farm DCO Application

I am writing to you regarding proposed changes to the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Botley West Solar Farm (the Project).

The Applicant submitted its application for a DCO on 15 November 2024. This application was accepted for Examination by the Planning Inspectorate on 13 December 2024, and the Examination subsequently commenced on 13 May 2025.

Following the submission and acceptance of the DCO Application, Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP) on behalf of SolarFive Ltd (the Applicant) has continued to engage with affected landowners and key stakeholders. This has informed a series of changes the Applicant is proposing to make to the DCO application. These changes are intended to, amongst other things, alleviate concerns in relation to potential environmental impacts and reduce land take where suitable alternative proposals are available.

The Applicant has also used this as an opportunity to further refine some minor extents of land falling within the Order Limits that, upon further design refinement in relation to the proposed layout of the Project, are no longer considered necessary. The Applicant is also proposing other scheme refinements that have become available as a result of the other refinements which are being sought in response to stakeholder feedback. These refinements will be included in full as part of the Change Application.

The changes will be formally sought by the Applicant by submitting a Change Application to the Examining Authority. The Applicant intends to submit this Change Application in September 2025. At this stage we are seeking feedback from relevant consultees prior to submitting this Change Application.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of these proposed changes and your opportunity to comment on them ahead of a Change Application being formally submitted to the Examining Authority. This letter explains how you can find out more information about the proposed changes and how to provide any feedback you may have. We are asking for feedback to be submitted on or before Friday 22 August 2025.

About the Project

The Application is for development consent to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facility with a capacity of 840 megawatts (MW) and export connection to the National Grid.

Botley West Solar Farm is considered as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project due to the amount of renewable electricity it would generate. This means that – in order to be



Email us at:
info@botleywest.co.uk



Call our Freephone information line:
0808 175 3085



Write to us at:
FREEPOST BWSF



Visit our website at:
www.botleywest.co.uk

consented – it will require a DCO from the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero, under the Planning Act 2008.

The Project will accommodate ground mounted PV generating stations (incorporating solar arrays); grid connection infrastructure; cable route corridors; accesses and environmental mitigation and enhancement measures. It extends from an area of land in the north, situated between the A4260 and the Dorn River Valley near Tackley and Wootton (Northern Site Area), through a central section, situated broadly between Bladon and Cassington (Central Site Area), and connecting to a section further south near to Farmoor Reservoir and north of Cumnor (Southern Site Area), where the Project will connect to the National Grid transmission network.

Proposed changes to the DCO Application

As set out in the Applicant's Change Request 2 Notification [**REP2-045**], the proposed changes include:

1. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area south-west of Bladon, and removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane;
2. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area near to Oxford airport;
3. Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the main Project substation as shown on Sheet 13b of the Works Plans [**AS-005**];
4. Refinement of Project layout and design to reduce solar installation on land east of Lower Road;
5. Refinement of Project layout and design to remove installation areas overlapping with Flood Zones 2 and 3;
6. Refinement of Project layout and design to include an additional installation area within Southern Site;
7. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove small parcels of land owned by Oxfordshire County Council (Estates);
8. Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the Public Rights of Way currently proposed to be stopped up and diverted back to definitive alignment;
9. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove an area of land along Wharf Road;
10. Clarification of the role of the community educational facility; and
11. Refinement of Project layout and design to secure the latest design parameters for the new National Grid substation.

Please find enclosed a Site Location Plan showing the location of the Project and the newly proposed Order Limits that would exist if the Change Application is accepted by the Examining Authority.



Email us at:
info@botleywest.co.uk



Call our Freephone information line:
0808 175 3085



Write to us at:
FREEPOST BWSF



Visit our website at:
www.botleywest.co.uk

How to find out more information and respond to this consultation

An Explanatory Note has been published to provide more details on these proposed changes, including annotated plans to present their location and scale.

The Explanatory Note can be accessed in the Document Library page of the Botley West Solar Farm Project website: botleywest.co.uk/document_library.html

Questions regarding these proposed changes can be asked of the Applicant's Project team using the contact details below.

Any feedback on these proposed changes should be provided to Applicant on or before **Friday 22 August 2025**. Following this period, the Applicant will finalise its proposed changes having regard to comments received. The Applicant will then submit a formal Change Application to the Examining Authority which, if granted, would amend the DCO application in accordance with the changes proposed. The Examination of the DCO application would then proceed with the revised Order Limits (as shown on the enclosed Site Location Plan) and other minor amendments that are proposed.

Feedback can be provided by:

- Emailing: info@botleywest.co.uk
- Writing to: FREEPOST BWSF

Feedback is requested in writing, however you can also contact the Applicant's Project team to discuss any questions by calling 0808 175 3085.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Christopher Lecointe

(On behalf of the Applicant)

Photovolt Development Partners GmbH (PVDP) on behalf of SolarFive Ltd.



Email us at:
info@botleywest.co.uk



Call our Freephone information line:
0808 175 3085



Write to us at:
FREEPOST BWSF



Visit our website at:
www.botleywest.co.uk

Appendix D: Map Issued to Consultees



Legend

Site Location and Order Limits showing the full Extent of the Proposed Development Area

Location of Change

Change 01

Change 02

Change 03

Change 04

Change 05

Change 06

Change 07

Change 08

Change 09

Change 10

Change 11

1: Notification of Change Request

A: s51 Response

Project		Status		Illustrative	
Id.	Changes	Date	Name	Date	Name
		Edit	23.07.2025	V. Guskova	
		Check	23.07.2025	H. Trabelsi	

1 Revised 23.07.2025 V. Guskova Drawing No EN010147/APP/8.2 Rev.1

A Created 31.01.2025 K. Lueken

Scale: 1:25000 at A0

Title

Location Plan

0 1000 2000 Meters

Photovoltaic Development Partners GmbH
Kurfürstendamm 52
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Appendix E: Change Request Explanatory Note: July 2025



Botley West Solar Farm

Proposed Changes to Development
Consent Order Application
(Change Request 2)

Explanatory Note
July 2025

Background

This Explanatory Note is in relation to proposed changes to the Development Consent Order application for Botley West Solar Farm (which will be referred to as ‘the Project’ in this document).

We are carrying out a targeted consultation on these proposed changes with relevant consultees. The changes will then be formally sought by the Applicant through the submission of a Change Application to the Examining Authority. We (the Applicant) intend to submit this Change Application in September 2025 as encouraged by the Examining Authority in its letter to the Applicant [PD-011].

Wherever documents follow this format: [reference], they can be viewed in the **Examination Library** within the Documents section of the PINS website for Botley West Solar Farm: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010147/documents>

Overview

Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP), on behalf of SolarFive Ltd (the Applicant), submitted its application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for Botley West Solar Farm (the “Project”) on 15 November 2024. This DCO Application was accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate on 13 December 2024, and the Examination subsequently commenced on 13 May 2025.

We have continued to engage with affected landowners and key stakeholders following the submission and acceptance of the DCO Application. This has informed a series of changes we are proposing to make to the DCO application. These changes are intended to, amongst other things, alleviate concerns in relation to potential environmental impacts and reduce land take where suitable alternative proposals are available.

We are also looking to further refine some minor extents of land falling within the Order Limits that are no longer considered necessary and propose other refinements that have become available following ongoing design work and the continued engagement with landowners and stakeholders.

These proposed changes have been set out in the Applicant’s Change Request 2 Notification [REP2-045], which was submitted to the Examining Authority on 01 July 2025, and summarized in this document.

The changes will be formally sought by the Applicant by submitting a Change Application to the Examining Authority. The Applicant intends to submit this Change Application in September 2025. At this stage we are seeking feedback from relevant consultees prior to submitting this Change Application.

About the Project

Botley West Solar Farm is considered as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project due to the amount of renewable electricity it would generate. This means that – in order to be consented – it will require a DCO from the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero, under the Planning Act 2008.

The Application is for development consent to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facility with a capacity of 840 megawatts (MW) and export connection to the National Grid.

The Project will accommodate ground mounted PV generating stations (incorporating solar arrays); grid connection infrastructure; cable route corridors; accesses and environmental mitigation and enhancement measures. It extends from an area of land in the north, situated between the A4260 and the Dorn River Valley near Tackley and Wootton (Northern Site Area), through a central section, situated broadly between Bladon and Cassington (Central Site Area), and connecting to a section further south near to Farmoor Reservoir and north of Cumnor (Southern Site Area), where the Project will connect to the National Grid transmission network.

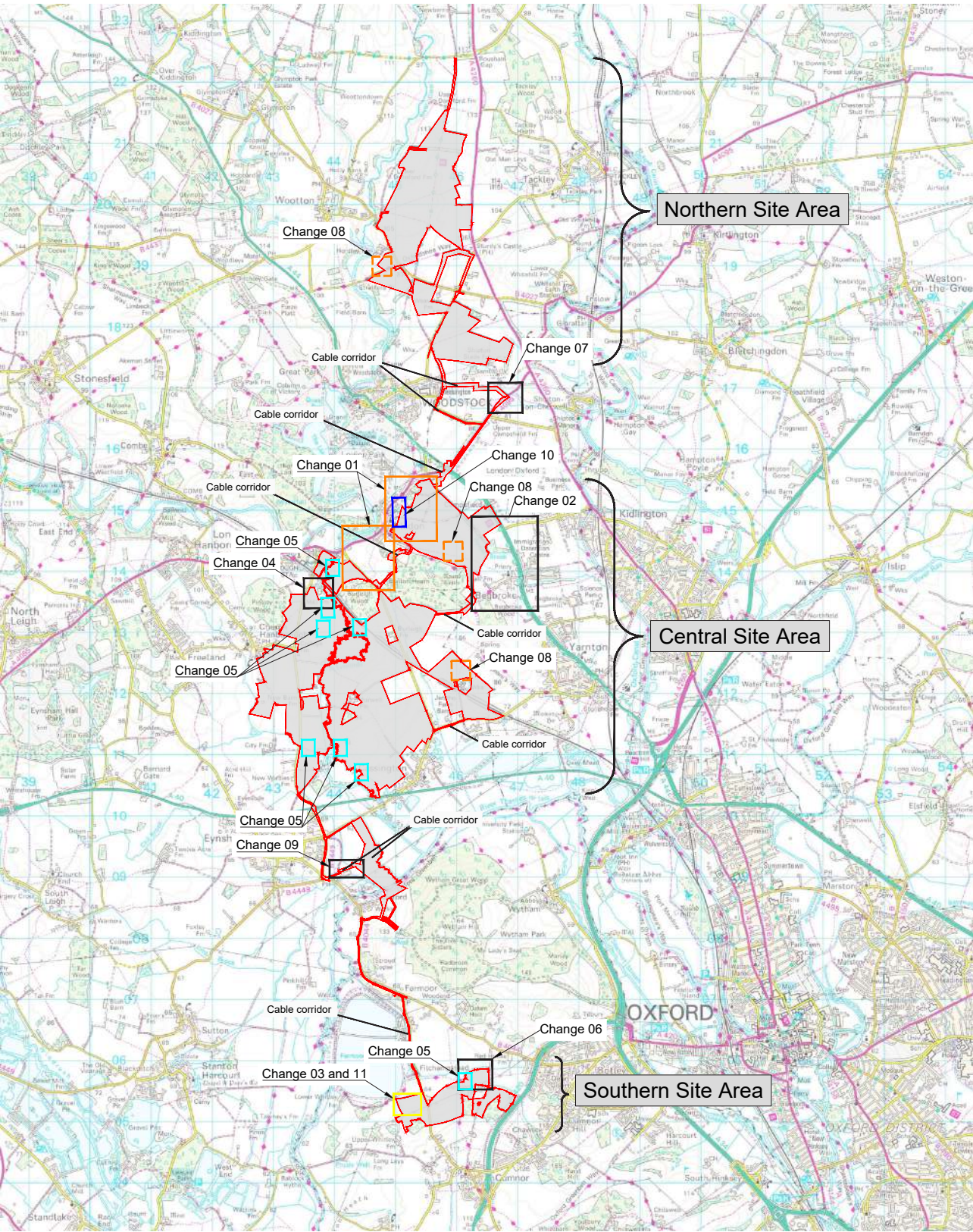
Proposed changes to the DCO Application (Change Request 2)

A site location plan of the Project is included overleaf as Figure 1. That plan shows the full extent of the newly proposed Order limits, including the locations of each proposed change.

A further description of each change is provided in this document, with more detailed annotated plans provided as appendices. The proposed changes include:

1. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area south-west of Bladon, and removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane;
2. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area near to Oxford airport;
3. Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the main Project substation as shown on Sheet 13b of the Works Plans [AS-005];
4. Refinement of Project layout and design to reduce solar installation on land east of Lower Road;
5. Refinement of Project layout and design to remove installation areas overlapping with Flood Zones 2 and 3;
6. Refinement of Project layout and design to include an additional installation area within Southern Site;
7. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove small parcels of land owned by Oxfordshire County Council (Estates);
8. Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the Public Rights of Way currently proposed to be stopped up and diverted back to definitive alignment;
9. Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove an area of land along Wharf Road;
10. Clarification of the role of the community educational facility; and
11. Refinement of Project layout and design to secure the latest design parameters for the new National Grid substation.

Site Location Plan



Change 1: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area south-west of Bladon and removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane

This proposed change relates to two areas of land near Bladon, including:

1. To the south-west of Bladon it is proposed to reduce the Order Limits by approximately 31ha, involving the removal of a solar installation area of approximately 25ha, along with associated maintenance roads, fences and gates. The 275Kv cable corridor route option remains along the southern edge of this location. The remaining land is to be removed from the Order Limits and will continue in agricultural use by the landowner; and
2. To the south-east of the main settlement at Bladon, east of Grove Road and north of Heath Lane, the Applicant proposes the removal of a further solar installation area of approximately 17.6ha, along with associated maintenance roads, fences and gates. The Order Limits is not proposed to be amended in this area and the land will be retained within the Order Limits. Whilst the solar array and associated infrastructure is proposed to be removed, the resultant freed up area of land will be retained for meadow grazing, contributing further to the Projects biodiversity net gain (BNG). The community food growing and educational areas, together with the upgrade works to the right of way that crosses this area would remain as part of the Project.

The primary purpose of this proposed change is to protect the setting of the Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site, in response to feedback received from Interested Parties including Historic England. In their Written Representation [REP1-086], Historic England advised that ‘further refinements could avoid much of the harm to the WHS, Blenheim Palace listed building and Registered Park and Garden, by removing solar panel development from the fields marked 2.1, 2.2, 2.5 and 2.20-2.26’ (paragraph 5.56). These changes are being sought to address those concerns expressed by Historic England and comprise the full removal of all solar panels and associated infrastructure from those fields identified by Historic England in its Written Representation.

Change 1 will result in alterations to the Order Limits by reducing the area of land included within the Order Limits. The change will not result in any new land interests, as no new land is sought to be brought into the Order Limits. In terms of resultant environmental effects, the Applicant’s preliminary assessment is that whilst there will some beneficial effects (e.g. avoiding harm to the setting to the WHS, improved landscape and visual effects and wellbeing effects), with no residual adverse effects, overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported. From a planning perspective this change is expected to improve the openness of the Green Belt in this location.

Please see Appendix 1 for a detailed plan of this change.

Change 2: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area near to Oxford airport

As a result of discussions with Oxford Airport and in response to its concerns regarding the safe operation of their airfield, the Applicant has agreed to further revise its layout to accommodate their concerns by reducing the Order Limits in the safety area.

This change will result in alterations to the Order Limits in the form of a reduction of approximately 53 ha. The installation area would also reduce by approximately 41 ha. This change will also include the re-siting of the existing secondary substation approximately 25-50m to the north, which itself will be reduced in height to approximately 5m, with associated lattice structure lightning rods being no higher than 10.5m. The temporary construction compound will either be re-sited to the north adjacent to the newly positioned substation or moved through approximately 90 degrees from its current position.

Since submitting its Change Notification, the Applicant has continued its design work to settle on the newly proposed location of the temporary construction compound required as a result of this change. The plan at Appendix 2 shows the adjusted Order Limits and newly proposed location of the temporary construction compound. The final position of the adjusted Order Limits will be confirmed as part of the formal Change Application, following further noise assessment work and this consultation. A full suite of updated documents will be submitted with the formal Change Application.

The freed-up land will continue to be used for agricultural purposes, managed by the landowner. The change will not result in any new land interests, as no new land is sought to be brought into the Order Limits. In terms of environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. improved landscape and visual amenity, improved safety, improved wellbeing) and no residual adverse effects, overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported.

From a planning perspective this change is anticipated to improve the openness of the Green Belt in this location and remove the concerns of Oxford Airport, the Oxfordshire Host Authorities (OHAs) and other interested parties regarding safe operation of the airport, as well as removing any risk of coalescence between Begbroke and Kidlington.

Please see Appendix 2 for a detailed plan of this change.

Change 3: Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the main Project substation as shown on Sheet 13b of the Works Plans [AS-005]

Sheet 13a of the Works Plans [AS-005] identifies the existing layout of the Main Project substation alongside the New National Grid Substation, if the New National Grid Substation is to be delivered under the DCO.

Sheet 13b of the Works Plans identifies the layout of the Main Project substation and additional solar array, if the new National Grid substation is to be delivered by National Grid on adjacent land to the west beyond the Order Limits. The current layout shows the additional solar array directly in place of the land reserved for the new National Grid substation and the Project main substation remaining to the east of that land parcel.

However, the Applicant is proposing to adjust the layout shown on Sheet 13b such that the Project main substation would be moved to the western side of the land parcel within the Order Limits, closer to where the new National Grid substation is proposed to be relocated.

The additional solar array would then be to the eastern side of the land parcel shown on Sheet 13b. This would allow for a shorter, more efficient and more cost-effective cable connection to the National Grid substation. This was recognised by the Examining Authority in the Issue Specific Hearing 1 (on DCO and Strategic Matters) and the Applicant is seeking this change partly in response to that suggestion.

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. In terms of environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. less BMV permanently lost and reduced noise impact to sensitive receptors), and no significant residual adverse effects, overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported.

Please see Appendix 3 for a detailed plan of this change.

Change 4: Refinement of Project layout and design to reduce solar installation on land east of Lower Road

The Applicant is aware of a restrictive covenant which prevents the construction of ‘buildings’ over Plots 6-18, 6-19, 8-06, 8-07, 8-13, 8-14, 8-15, 8-16, on which the Applicant proposes solar arrays and related infrastructure. In any event, the draft DCO would facilitate the extinguishment of that restrictive covenant to allow the development to proceed.

Notwithstanding, the Applicant has continued to engage with the affected landowner to try and find a reasonable alternative proposal. To date, the Interested Party has maintained their position that they do not want solar installation over the relevant land parcel. The Applicant is therefore proposing to reduce its powers of solar installation over a large part of the affected land, specifically immediately to the west and south of the Interested Party’s property. This would result in a loss of approximately 2.7 ha of installation area and the re-routing of part of the 33kV cable. The freed-up land would remain within the Order Limits and remain in agricultural use and managed for Biodiversity Net Gain.

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. In terms of environmental effects, the Applicant’s preliminary assessment is that whilst there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. reduced landscape and visual impacts on sensitive receptors, improved wellbeing effects, including use of PRoW), and no significant residual adverse effects, overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported.

Please see Appendix 4 for a detailed plan of this change.

Change 5: Refinement of Project layout and design to remove installation areas overlapping with Flood Zones 2 and 3

As a result of a base mapping error, the Applicant has identified minor anomalies where the solar installation slightly overlaps with Flood Zone 2 or 3 throughout the Project site. The Applicant is committed to not develop within Flood Zone 2 or 3 and so is proposing to correct this mapping anomaly. This has resulted in a small loss of installation area in several locations amounting to approximately 0.72 ha.

No new land interests would be engaged as a result of this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. Given the minor nature of the proposed modification, it is considered that there are no new or materially different likely significant environmental effects that would arise as a result of this change. Please see Appendix 5 for a detailed plan of this change.

Please see Appendix 5 for a detailed plan of this change.

Change 6: Refinement of Project layout and design to include an additional installation area within Southern Site

The Applicant has recently become aware of a change in the Environment Agency mapping of parts of Flood Zone 2. In particular, an area within the Order Limits was previously excluded from development because it was within Flood Zone 2. This is an area of approximately 2.41 ha, within the Southern Site. The Applicant now wishes to utilise this area for additional solar array as a result of the change in Flood Zone status.

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. In terms of environmental effects, whilst the Applicant is aware that this land is still susceptible to surface water flooding, which will be subject to further analysis and mitigation, it is unlikely that this change will lead to new or materially different likely significant environmental effects to those currently reported.

Please see Appendix 6 for a detailed plan of this change.

Change 7: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove small parcels of land owned by Oxfordshire County Council (Estates)

This change is sought to refine the Order Limits so that these sections of the Order Limits only include the extent of the public highway (i.e. land of Oxfordshire County Council in its capacity as highway authority) and do not involve land owned by Oxfordshire County Council in its ‘Estates’ capacity. The amount of land proposed to be removed is approximately 0.005ha only.

This change will result in a reduction to the Order Limits but will not impact on the nature or extent of the works proposed to be carried out in these locations. No new land interests will be engaged through this change, as no additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. Given the minor nature of the proposed modification to the Order Limits, it is considered that this change will not result in any new or different likely significant environmental effects.

Please see Appendix 7 for a detailed plan of this change.

Change 8: Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the Public Rights of Way currently proposed to be stopped up and diverted back to definitive alignment

Prior to submission of the Applicant's DCO Application, the Applicant became aware that there was a difference between the aerial data showing the used footpath routes on the ground and the Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) definitive data set of their alignment. The data showed that the routes used by the public deviated from the definitive data set alignment. The Applicant therefore sought powers to alter the alignment of the PRow to reflect the 'desire lines' on the ground. However, following ongoing discussions with OCC, the Applicant is seeking to remove those powers to adopt the OCC definitive alignments which will result in a change to the submitted plans.

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. Given the minor nature of the change, it is considered that there are no new or materially different likely significant environmental effects that would arise as a result of this change.

Please see Appendix 8 for a detailed plan of this change.

Change 9: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove an area of land along Wharf Road

The Applicant is proposing to reduce the area required along Wharf Road following feedback from the landowner (Siemens Healthcare Limited). The area of Wharf Road to be removed (part of plot 11-29) falls within the landowner's gated area, which is secured and would require notice of entry each time access is required. Furthermore, removing the area would lessen the potential impact on the operations of the site, which requires uninterrupted access. It has been agreed with the landowner that this area will not be taken under an Option Agreement as it is no longer needed to facilitate the development. An alternative route for the cable is facilitated through the Order Limits, by routing north from the adopted highway before the gated area and running parallel in an adjacent parcel of land.

This change will result in alterations to the Order Limits and a reduction in the area of land included within the Order Limits. The precise extent of the change has been discussed with Siemens and a plan of the proposed reduction in the Order Limits has been produced and is included at Appendix 9. The change will not result in any new land interests, as no new land is sought to be brought into the Order Limits, and no likely new or different significant environmental effects are anticipated as a result of this change.

Please see Appendix 9 for a detailed plan of this change

Change 10: Clarification of the role of the community educational facility

The proposed community education facility has been included in the original project, as seen in Chapter 16 of the Environmental Statement [APP-053] and the outline Operational Management Plan [APP-234] (oOMP). Illustrative 3D Views of the Educational Facility are also available at [APP-107].

As set out in Chapter 16 and the oOMP, further details (including the location, size and scale) of the facility will be finalised during the detailed design phase and included within the detailed Operational Management Plan (as secured under Requirement 12 of the draft DCO). This is explained in the Applicant's response to the Examining Authority's Written Question Q1.7.11 submitted at Deadline 2.

Whilst the facility was in the original Project application, it is proposed to be included as part of the Change Application to provide absolute clarity that it is proposed as part of the Project. The Applicant will be seeking to update Chapter 6: Project Description and the draft DCO to include express reference to the community educational facility to remove any doubt that the DCO seeks powers to deliver the facility. For example, the Applicant intends to update Schedule 1 of the draft DCO to include works powers for "amenity and educational facilities" to make it clear that the consent covers the works required for the educational facility. Any changes will be supported by environmental confirmations as part of the formal Change Application. It is considered that this change will not result in any new or materially different likely significant environmental effects.

Please see Appendix 10 for a detailed plan of this change, and Appendix 11 for a copy of Figure 16.2 - Illustrative 3D Views of Educational Facility [APP-107].

Change 11: Refinement of Project layout and design to secure the latest design parameters for the new National Grid substation

The area currently set aside for the NGET substation amounts to up to 3.8 ha. The parameters for that substation include a 76m x 31m footprint of main building and 14m height of main building, as secured in the Outline Layout and Design Principles [REP1-014]. The Guide to the Application, Statement in Respect of Statutory Nuisance and the Explanatory Memorandum were each updated at Deadline 2 to ensure any references to these parameters are consistent.

However, following its engagement with National Grid, amendments to those parameters are required to ensure that the secured design details adequately facilitate the delivery of the New National Grid Substation. The Applicant is also looking to secure additional parameters to give greater clarity on the proposed design. This will be secured in an updated version of the Outline Layout & Design Principles (to be submitted as part of the formal Change Application).

As this change is being driven by National Grid’s design of its substation, the Applicant is continuing to engage with National Grid on the design parameters required. On an indicative basis only at this stage, the Applicant expects the Outline Layout & Design Principles to be updated to capture at least the following approximate design parameters:

- Up to 3.8ha site area
- 93.020m x 16.725m footprint of main GIS building
- 14.495m height of main GIS building
- Gas Insulated substation
- 95 dB(A) sound power level
- 105.020m x 10m footprint of adjoining building
- 4.8m height of adjoining building

The above parameters are subject to change following the ongoing engagement with National Grid in order to ensure that there is sufficient flexibility in the DCO application to facilitate the National Grid substation to be delivered under the DCO. The final proposed design will be captured as part of the formal Change Application, to reflect National Grid’s latest design at that time.

No new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required. Similarly to Change 10, whilst the infrastructure is already captured in the original project, it is proposed to be included as part of the Change Application for absolute clarity and to remove any doubt as to whether the newly proposed design of the new National Grid substation falls within the scope of the assessed parameters. Given the minor nature of the change it is considered that there are no new or materially different likely significant environmental effects that would arise a result of this change.

Please see appendix 12 for more detail on this change.

Contact us



Email: info@botleywest.co.uk



Freephone Information Line: 0808 175 3085

(Open Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm)
Voicemails can be left outside of these hours



Freepost: BWSF

You will not need a stamp to send any correspondence to the freepost address



Website: www.botleywest.co.uk

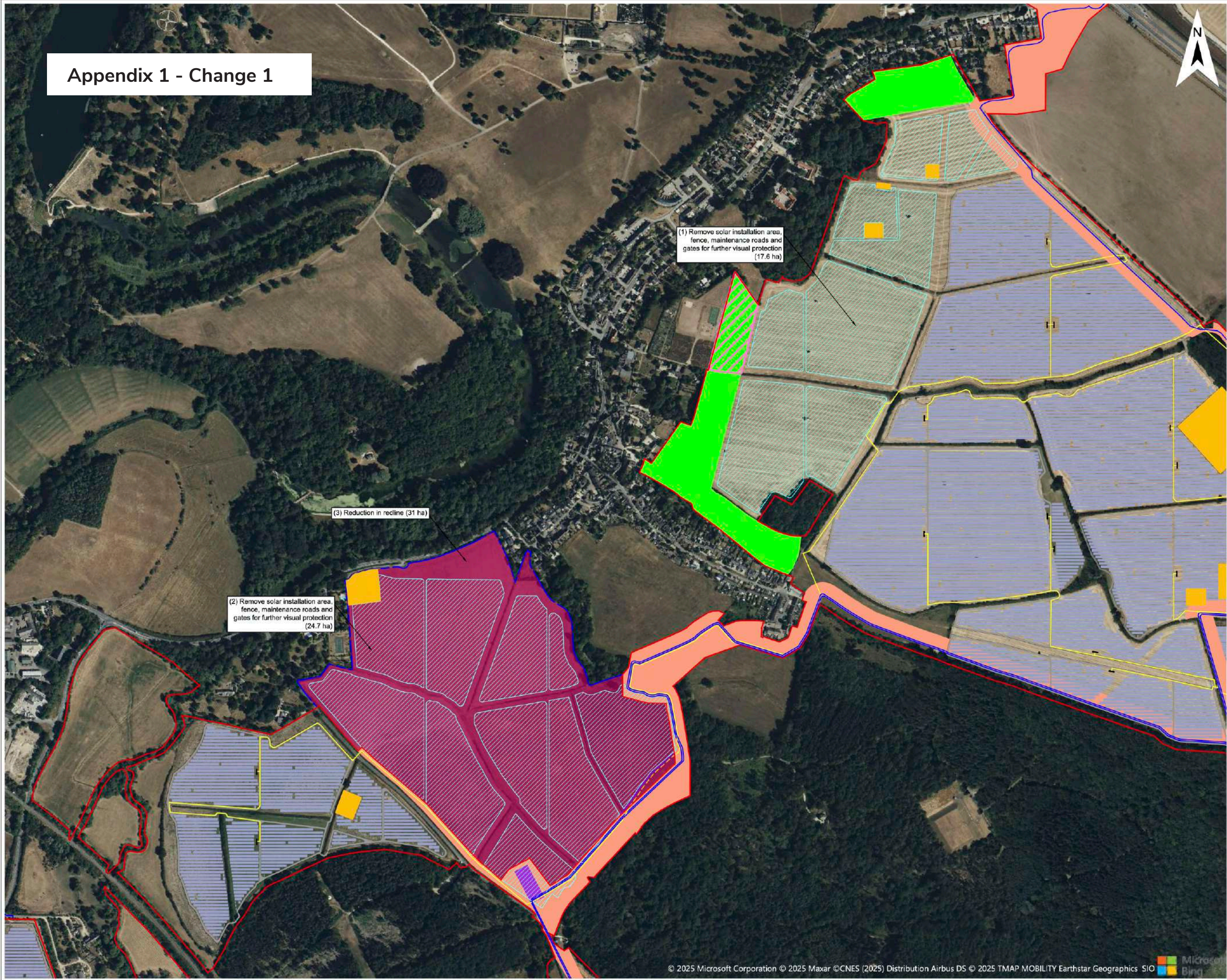
Please scan the QR code to visit our website and view more information on Botley West.



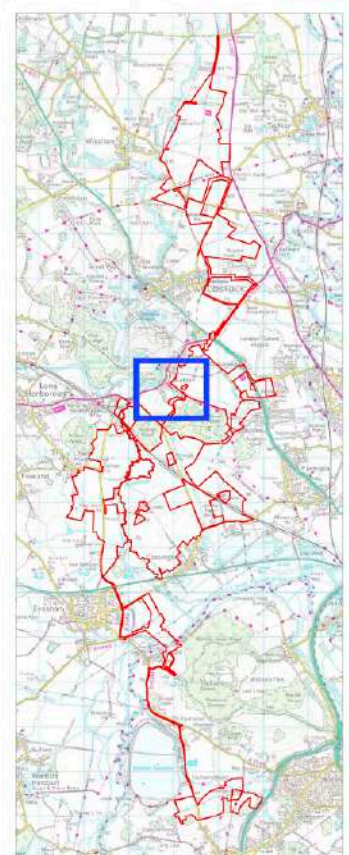
If anyone needs this document in large print, audio or braille formats, please contact us using the details above.

Please note that all graphics and maps in this document are for illustrative purposes.

Appendix 1 - Change 1

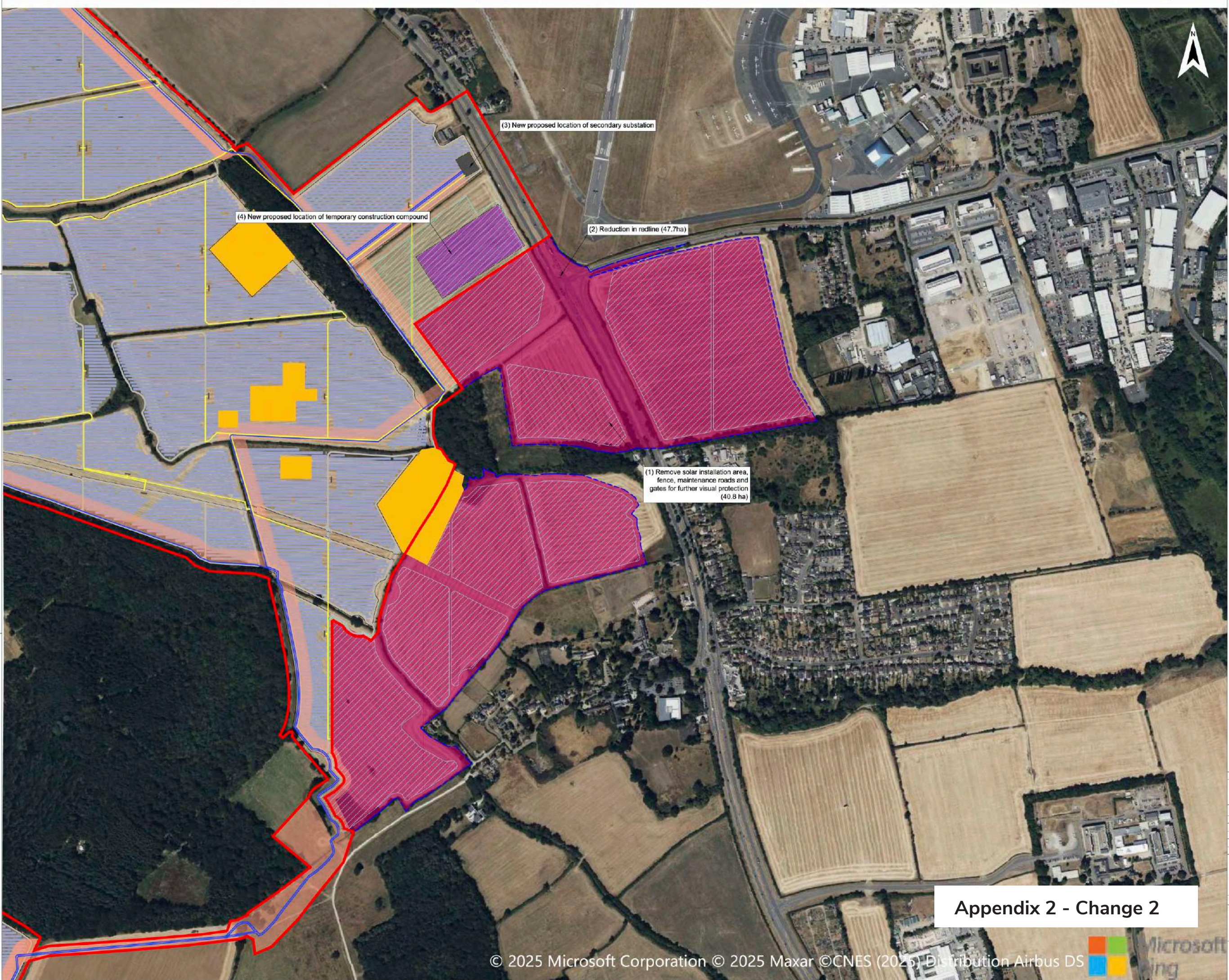


- Legend**
- Order Limits Rev 1, s51 Response
 - Order Limits Change Request 2
 - Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *
 - Areas for sensitive archaeological site protection and management
 - Solar Panels
 - Maintenance Road
 - Fence
 - Access Gate
 - PCS
 - Indicative 33kV Cable Route
 - Indicative 33kV Cable Route Affected
 - Indicative 275kV Cable Route
 - Indicative 275kV Cable Route Affected
 - Cable Corridor
 - Temporary HDD Compound
 - Educational Area
 - Land Available for Community Food Growing Area
 - Project Refinements
 - (1) (2) Replace solar installation area, fence, maintenance roads and gates for further visual protection (Total: 42.3 ha)
 - (3) Reduction in redline (31 ha)



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

A: Change Request						
Project				Status		
Bollery West Solar Farm				Illustrative		
id	Changes	Date	Name		Date	Name
				Edit	18.06.2025	K. Luken
				Check	18.06.2025	H. Traubel
				Drawing No		Appendix A
A	Created	18.06.2025	K. Luken			



Legend

Order Limits Rev.1, s51 Response

Order Limits Change Request 2

Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *

Areas for sensitive archaeological site protection and management

Solar Panels

Maintenance Road

Fence

Access Gate

PCS

Indicative 33kV Cable Route

Indicative 33kV Cable Route Affected

Indicative 275kV Cable Route

Indicative 275kV Cable Route affected

Cable Corridors

Project Refinements

(1) Remove solar installation area, fence, maintenance roads and gates after discussion with Oxford Airport (40.8ha)

(2) Reduction in redline (47.7ha)

(3) New proposed location of secondary substation

(4) New proposed location of temporary construction compound

A: Notification of Change Request

Project			Status		
Botley West Solar Farm			Preliminary		
Id.	Changes	Date	Name	Date	Name
			Edt	15.07.2025	K. Lueken
			Check	15.07.2025	H. Tröbsel
A	Created	15.07.2025	K. Lueken	Drawing No.	Appendix A

APFP Regulation: S(2)(Q)

Scale: 1 : 2500

Change Request 2
Notification - Change 2

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Appendix 2 - Change 2

Appendix 3 - Change 3

(1) Relocate Main / Secondary Substation

(2) Redefine solar installation area (4.2 ha)

Legend

Order Limits Rev. 1, 551 Response

Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *

- Areas for sensitive archaeological site protection and management
- Solar Panels
- Maintenance Road
- Fence
- Access Gate
- PCS
- Indicative 33kV Cable Route
- Indicative 275kV Cable Route
- Main Substation
- Secondary Substation

Project Refinements

- (1) Relocate Main / Secondary Substation
- (2) Redefine solar installation area (4.2 ha)



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

A: Notification of Change Request						
Project				Status		
Bolley West Solar Farm				Preliminary		
id	Changes	Date	Name		Date	Name
				Edit	01.07.2025	M.Thorn
				Check	01.07.2025	H.Trabelsi
A	Created	01.07.2025	M.Thorn	Drawing No	Appendix A	

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(g)

Scale: 1:1250 at A0
Title: Change Request 2
Notification - Change 3
0 50 100
Meters

Appendix 4 - Change 4

Legend

Order Limits Rev.2, Change Request

Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *

Areas for sensitive archaeological site protection and management

Solar Panels

Maintenance Road

Fence

Access Gate

PCS

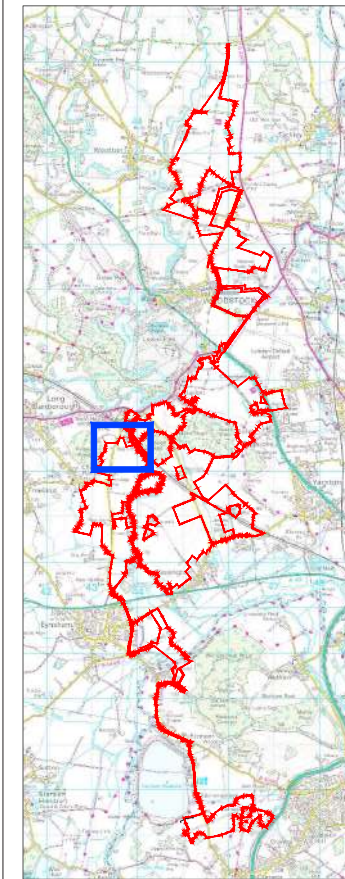
Indicative 33kV Cable Route

Project Refinements

(1) Remove solar installation area, fence, maintenance roads and gates (2.7ha)

(2) New hedgerow proposed (730m)

(3) Indicative 33 kV Cable Route removed



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

A: Notification of Change Request

Project				Status		
Botley West Solar Farm				Preliminary		
Id.	Changes	Date	Name		Date	Name
				Edit	01.07.2025	M.Thor
				Check	01.07.2025	H.Trab
				Drawing No	Appendix A	
A	Created	01.07.2025	M.Thom			

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(Q)

Scale: 1:1250

Title: Change Request 2
Notification - Change 4










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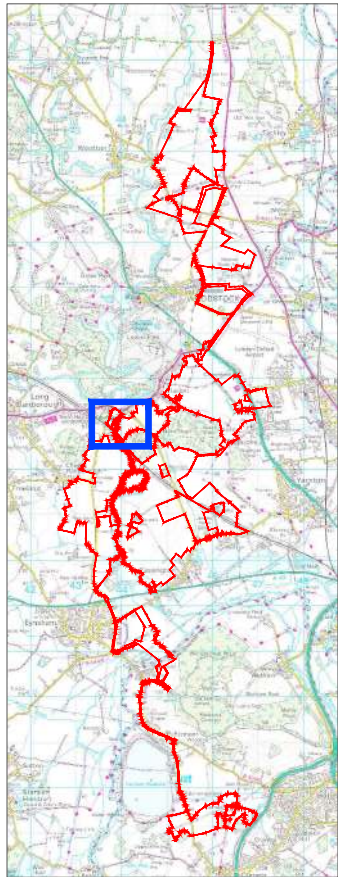
Appendix 5 - Change 5



(2) Remove solar installation area for Flood Zone protection and management (0.0041ha)

(1) Remove solar installation area for Flood Zone protection and management (0.031ha)

- Legend
- RLB of the S51 response 
- Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *
- Solar Panels 
- Maintenance Road 
- Fence 
- Access Gate 
- PCS 
- Indicative 33kV Cable Route 
- Project Refinements
- (1) Remove solar installation area for further flood zone protection and management (0.031ha) 
- (2) Remove solar installation area for further flood zone protection and management (0.0041ha) 



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

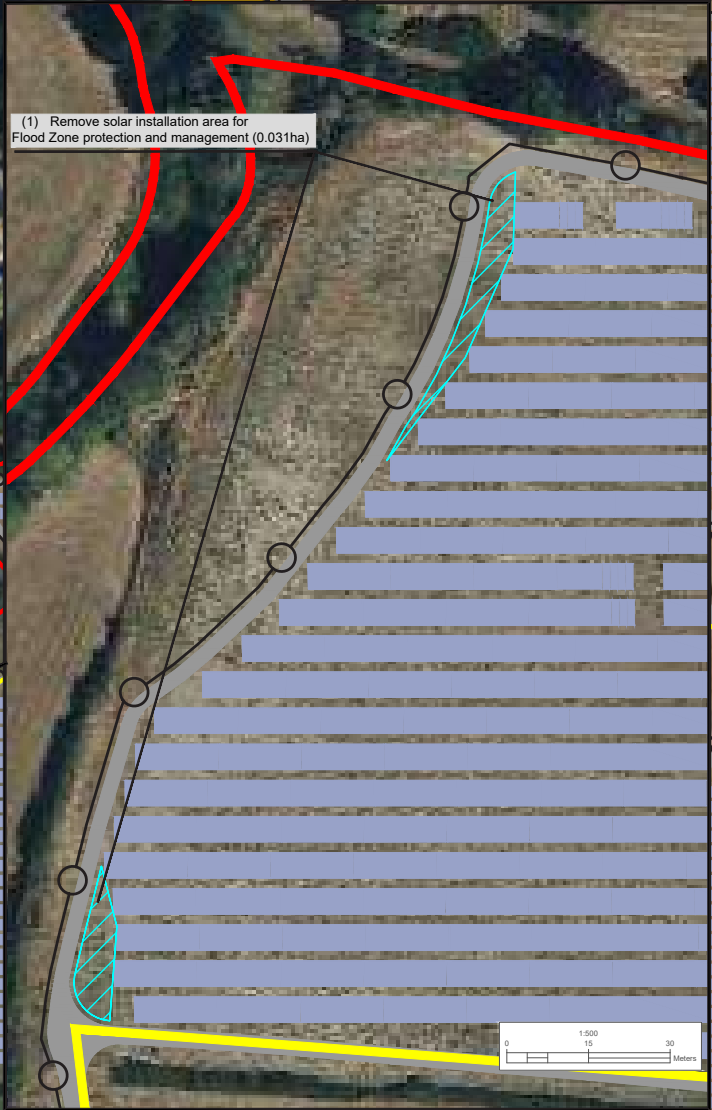
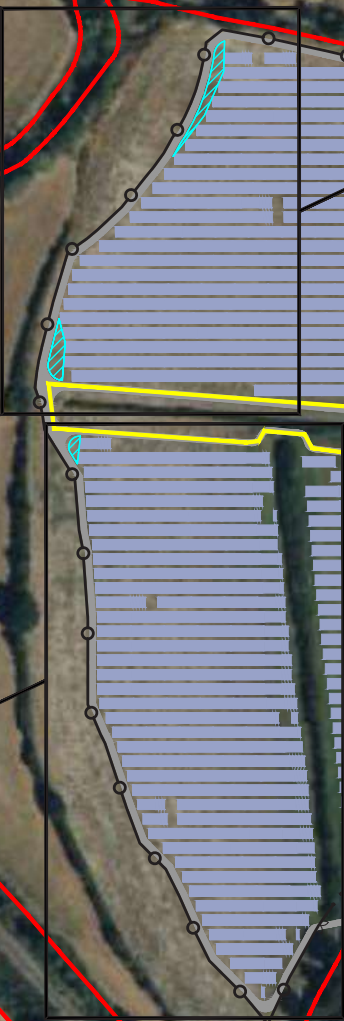
A: Notification of Change Request					
Project			Status		
Botley West Solar Farm			Preliminary		
Id.	Changes	Date	Name		
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				Check	01.07.2025 H.Trabelsi
				Drawing No	Appendix A
A	Created	01.07.2025	M.Thom		

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(Q)

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Title: Change Request 2
Notification - Change 5

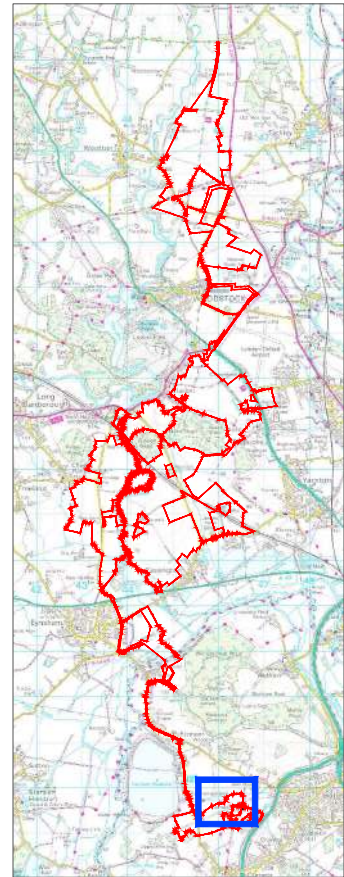
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Appendix 6 - Change 6



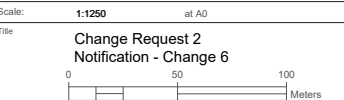
- Legend
- RLB of the S51 response 
- Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *
- Solar Panels 
- Maintenance Road 
- Fence 
- Access Gate 
- PCS 
- Indicative 33kV Cable Route 
- Project Refinements
- (1) Additional installation area (2.41 ha) 



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

A: Notification of Change Request					
Project			Status		
Botley West Solar Farm			Preliminary		
Id.	Changes	Date	Name		
				Date	Name
				Editt.	01.07.2025 M.Thom
				Check	01.07.2025 H.Trabelsi
				Drawing No	Appendix A
A	Created	01.07.2025	M.Thom		

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(Q)



Appendix 7 - Change 7

Legend

Order Limit Rev.1, s51 Response



Order Limit Rev. 2, Change request



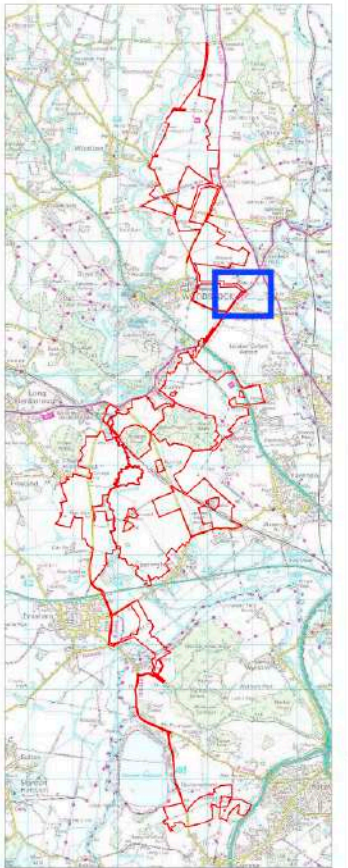
Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *

Indicative 275kV Cable Route



Project Refinements

(1), (2) and (3) Refinement of Redline



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

A: Notification of Change Request

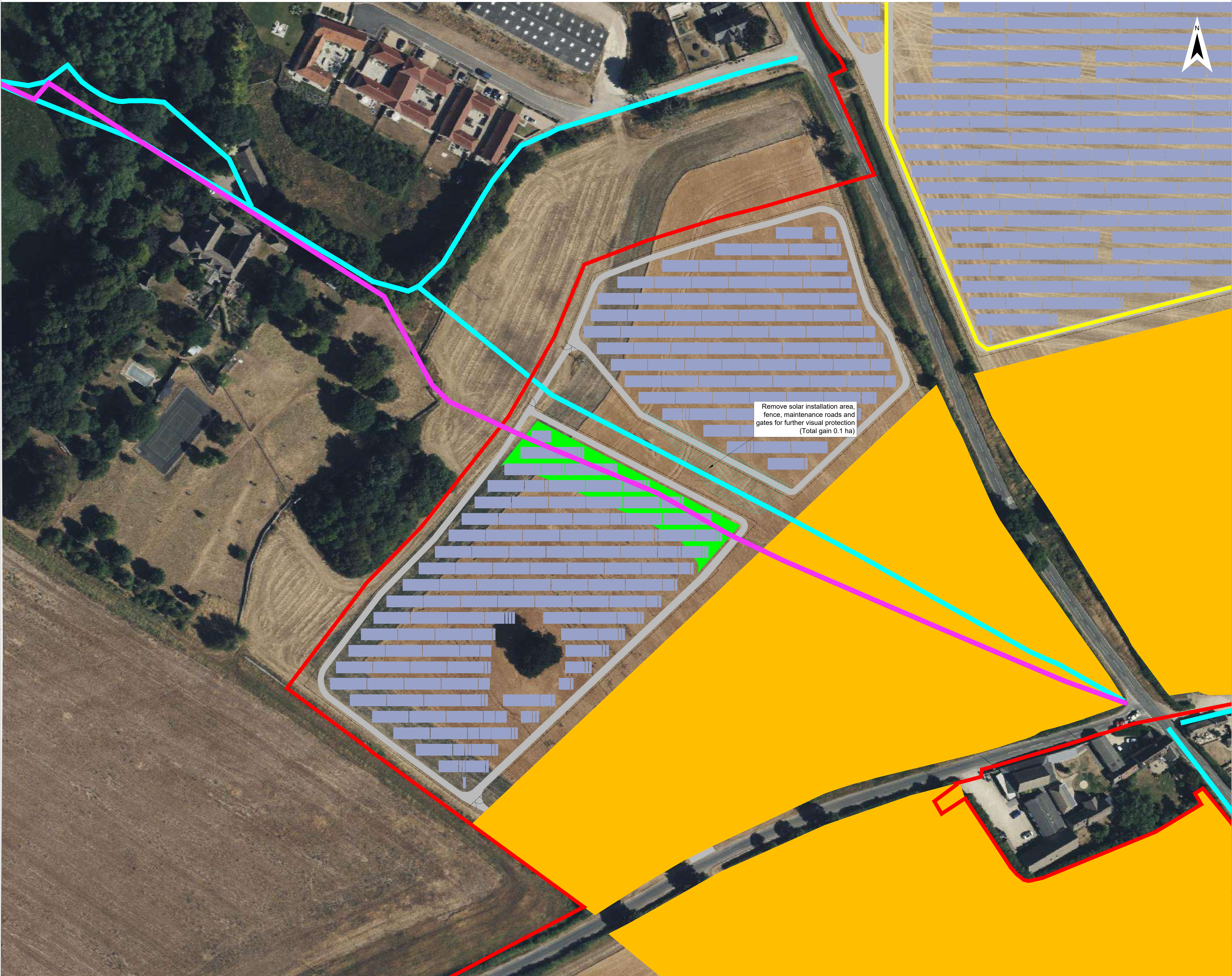
Project				Status		
Bolley West Solar Farm				Preliminary		
id	Changes	Date	Name		Date	Name
				Edit	01.07.2025	M.Thorn
				Check	01.07.2025	H.Trabelsi
A	Created	01.07.2025	M.Thorn	Drawing No	Appendix A	

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(Q)

Scale: 1:1250 at A0

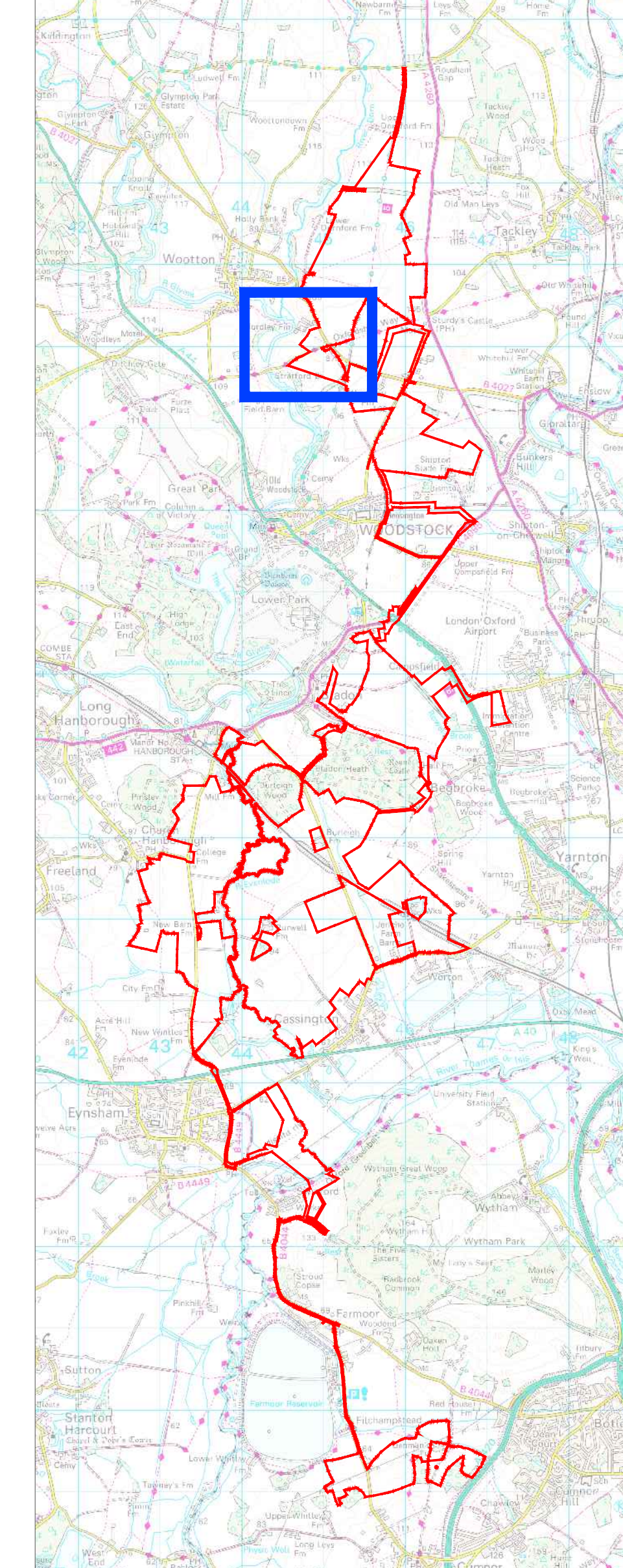
Title
Change Request 2
Notification - Change 7

0 50 100 Meters



- Legend
- Order Limits Rev.1, s51 Response
- Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *
- Areas for sensitive archaeological site protection and management
- Solar Panels
- Maintenance Road
- Fence
- Access Gate
- Indicative 33kV Cable Route
- Previous PROW Route
- Updated PROW Route

- Project Refinements
- (1) Addition of Solar Installation Area after PROW Adjustment (0.17ha)
- (2) Removal of solar installation area, fence, maintenance roads and gates for PROW adjustment (0.08ha).



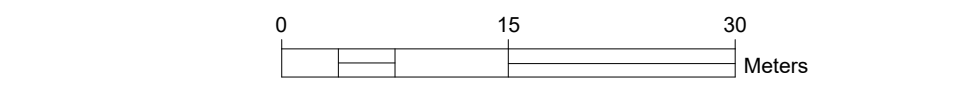
* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

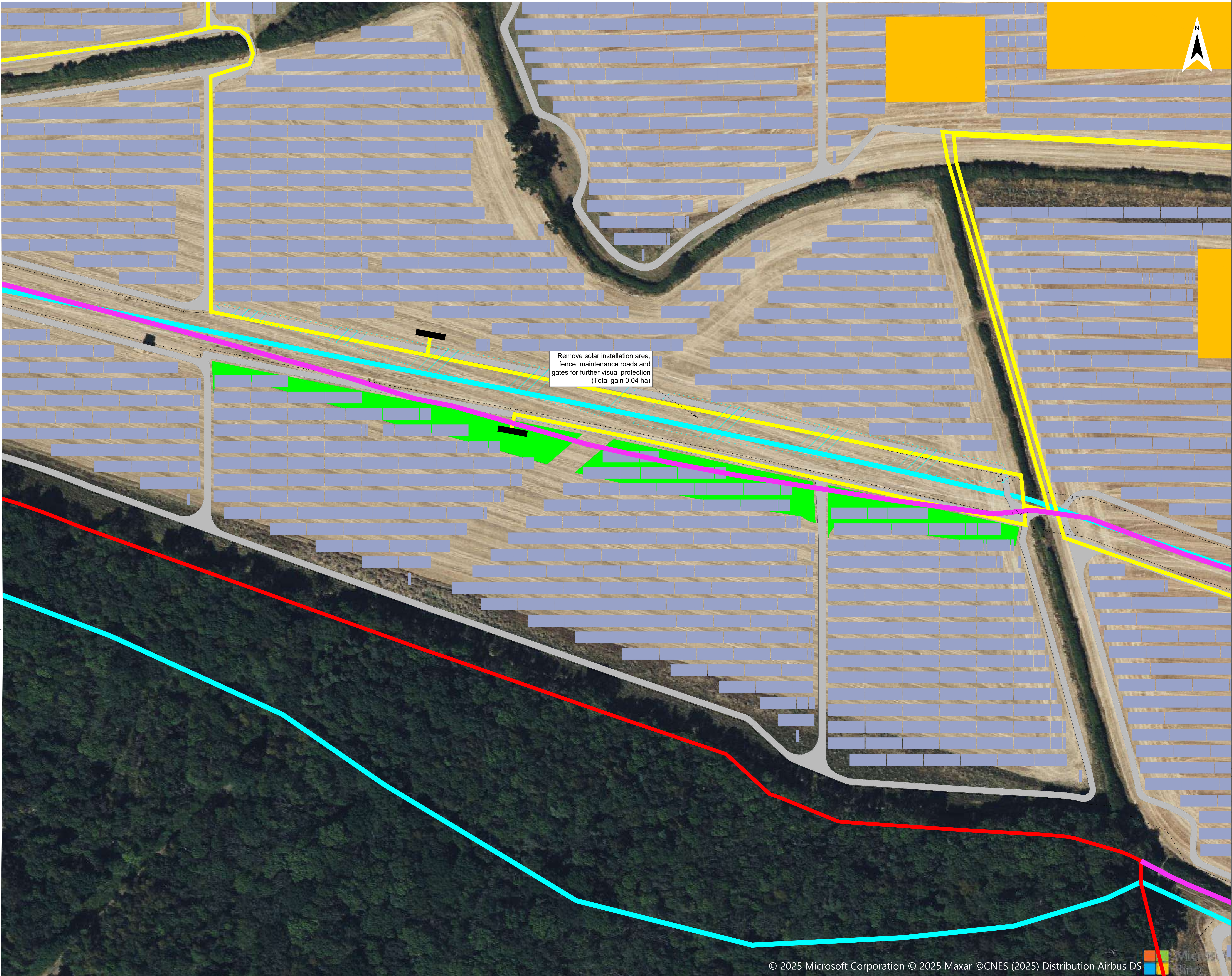
A: Notification of Change Request						
Project				Status		
Botley West Solar Farm				Preliminary		
Id.	Changes	Date	Name		Date	Name
				Edit	01.07.2025	M.Thom
				Check <th>01.07.2025</th> <th>H.Trabelsi</th>	01.07.2025	H.Trabelsi
				Drawing No	Appendix A	
A	Created	01.07.2025	M.Thom			

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(Q)

Scale: 1:1250 at A0

Title
Change Request 2
Notification - Change 8





Legend

Order Limits Rev.1, s51 Response

Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *

Areas for sensitive archaeological site protection and management

Solar Panels

Maintenance Road

Fence

Access Gate

PCS

Indicative 33kV Cable Route

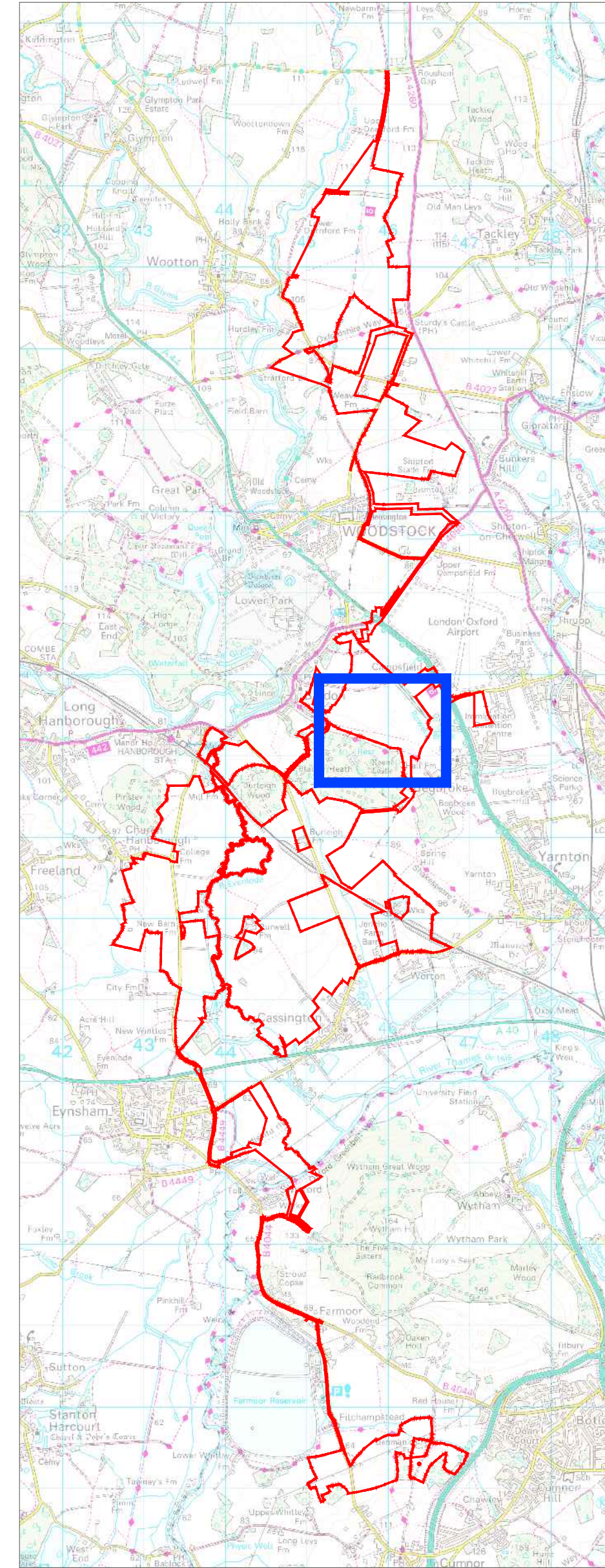
Previous PROW Route

Updated PROW Route

Project Refinements

(1) Addition of Solar Installation Area after PROW Adjustment (0.39ha)

(2) Removal of solar installation area, fence, maintenance roads and gates for PROW adjustment (0.35ha).



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

A: Notification of Change Request						
Project				Status		
Botley West Solar Farm				Preliminary		
Id.	Changes	Date	Name		Date	Name
				Edit	01.07.2025	M.Thom
				Check	01.07.2025	H.Trabelsi
				Drawing No	Appendix A	
A	Created	01.07.2025	M.Thom			

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(Q)

Scale: 1:1250 at A0

Title

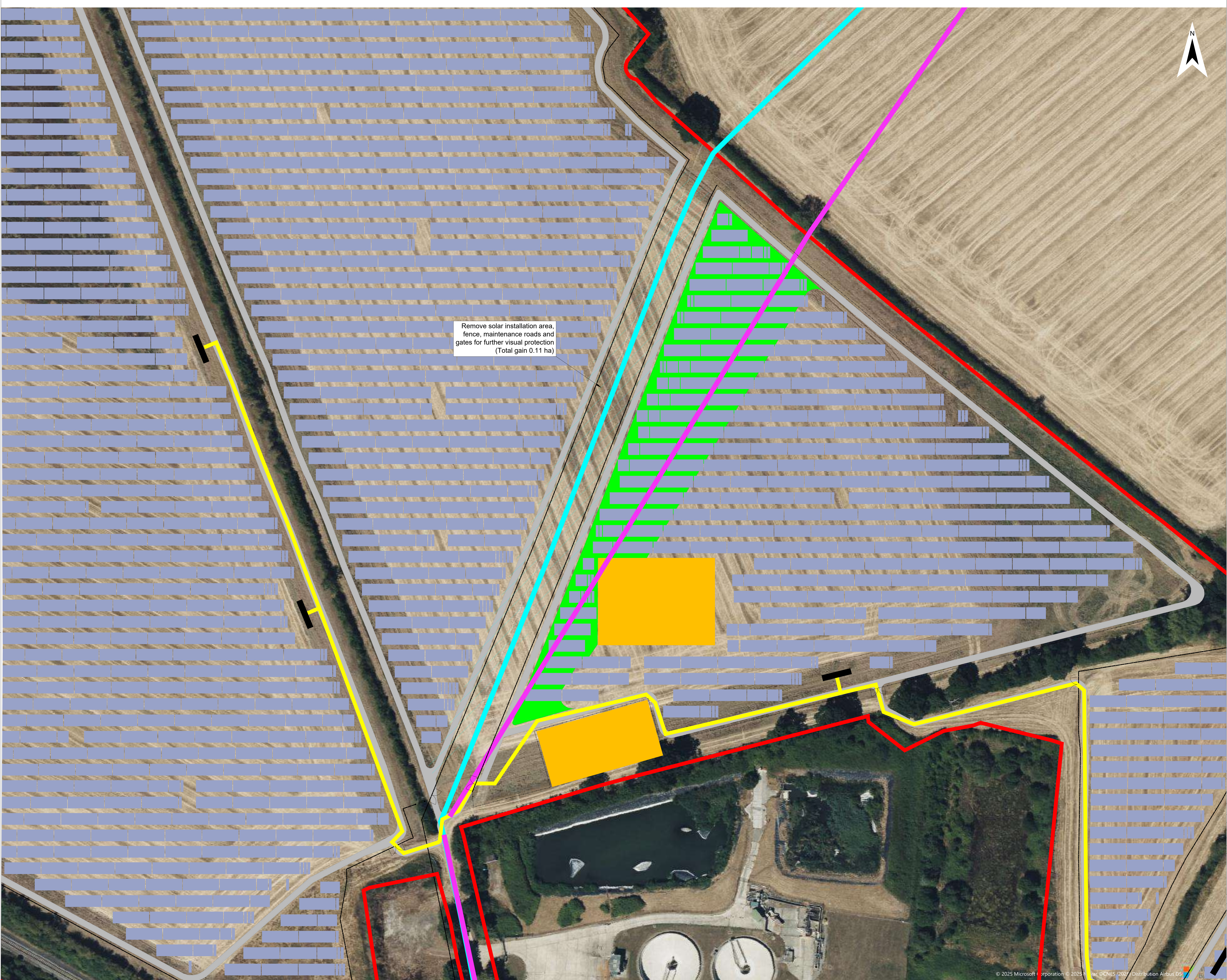
Change Request 2

Notification - Change 8

0 15 30 Meters

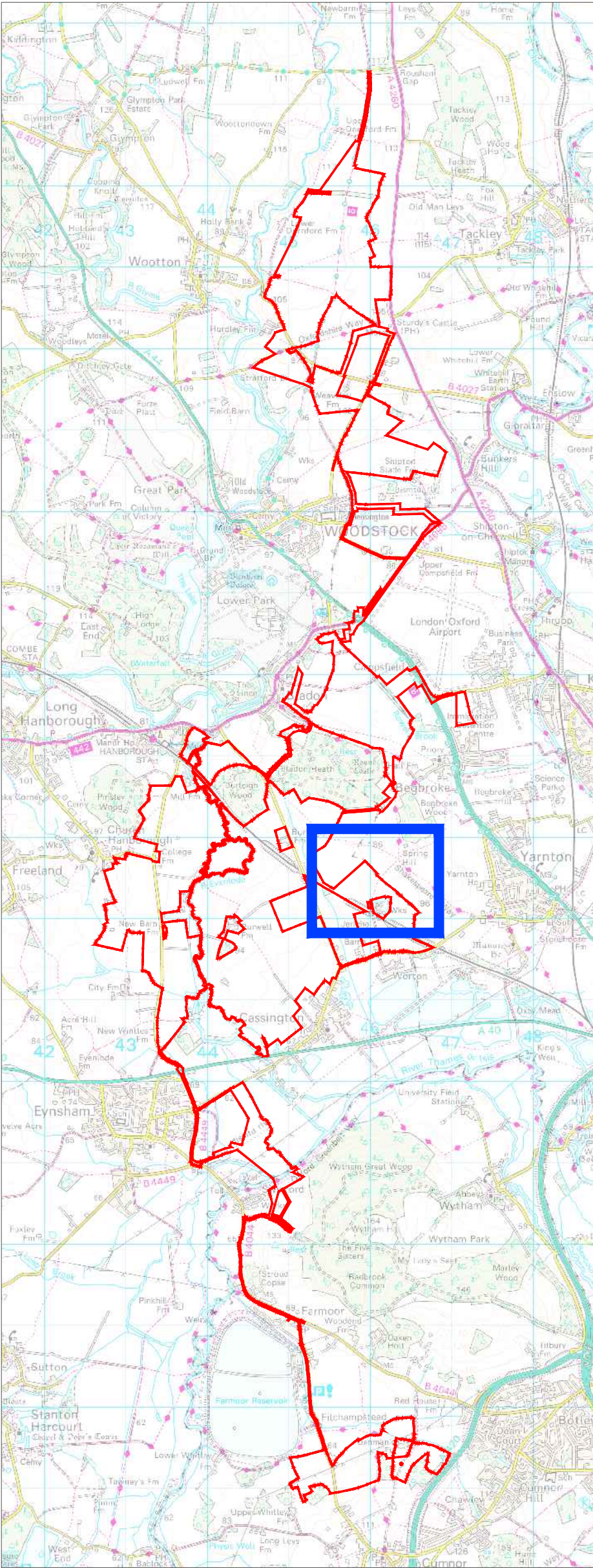
PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Photovoltaic Development Partners GmbH
Kurfürstendamm 52
10707 Berlin, Germany



- Legend
- Order Limits Rev.1, s51 Response
- Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *
- Areas for sensitive archaeological site protection and management
- Solar Panels
- Maintenance Road
- Fence
- Access Gate
- PCS
- Indicative 33kV Cable Route
- Previous PROW Route
- Updated PROW Route

- Project Refinements
- (1) Addition of Solar Installation Area after PROW Adjustment (0.65ha)
- (2) Removal of solar installation area, fence, maintenance roads and gates for PROW adjustment (0.54ha).



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

A: Notification of Change Request					
Project			Status		
Botley West Solar Farm			Preliminary		
Id.	Changes	Date	Name		
				Date	Name
			Edit	01.07.2025	M.Thom
			Check	01.07.2025	H.Trabelsi
			Drawing No	Appendix A	
A	Created	01.07.2025	M.Thom		

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(Q)

Scale: 1:1250 at A0

Title

Change Request 2

Notification - Change 8

0 15 30 Meters



Photovoltaik Development Partners GmbH
Kurfürstendamm 52
10707 Berlin, Germany

Appendix 9 - Change 9



Legend

Order Limits Rev.1, s51 Response

Order Limits Rev.2, Change Request

Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *

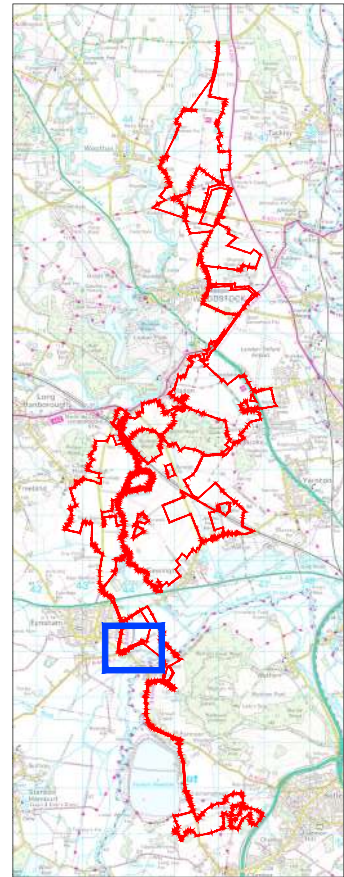
Indicative 275kV Cable Route

Temporary HDD Compound

Project Refinements

(1) Reduction in redline (0.6 ha)

(2) Indicative 275 kV Cable Route removed



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

A: Notification of Change Request						
Project				Status		
Botley West Solar Farm				Preliminary		
Id.	Changes	Date	Name		Date	Name
				Edit	15.07.2025	M.Thom
				Check	15.07.2025	H.Trabelsi
				Drawing No		Appendix A
A	Created	15.07.2025	M.Thom			

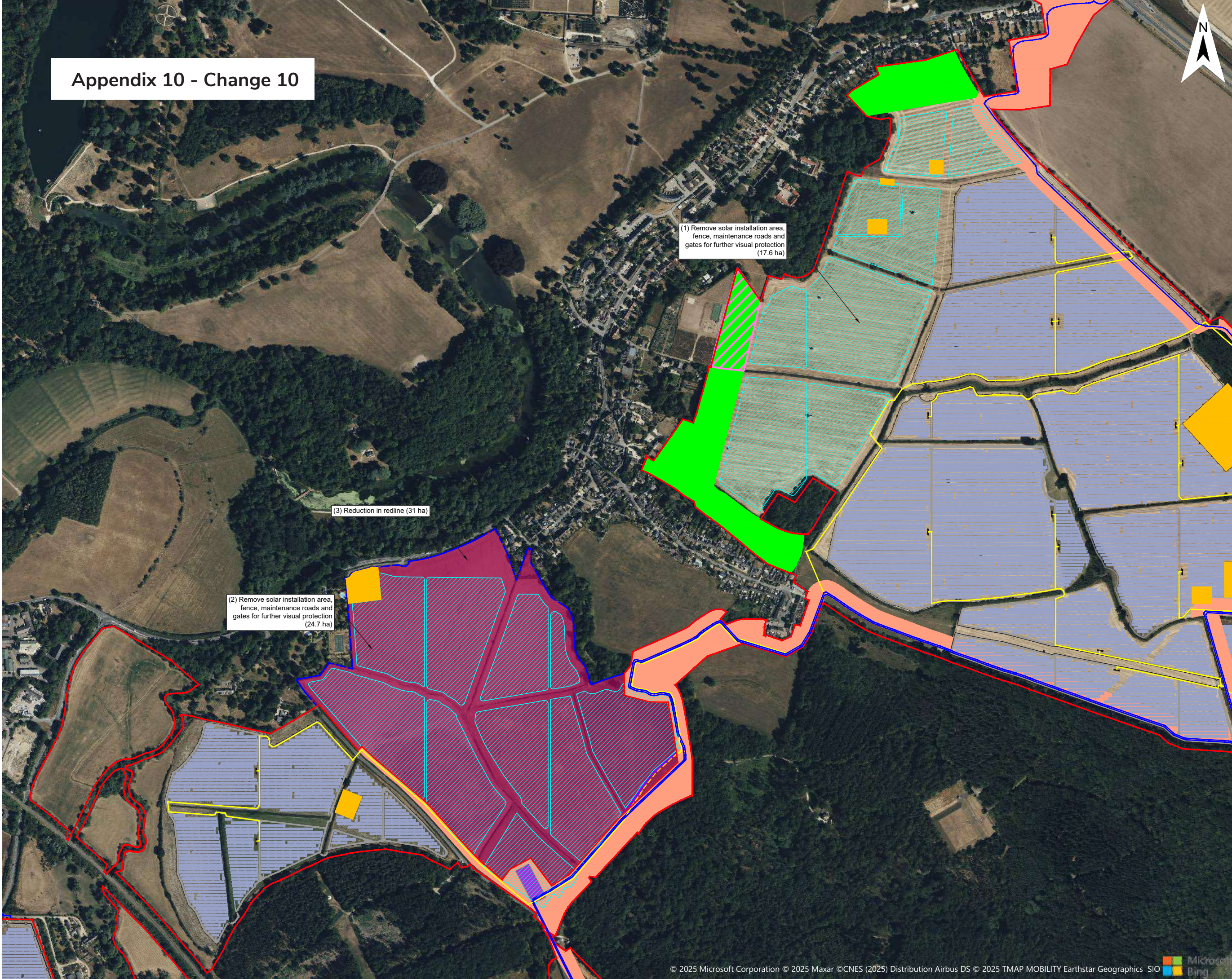
APFP Regulation: 5(2)(Q)

Scale: 1:1250 at A0

Title Change Request 2 Notification - Change 9



Appendix 10 - Change 10



Legend

Order Limits Rev.1, s51 Response

Order Limits Change Request 2

Proposed Infrastructure and Land Use Elements *

Areas for sensitive archaeological site protection and management

Solar Panels

Maintenance Road

Fence

Access Gate

PCS

Indicative 33kV Cable Route

Indicative 33kV Cable Route Affected

Indicative 275kV Cable Route

Indicative 275kV Cable Route Affected

Cable Corridor

Temporary HDD Compound

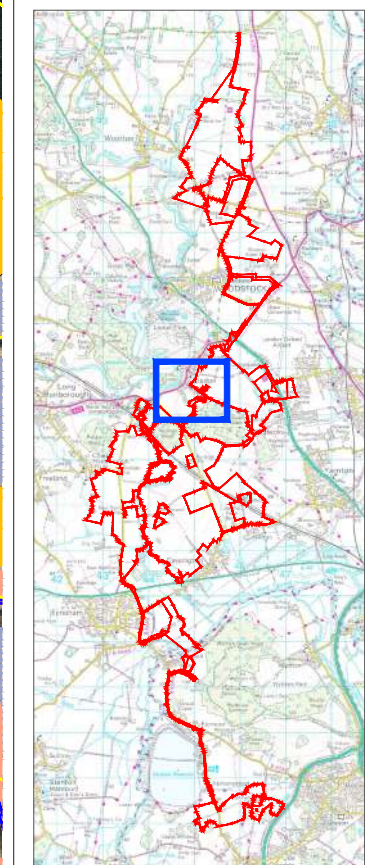
Educational Area

Land Available for Community Food Growing Area

Project Refinements

(1) (2) Replace solar installation area, fence, maintenance roads and gates for further visual protection (Total: 42.3ha)

(3) Reduction in redline (31 ha)



* The location of the proposed infrastructure and land use elements are shown indicatively only.

A: Change Request						
Project				Status		
Botley West Solar Farm				Illustrative		
Id.	Changes	Date	Name		Date	Name
				Edit	18.06.2025	K. Lueken
				Check	18.06.2025	H.Trabelsi
				Drawing No	Appendix A	
A	Created	18.06.2025	K. Lueken			

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(j)

Scale: 1:2500 at A0

Title: Rev. 2 - Change Request Scenario 2

Photovoltaik Development Partners GmbH
Kurfürstendamm 52
10707 Berlin, Germany

Appendix 11 - Change 11



Illustrative 3D View

Showing outdoor educational space for visiting class year groups.
Covered outdoor ceducational area in the form of open timber barn.
Parking for visiting groups and composting toilet facilities.



Illlustrative 3D View

Secondary view of outdoor and covered educational areas.



Illustrative 3D View

Third view of outdoor and covered educational areas, parking
and composing toilet facilities.

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Notes

1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.

2. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

3. i. The plans shown are for planning purposes only.
ii. All buildings shown are subject to further detailed design for construction purposes.

4. For the purposes of this plan, RPS is not appointed as principal designer for the purposes of the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015 (or its successors).

5. The design and layout of the buildings shown will be subject to relevant Building Regulation requirements and Construction (Design & Management) Regulations requirements, and any other relevant regulations and requirements including fire safety and other health and safety regulations and requirements . This may result in further changes to the final design and construction of the development.

6. The information shown on these drawings is reliant upon the details, plans, drawings, elevations and other information provided to RPS by and/or on behalf of the client.

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY.
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date

PHOTOVOLT
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS





MAKING
COMPLEX
EASY

A TETRA TECH COMPANY

Client PVDP

Project Botley West Solar Farm

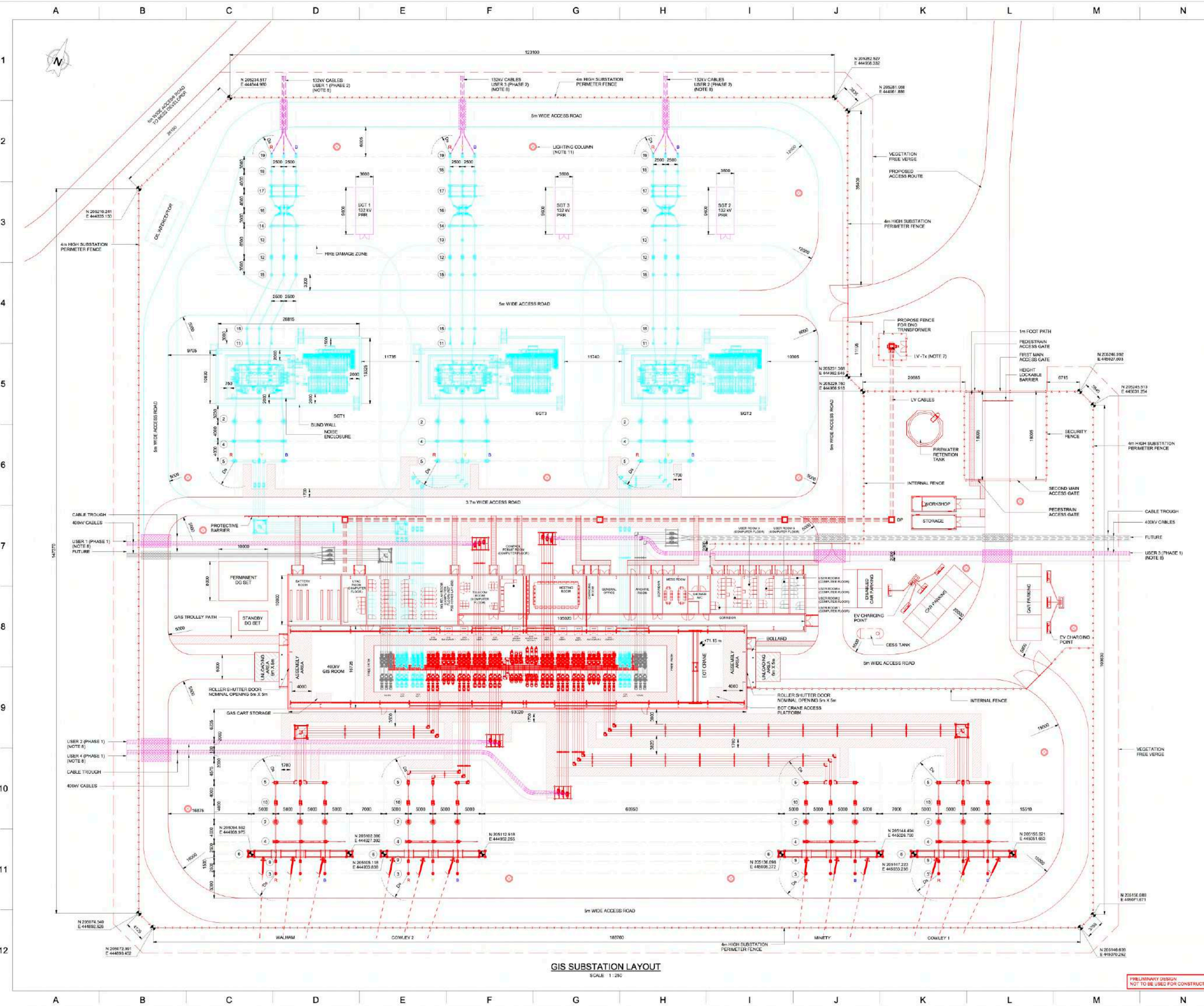
Title Illustrative 3D Views of
Educational Facility

Status	Drawn By	PM/Checked by
FINAL	AJC	JA
Job Ref	Scale @ A3	Date Created
EN010147/APP/6.4	N/A	Nov 2024

Figure Number	Rev
16.2	-

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NOTES:

- THIS IS A 4.3 DRAWING AND IS FOR DEVELOPMENT PURPOSE ONLY.
- EXISTING SERVICES SHALL BE DETECTED, RE-ROUTED OR PROTECTED AS NECESSARY.
- ALL DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETERS UNLESS SPECIFIED.
- GIS SUPPORT STRUCTURES ARE INDICATIVE. CONTRACTOR TO DESIGN THE SPACING AND SUPPORT STRUCTURES AT DETAILED DESIGN STAGE.
- PROPOSED EQUIPMENTS LOCATION AND EXISTING UTILITY SERVICE LOCATIONS ARE TO BE REVALUATED AFTER SURVEY DATA IS MADE AVAILABLE AT LATER STAGE.
- 400V GIS SWITCHGEAR GENERAL ARRANGEMENT FOOTPRINT IS A NON SFG SWITCHGEAR MAKE BY HITACHI-ABB (ECONO). THE GA IS INDICATIVE AND TO BE CONFIRMED DURING 4.4 STAGE.
- OVERALL CIRCUIT PHASING ARRANGEMENT TO BE FINALISED DURING 4.4 STAGE.
- LOCATION OF THE PORTABLE DIESEL GENERATOR WILL BE FINALISED AT LATER STAGE.
- DNO TRANSFORMER LOCATION AND METERING CABINET LOCATION IS TO BE CONFIRMED LATER.
- 400V AND 132V CABLE FEEDER EXIT ROUTE ARE TENTATIVE AND IT WILL BE FINALISED DURING DETAIL DESIGN STAGE.
- CABLE MARKER PLATE WILL BE PROVIDED IN EVERY 2 METERS FOR THE DIRECT BURIED CABLES IN SUBSTATION.
- THE PHASE SEQUENCE SHOWN IN THE LAYOUT ARE INDICATIVE AND SHALL BE FINALISED BASED ON OHL DESIGNER INPUTS.
- THE LOCATIONS OF THE LIGHTING COLUMNS ARE TENTATIVE AND SHALL BE FINALISED BASED ON THE LIGHTING STUDY.
- THE TAKE OFF ANGLE OF OHL CONDUCTORS FROM THE SUBSTATION LANDING GANTRIES TO THEIR RESPECTIVE TOWERS SHOW IS TENTATIVE AND SHALL BE CONFIRMED IN LATER STAGES BASED ON THE OHL DESIGNER INPUTS.

LEGEND:

- NOT PHASE 1 EQUIPMENT
- NOT PHASE 2 EQUIPMENT
- FUTURE EQUIPMENT
- USER EQUIPMENT
- PROPOSED NOT SECURITY FENCE
- INTERNAL FENCE
- 11.5 TONNE RATED CROSSING COVERS
- DRAWPIT (DP)
- FDZ- FIRE DAMAGE ZONE
- 6m LIGHTING COLUMN
- 1.7m SFG GAS TROLLEY PATH

SAFETY CLEARANCE TABLE

Nominal System Voltage	Protection Access Clearance	NGTS 2.1				Safety Distance SD
		Phase to Earth	Phase to Phase	Vertical working & Access Clearance	Horizontal working & Access Clearance	
kV	m	m	m	m	m	
400	2.4	2.8	3.6	6.5	4.8	
132	2.4	1.1	1.4	3.8	2.9	

Nominal System Voltage	Design Clearance for MEWP Operation	
	Horizontal (m)	Vertical (m)
kV	m	m
400	6.6	7.5
132	4.9	5.8

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:

- PDD-101420-SLD-200 PROPOSED FARMHOOD (FARM) 400KV GIS SUBSTATION SINGLE LINE DIAGRAM
- PDD-101420-ELS-200 PROPOSED 400KV GIS SUBSTATION ELEVATIONS

EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION

REF	EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION
1	400/132KV SUPERGRID TRANSFORMER
2	400KV SURGE ARRESTER
3	400KV POST INSULATOR
4	400KV 3 PHASE EARTH SWITCH
5	400KV GAS TO AIR
6	400KV LINE GANTTRY
7	400KV GIS
8	400KV CABLE SEALING END
9	400KV CAPACITOR VOLTAGE TRANSFORMER
10	400KV CURRENT TRANSFORMER
11	132KV SURGE ARRESTER
12	132KV HAM UNIT
13	132KV SINGLE PHASE CVT
14	132KV EARTH SWITCH
15	132KV POST INSULATOR
16	132KV CIRCUIT BREAKER
17	132KV DISCONNECTOR WITH EARTH SWITCH
18	132KV THREE PHASE CVT
19	132KV CABLE SEALING END

REFERENCE DRAWINGS:

- PDD-101420-SLD-200 PROPOSED FARMHOOD (FARM) 400KV GIS SUBSTATION SINGLE LINE DIAGRAM
- PDD-101420-ELS-200 PROPOSED 400KV GIS SUBSTATION ELEVATIONS

nationalgrid

Water Scheme No: 101420 Sub Scheme No: 101420 Site: FARMHOOD (FARM) 400 KV

Schema Name: FARMHOOD (FARM) 400 KV GIS

Document Title: PROPOSED 400 KV GIS SUBSTATION LAYOUT

Created by: NICHOLSON Date: 30.10.2024 Drawn by: NICHOLSON Date: 04.11.2024 Approved by: NICHOLSON Date: 08.11.2024

Development Stage: DWG Document Type: Scale: As indicated Format: A0 Sheet: 1 OF 1

Revision: 0

Project Number: PDD-101420-LAY-200

Project Name: FARMHOOD (FARM) 400 KV GIS SUBSTATION LAYOUT

Project Description: PROPOSED 400KV GIS SUBSTATION LAYOUT

Project Location: FARMHOOD (FARM) 400 KV GIS SUBSTATION LAYOUT

Project Status: PRELIMINARY DESIGN NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION

Project Reference: 5230467-ATK-ZZ-XX-DDRW-E-000002.P02

Appendix F: Consultation Email Issued to Consultees

info@botleywest.co.uk

Reply Reply all Forward

To: You <info@botleywest.co.uk>

Wed 2025-07-23 9:12 PM

Bcc:



Proposed Changes to DCO Application - Change Request 2

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you regarding proposed changes to the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Botley West Solar Farm.

Following the submission and acceptance of the DCO Application, Photovoltaic Development Partners (PVDP) on behalf of SolarFive Ltd (the Applicant) has continued to engage with affected landowners and key stakeholders. This has informed a series of changes the Applicant is proposing to make to the DCO application. These changes are intended to, amongst other things, alleviate concerns in relation to potential environmental impacts and reduce land take where suitable alternative proposals are available.

The Applicant has also used this as an opportunity to further refine some minor extents of land falling within the Order Limits that, upon further design refinement in relation to the proposed layout of the Project, are no longer considered necessary. The Applicant is also proposing other scheme changes that have become available as a result of the other refinements which are being sought in response to stakeholder feedback. These refinements will be included in full as part of the Change Application.

The changes will be formally sought by the Applicant by submitting a Change Application to the Examining Authority. The Applicant intends to submit this Change Application in September 2025. At this stage we are seeking feedback from relevant consultees prior to submitting this Change Application.

Accessing our documents

The attached Explanatory Note detailing each change can be found via the link below:

https://botleywest.co.uk/files/cto_layout/img/documents/072025changes/BWSF%20Change%20Request%202%20Explanatory%20Note%20July%202025.pdf

The document library on our project website (www.botleywest.co.uk/document_library.html) also provides a link to this document alongside maps of each change.

Next Steps

Until 22 August 2025, the Botley West Solar Farm team is inviting any interested stakeholders to submit their feedback on the proposed changes.

Interested stakeholders have until 22 August 2025 to submit their feedback on the proposed changes to the project team. You can submit your feedback by:

- Emailing: info@botleywest.co.uk
- Writing to: FREEPOST BWSF (No stamp required)

Kind regards,

Project Director



Appendix G: Feedback Received and Applicant Response

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
Network Rail	Thank you for consulting Network Rail on the targeted consultation for Single Change documents. Having reviewed the proposals, we have no comments to make on the proposed changes.	No	The Applicant notes this comment
Bladon Parish Council (BPC)	<p>Change 1: Reduction in Order Limits Boundary</p> <p>BPC acknowledges the proposed reduction in the Order Limits boundary, which is intended to decrease the solar installation area to the south-west of Bladon and remove solar arrays from land situated to the south-east of the village and north of Heath Lane.</p> <p>While the removal of solar arrays from several parcels of land near Bladon is seen as a positive step, Bladon Parish Council continues to express reservations regarding the ongoing physical and visual changes that will result from the proposal.</p> <p>The current plans still pose adverse effects on both the Green Belt and the public rights of way (PRoW), with the scale of the reduction not going far enough to alleviate these concerns.</p>	No	<p>The Applicant notes that the proposed removal of solar arrays in this location is seen as a positive step.</p> <p>The change will not result in any new land interests, as no new land is sought to be brought into the Order Limits. In terms of resultant environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. avoiding harm to the setting to the WHS, improved landscape and visual effects and wellbeing effects), with no residual adverse effects. A more detailed evaluation of the effects can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5.</p> <p>PVDP commissioned Reading Agricultural Consultants to survey the land within the red line boundary. Their Agricultural Land Classification and Soil Survey Report was submitted as part of the Environmental Statement [APP-223]. The</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>Despite these proposed adjustments, numerous public rights of way near the village will remain bordered by solar panels.</p> <p>Notably, these are the only PRoW available for residents in the vicinity. The Parish Council maintains that the Bladon area will experience significant physical and visual changes, impacting both local residents and visitors who use these routes for leisure and for accessing local amenities.</p> <p>BPC has observed that the Change 1 area includes several proposed community food growing sites. According to the application's supporting documents, a portion of this land may be allocated for use by OxFarm to Fork as a market garden.</p> <p>BPC seeks clarification regarding the suitability of this land for commercial market gardening, given that nearly all of the land within the DCO area is being classified as low-grade agricultural land. BPC is concerned that PVDP's evaluation of agricultural land has not been confirmed by an independent third party, and BPC asks that PVDP submit independent evidence supporting the grades assigned to the land within the DCO area</p>		<p>Applicant has invited applications from all members of the community for access to the project's land for the purpose of growing food, whether for allotments or organic market gardening. The Applicant is working with Good Food Oxford to attract small-scale food growers who use agroecological methods to produce food.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>as part of the application process.</p> <p>BPC wishes to express its concern that the areas allocated for community food growing initiatives, especially a commercial market garden, may result in a significant increase in daily traffic compared to the very limited farm vehicle movements that these areas currently attract.</p> <p>Since the intended access routes to these areas are not yet finalised and their assignment for particular projects is pending, BPC cannot offer detailed feedback regarding the potential effects on local residents associated with the proposed usage and access routes.</p>		
Bladon Parish Council (BPC)	<p>Change 10: Clarification of the role of the community educational facility</p> <p>Bladon Parish Council (BPC) wishes to express its disappointment to PVDP that neither the parish council nor the wider Bladon community was specifically consulted regarding the proposed community educational facility prior to its inclusion in the application. BPC is of the view that a consultation would have enabled the council to raise several important concerns at an earlier stage.</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes the comment about engaging with communities. Throughout the development of the Project, the Applicant has been keen to explore opportunities wider social and community benefits beyond the generation of clean electricity.</p> <p>Proposals for a community educational facility were therefore included in the Applicant's application for a Development Consent Order.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>Had such consultation taken place, BPC would have highlighted a number of issues, including the siting of the facility within the Green Belt, the nature of the current access route to the proposed location, and the potential negative consequences for the local community. BPC notes that the documentation provided does not clearly set out the facility's intended purpose, its operational and management arrangements, or whether there is genuine demand from local schools for such a facility.</p> <p>BPC does not consider that there are any positive benefits to locating the educational facility in Bladon or within the Green Belt. The council is concerned that the facility would bring negative effects to the village, including increased traffic and a rise in visitor numbers using an access road already known for its limitations. There is also concern about potential disturbance to the peaceful environment enjoyed by users of Public Right of Way (PRoW) 132/2/10.</p> <p>BPC is of the view that there is no justification for locating the facility in Bladon or anywhere within the Green Belt. Given the overall scale of the proposal, the council believes there should be</p>		<p>In seeking to clarify the role of this facility, the Applicant has received further feedback on the purpose, location and structure of the community education facility within this consultation.</p> <p>Through consideration of this feedback, the Applicant is now proposing to remove the education facility from the project and use the land shown for that purpose for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and other ecological mitigation measures.</p> <p>The Applicant remains committed to delivering educational benefit through the delivery of the Project, and is exploring erecting signage with information on paths and PRoWs.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>many alternative locations available outside the Green Belt that would be more appropriate. For example, sites with direct access to Lower Road or the A4260 north of Woodstock—both outside the Green Belt—would offer more suitable and accessible options.</p> <p>Regarding access to the proposed educational facility, BPC notes that the current access road is limited to single-file traffic and lacks designated passing points. There is a pinch point at the entrance, restricting the width further and making the road inaccessible to larger vehicles such as ambulances and skip lorries. There has been a specific incident in which a resident was required to be transported to an ambulance waiting on the main road due to these constraints.</p> <p>The proposal to use this road as the main access for either the educational facility or the proposed community food growing area raises significant safety concerns for pedestrians. The route serves as the primary walking path to the recreation ground, allotments, cemetery, and St Mary's Church (including Sir Winston Churchill's grave). It is also heavily used by students and parents accessing Bladon Primary School, which relies on</p>		

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>the recreation ground for physical education lessons, necessitating frequent pedestrian journeys between the school and the recreation ground.</p> <p>Additionally, visibility at the junction of the lane and the main road is limited, heightening the risk of vehicles meeting head-on and forcing one to reverse onto the main road or to a wider section. This scenario creates further safety hazards for all road users.</p> <p>BPC requests that, should a need for an educational facility be demonstrated, PVDP consider siting it in a different location outside the Green Belt. The council intends to inform the Planning Inspectors of these concerns as part of the ongoing inquiry.</p>		
Vale of White Horse District Council (VWHDC)	VWHDC has no comment to make on changes 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9.	No	The Applicant notes this comment.
Vale of White Horse District Council (VWHDC)	<p>Change 3.</p> <p>VWHDC consider the revised location of the main substation and additional solar panels will have a detrimental impact on the landscape.</p>	No	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>In terms of environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. potential for less BMV permanently lost and reduced noise</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>It is noted that limited space has been allowed to mitigate the substation buildings and associated plant. There needs to be a minimum 5m offset between boundary fencing and adjacent vegetation, so space to provide mitigation planting is limited. Mitigation planting areas need to be illustrated on the Works Plan, as does other easement routes which could prevent mitigation planting. Furthermore the Works Plan does not indicate access routes to the substation sites.</p>		<p>impact to sensitive receptors) and no significant residual adverse effects. A larger margin has been allowed around the Main and secondary substations to allow for greater screening to take place. Overall, there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported.</p> <p>A more detailed evaluation of the effects can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5.</p>
Vale of White Horse District Council (VWHDC)	<p>Change 6</p> <p>VWHDC consider additional solar panels in this location will have a detrimental impact on the landscape. The addition of more panels runs counter to repeated requests for a reduction in scale of this proposed development. It also does not allow for improved mitigation, as order limits are no larger in this location.</p>	No	<p>The Applicant notes this comment but confirms that no additional land outside the current Order Limits is required.</p> <p>The proposal to include solar array panels has been informed by the change in Flood Zone status.</p> <p>A more detailed evaluation of the effects can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5.</p>
Vale of White Horse District Council (VWHDC)	<p>Change 11</p> <p>VWHDC welcomes additional information on the NGET substation but is disappointed heights are</p>	No	<p>The Applicant notes this comment. The Applicant has acted upon information provided to it by NGET.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>increasing again, beyond that assessed in the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>VWHDC has consistently been concerned that the actual design of the substation isn't informed by an assessment of its impacts and the size and parameters set aside for it are only getting bigger.</p> <p>The location of the NGET substation will have a detrimental impact on the landscape. VWHDC therefore repeats its request for a rerun of the ZTV and visualisation work to reflect the change in dimensions and locations, taking into account additional viewpoints previously requested.</p> <p>It is noted that the Change 11 Plan (Appendix 12) shows an access road which will likely result in further hedgerow removal. Furthermore, the plan indicates that a BESS development is planned. Clarification is required on this element as such development has not been included to date in any Cumulative Impact Assessment.</p>		<p>In terms of environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will be some beneficial effects (e.g. less BMV permanently lost and reduced noise impact to sensitive receptors), and no significant residual adverse effects. Overall, there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported.</p> <p>The Applicant does not consider that unacceptable adverse effects will arise.</p> <p>A more detailed evaluation of the effects can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5.</p>
Cherwell District Council (CDC)	<p>Change 2</p> <p>Removal of Panels: CDC welcomes the removal of panels from the parcels to the south of London-Oxford Airport and to the north and west of Begbroke.</p>	No	The Applicant notes this comment welcoming the proposed change.

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>The removal of panels from these areas overcomes our objection regarding the coalescence of Kidlington and Begbroke and the loss of some areas of Grade 2 BMV agricultural land.</p> <p>CDC observes that the removal of panels from areas within the Oxford Green Belt is an additional improvement which will ensure that the areas omitted will continue to serve the purposes of the Green Belt. This is particularly beneficial for the parcel to the east of the A44 where the loss of GB would be more harmful due to the role this area plays in preventing the sprawl of Kidlington and the coalescence of settlements and in preserving the setting of the GB.</p> <p>Our concerns in this regard were set out in Cherwell's individual LIR [REP01-052] with reference to the Cherwell Green Belt Study: Additional Green Belt Site Assessments 2023 which was attached to the individual LIR as Appendix 2.</p> <p>Change 2 also appears to be significantly beneficial to public safety by retaining a larger</p>		

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>safeguarded zone immediately south of London-Oxford Airport which would allow safer crash landings in the event of engine failure after take-off. Whether the extent of panels removed in this location is adequate will need to be confirmed by the airport operator, but CDC consider this to be a substantial improvement.</p> <p>Furthermore, CDC observes that the removal of panels from the areas to the north and west of Begbroke village would substantially reduce harmful visual impacts for residents and would better preserve the settings of Begbroke Conservation Area and its listed buildings.</p>		
Cherwell District Council (CDC)	<p>Re-siting of Secondary Substation: CDC has no objection to the re-positioning of the secondary substation adjacent to the A44 from the southern side of the field boundary to the northern side of the boundary or to the reduction in its height from up to 6m to a maximum of 5m. It is noted that the secondary substation would otherwise remain the same as originally proposed. The re-siting would bring the structure into closer proximity with an existing range of farm buildings next to the road and therefore make it a less isolated feature than in the previous position. This is considered to be a moderate improvement. Again, subject to confirmation from the airport operator, the new</p>	No	The Applicant notes these comments welcoming the proposed change.

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>location would appear to be an enhancement in terms of public safety. Proposals for its screening with landscape planting should be clarified and require approval prior to implementation.</p> <p>Position of Temporary Construction Compound: CDC has no objection to the re-orientation of the temporary construction compound (by rotating it roughly 90 degrees) and, subject to confirmation from the airport operator, it appears that this will improve public safety by retaining a safe zone to the south of the airport runway. It is assumed that the access to this compound would remain largely the same as for the original compound and that the DCO would continue to require the decommissioning/removal of the compound along with any screening and landscaping enhancements deemed necessary.</p>		
Cherwell District Council (CDC)	<p>Change 7 CDC has no objections to the minor reductions to the red line site area to the north-east of Perdiswell Farm and west of Upper Campsfield Road.</p>	No	The Applicant notes this comment.
Cherwell District Council (CDC)	<p>Change 8 CDC have no objections to the proposals to reinstate the line of the footpath along the</p>	No	The Applicant notes this comment.

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	definitive right of way between Begbroke and Bladon.		
Cherwell District Council (CDC)	Other Changes CDC have no comments to make on Changes 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 and 12 all of which lie outside of Cherwell district.	No	The Applicant notes this comment.
Cumnor Parish Council (CPC)	<p>Cumnor Parish Council's response to the applicant's consultation (23rd July 2025-22nd August 2025) on proposed changes</p> <p>Cumnor Parish Council's comments on the consultation process</p> <p>1. Your letter (Proposed changes to the Botley West Solar farm DCO Application) dated 23rd July – the start date of the consultation - was sent by post (not by email as other communications) to the Cumnor Parish Council (CPC) PO Box, and was received at some point during Friday 1st August, 9 days after the start of the consultation period.</p> <p>2. Therefore, CPC was not in a position to consider the letter until Monday 4th August. We can supply minutes of our 4th August meeting to confirm this should you so wish. This was some 12 days after the start of the 30-day consultation.</p> <p>3. This alone is sufficient for CPC to believe that</p>	No	<p>The Applicant notes these comments from Cumnor Parish Council. The Applicant contacted CPC by letter which arrived in advance of the consultation commencing. Furthermore, the Applicant wrote to CPC via email on the day of the Change Request consultation commencing, and a reminder email on 19 August 2025.</p> <p>The Applicant used the contact details provided on CPC's website to send them the letter and the email.</p> <p>In relation to the purpose of the consultation. As part of the July 2025 consultation on targeted changes, the Applicant included a note explaining each change in detail alongside annotated maps of each change.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>the consultation as described by you to ExA cannot meaningfully take place.</p> <p>4. CPC further doubts that this consultation can meaningfully take place without the photomontages etc. requested in Cumnor Parish Council's Comments for Deadline 3 on responses to Examining Authority's 1st written questions (ExQ1) being available.</p> <p>5. In addition, your 23/07 posted letter to CPC (Appendix 1) includes no details on how consultation responses will be assessed by you.</p> <p>6. Contrasting with the incomplete information provided by you are your repeated assertions (in EN010147-001239-Applicant's Change Request 2 Notification (Rev 0).pdf) that for all three of your proposed changes in this Parish: 'overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects'</p> <p>These repeated assertions are unevidenced, a common theme.</p> <p>7. So, against a background of unsatisfactory prior consultations, CPC has assessed that it has a zero to very low degree of confidence in this new consultation and in your ability to provide the ExA with a complete and accurate account of this response.</p>		<p>The Applicant requested feedback from relevant stakeholders to ensure that the changes being made are refined and consultees can provide their feedback on them prior to the Change Application being made.</p> <p>The changes will be formally sought by the Applicant through the submission of a Change Application to the Examining Authority. The Applicant intends to submit this Change Application in September 2025 as encouraged by the Examining Authority in its letter to the Applicant [PD-011]. Therefore, the Applicant's intent to consult prior to the Change Application being submitted is to ensure that any feedback is considered prior to the submission.</p> <p>The proposed changes have been set out in the Applicant's Change Request 2 Notification [REP2-045], which was submitted to the Examining Authority on 01 July 2025. The proposed consultation from 23 July to 22 August was approved by the ExA. The focus of the consultation was for parish councils in affected</p>

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	<p>8. Given 7. above Cumnor Parish Council agreed at its 4th August meeting that it will also copy this consultation response to the ExA, so that there can be no doubt as to the nature and extent of this response.</p>		<p>areas, selected statutory bodies and landowners to give their feedback on the specific changes.</p>
<p>Cumnor Parish Council (CPC)</p>	<p>Cumnor Parish Council's comments on the proposed change 3</p> <p>9. The proposed position of the main Project substation places it immediately adjacent to PRow 184/30/40 and 184/29/10 and within a few metres of 184/30/20 (the Oxford Greenbelt Way).</p> <p>As such, and given its permanent, not 'temporary', nature it will irretrievably change the kinetic experience of walking those PRow; the setting of Upper Whitley Farm (Grade II) (see also para 9 - ExA q1.6.29 - in EN010147-001336- Cumnor Parish Council - Comments on responses to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions (ExQ1)); will be visible to recreational users of Farmoor Reservoir, and will be completely visible, with no possibility of mitigation given elevation changes, from Cumnor Neighbourhood Plan (CNP) Important Views 3, 7 and 31.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>Regarding the substation, the Applicant has confirmed that no new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required.</p> <p>The Applicant does not consider that unacceptable adverse effects will arise.</p> <p>A more detailed evaluation of the change including its relationship to surrounding features can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5.</p> <p>A revised assessment of the impacts and effects regarding the Grade II listed Upper Whitley Farm is presented in ES Appendix 7.5: Settings Assessment (Rev 3) submitted at Deadline 5.</p>

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	<p>In light of these facts and of para 6. above, CPC does not believe the applicant's conclusion in respect of proposed change 3 (in EN010147-001239-Applicant's Change Request 2 Notification (Rev 0).pdf) that:</p> <p>'overall there is unlikely to be any new or materially different significant environmental effects compared to those already reported.'</p>		
Cumnor Parish Council (CPC)	<p>Cumnor Parish Council's comments on the proposed change 6</p> <p>The applicant's proposed change of an additional 2.41ha of panels would place the panel arrays immediately adjacent to PRoW 184/22/20 to its south and west.</p> <p>The proposed immediately adjacent Red House Farm solar power station plans to install panels, fencing, CCTV etc. to the north and east of the same PRoW (see for example para 10 in CPC's Written Representation - EN010147-000887-Cumnor Parish Council Written Representation Ref EN010147 30th May 2025).</p> <p>The cumulative impact, which the applicant has repeatedly failed to address (see for example para 2.2 of EN010147-001136-Cumnor Parish</p>	No	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>The decision to include solar array panels as a result of the change in Flood Zone status.</p> <p>The Applicant does not consider that unacceptable adverse effects will arise.</p> <p>A more detailed evaluation of the effects can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>Council - Responses to Examining Authority's First Written Questions (ExQ1) and para 10 of EN010147-000887- Cumnor Parish Council Written Representation Ref EN010147 30th May 2025), would be to create a canyon for the PRow surrounded by industrial scale equipment, fencing and CCTV, in what is currently open Green Belt farmland.</p> <p>Given the applicant's lack of attention to such details it's disappointing, but not surprising, that the applicant has already concluded (in EN010147-001239-Applicant's Change Request 2 Notification (Rev 0).pdf) that:</p> <p>'it is unlikely that this change will lead to new or materially different likely significant environmental effects to those currently reported.'</p> <p>As with the applicant's judgement on proposed change 3, CPC does not believe this conclusion</p>		
Cumnor Parish Council (CPC)	<p>Cumnor Parish Council's comments on the proposed change 11</p> <p>The applicant's July 2025 Explanatory Note for the Change Request1 lists on page 12 the following 'approximate design parameters' 'On an</p>	No	<p>The Applicant notes these comments.</p> <p>Amendments to the parameters of the National Grid substation are required following the Applicant's engagement with National Grid to ensure that the secured design details</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>indicative basis only at this stage' for the proposed NGET substation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 3.8ha site area • 93.020m x 16.725m footprint of main GIS building • 14.495m height of main GIS building • Gas Insulated substation • 95 dB(A) sound power level • 105.020m x 10m footprint of adjoining building • 4.8m height of adjoining building <p>Thus, the main building has grown from 76m x 31m by 14m high (REP1-014) to 93.020m x 16.725m by 14.495m high.</p> <p>In the UK, 95dbA, according to HMG2 , is considered 'above the permitted exposure level and requires hearing protection. Exposure to 95 dB(A) for 50 minutes is the equivalent of the maximum daily noise dose for unprotected ears'</p> <p>This would clearly transform the site, immediately adjacent to the Oxford Green Belt Way and other PRow, into both a visual and noise site typical of a major industrial enterprise, with consequential impacts on humans and wildlife.</p>		<p>adequately facilitate the delivery of the substation. These changes are driven by NGET and not the Applicant.</p> <p>No additional land outside the current order limits is required for this change. Given the minor nature of the change, it is considered that there are no new or materially different likely significant environmental effects that would arise as a result of this change.</p> <p>A more detailed evaluation of the effects can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>And yet you have already concluded (in EN010147-001239-Applicant's Change Request 2 Notification (Rev 0).pdf) that:</p> <p>'it is considered that there are no new or materially different likely significant environmental effects that would arise a result of this change.'</p> <p>CPC does not believe this statement to be true, and in light of the above requests that the relevant – and now outdated – LVIA be repeated, and that a noise envelope assessment also be undertaken, the results being overlaid with bat roosts and flightpaths to allow their disruption to be assessed</p>		
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	<p>All of the 11 proposed changes to the development fall within the administrative boundary of Oxfordshire County Council. OCC have no comments to make with regard to Change Request 3, 5, 9</p> <p>In general OCC supports the reduction of solar arrays within the scheme, however the changes do not go far enough to reduce the impact of the proposed development to an acceptable level.</p>	No	The Applicant notes this comment.

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>OCC would like to re-iterate the position outlined within the OHA joint Local Impact Report [REP1-072] that areas of panels should be removed from the scheme where they cause significant harm to Landscape, Heritage Assets, Minerals Safeguarded Areas, Arboricultural and Ecological assets and Public Rights of Way.</p>		
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	<p>Change 1: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area south-west of Bladon, and removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane.</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council welcomes the reduction of solar arrays around Bladon in order to reduce the impact on the setting of Blenheim Palace. Oxfordshire County Council suggest that the applicant explores the opportunity that arises from the removal of these panels to create larger Skylark plots. OCC as one of the Oxfordshire Host Authorities has raised its concerns around the adequacy of the proposed mitigation for Skylarks and other ground nesting birds. In order to support the 228 pairs of skylarks recorded within the order limits in 2024, the applicant will need to ensure that over 60ha of open grassland is available within the scheme for skylark habitats in order to mitigate the impacts of the scheme.</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes that the proposed removal of solar arrays in this location is seen as a positive step.</p> <p>Whilst the solar array and associated infrastructure is proposed to be removed, the Applicant intends for the resultant freed up area of land will be retained for meadow grazing and other ecological measures e.g. skylark plots, contributing further to the Projects biodiversity net gain (BNG).</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	The area of approximately 42Ha of agricultural land proposed to be removed from the Order Limits would be better used to provide valuable open grassland for ground nesting birds to compensate for the loss of this habitat as a result of the proposed development.		
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	<p>Change 2- Reduction in the Order Limits Boundary to reduce the solar installations area around Oxford Airport</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council support this reduction as it will potentially address concerns around the safety of users of Oxford Airport. OCC will await the response of Oxford Airport to decide whether this change goes far enough to address the issue of airport safety.</p>	No	The Applicant notes these comments welcoming the proposed change.
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	<p>Change 4: Refinement of Project layout and design to reduce solar installation on land east of Lower Road</p> <p>The Council questions how the land on which arrays are proposed to be removed can remain in agricultural use but still provide significant biodiversity net gain. The applicant will need to demonstrate how this could be realistically achieved via an update to ES Chapter 9- Ecology and Nature Conservation.</p>	No	The Applicant notes this comment and will demonstrate this in an updated BNG report.

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	<p>Change 6: Refinement of Project layout and design to include an additional installation area within Southern Site</p> <p>The applicant will need to demonstrate the installation of solar arrays within this area will not result in any significant harm. In particular, the applicant will need to demonstrate that this proposed change would not result in any increased risk of surface water flooding.</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>The decision to include solar array panels as a result of the change in Flood Zone status. A more detailed evaluation of the effects can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5. An accompanying technical note details the impact of the change on surface water flooding and concludes that there will be no significant impact.</p>
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	<p>Change 7: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove small parcels of land owned by Oxfordshire County Council</p> <p>OCC welcomes the reduction of the Order Limits to remove OCC Estate's land.</p>	No	The Applicant notes these comments welcoming the proposed change.
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	<p>Change 8: Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the Public Rights of Way currently proposed to be stopped up and diverted back to definitive alignment.</p> <p>In principle OCC support the use of the definitive map for plotting Rights of Way within the order limits and recognise that the applicant is</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>Article 11(6) of the draft DCO sets out that "<i>The undertaker, during and for the purposes of carrying out the authorised development, may temporarily close, prohibit the use of, restrict the use of, alter or divert any public right of way within the Order limits which is added to the definitive map and statement (within the</i></p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>attempting to alleviate OCCs concerns around doglegs within the PRow network.</p> <p>However, OCC is concerned that unrecorded public rights may subsist on the nondefinitive (walked) lines that are in use on the ground if they have been used 'as of right' by the public for 20 years or more without challenge. This may result in a situation whereby the walked route on the ground is added to the Definitive Map following a successful claim for public rights, resulting in two routes running parallel to each other, the legal line and the walked route.</p> <p>This may cause the applicant to unintentionally put panels across routes in use on the ground on which currently unrecorded public rights exist. If these are subsequently claimed as PRow and added to the Definitive Map, the legal line would then be obstructed. OCC would oppose any development obstructing the PRow.</p> <p>OCC believes that the simplest solution is as outlined in response to question 1.17.20 at ExQ1 [REP2-049] in so far as the applicant should divert sections of the legal line that do not align with the walked route as originally proposed but expand the order limits to prevent dog legs in the</p>		<p><i>meaning of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) on or after 15 November 2024."</i></p> <p>As explained in the Explanatory Memorandum, this is to ensure that the delivery of the Project is not impeded by any new public rights of way being designated after the submission of the application. The power is appropriately limited because it only applies to public rights of way that are within the Order Limits and to new public rights of way that were not recognised in the definitive map and statement throughout the pre-application process.</p> <p>The Applicant has defined the Project in recognition of the Definitive Map, and in recognition of that and following OCC feedback, is seeking this change to ensure that the existing PRow network is not to be permanently altered. At the same time, the Applicant must protect itself against the uncertainty of the indefinite number of unrecorded routes that may or may not be added to the definitive map in the future.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>PRoW. OCC would be happy to engage with the applicant on this issue and would also be able to share the relevant PRoW GIS data to assist the process.</p>		
<p>Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)</p>	<p>Change 10: Clarification of the role of the community educational facility OCC have previously supported the principle of an educational facility as part of the scheme but have not been consulted on the location that is now being put forward. The Council believes that the proposed location of the facility would result in additional landscape harm and harm to the Green Belt. Equally, the access to the site is not appropriate for access via minibus or coach. Given this the site is not considered suitable for an educational facility of the nature being proposed. In addition to the above, OCC would not be able to take on the management or maintenance of this facility following construction. If the facility is included in any DCO which may be approved by the SoS the applicant would need to manage and maintain this facility directly or consider other bodies, such as Blenheim Estates, who could manage this facility. OCC therefore do not support this change to the scheme and would</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>The Applicant is now proposing to remove the education facility from the project and use the land shown for that purpose for BNG and other ecological mitigation measures.</p> <p>The Applicant remains committed to delivering educational benefit through the delivery of the Project and is exploring erecting signage with information on paths and PRoWs. The Applicant is pleased to see that the respondent encourages this kind of suggestion as part of the Project.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	urge the applicant to consider whether a bespoke facility is required or whether an educational walking trail could be provided near an existing facility such as a village hall or community centre within the adjacent settlements. OCC would recommend the use of didactic boards in a circular route along the PRow network within the order as a means of encouraging outdoor education without the impacts associated with the educational facility.		
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	Change 11: Refinement of Project layout and design to secure the latest design parameters for the new National Grid substation The Council awaits clarification from the applicant on the parameters of the proposed substation before commenting on this change.	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes this comment and would like to provide the clarification that has been requested.</p> <p>The new NGET substation parameters are now defined as follows: the area set aside for the facility is an area of up to 3.8 hectares. Within this area the main Gas Insulated Substation (GIS) building will have a footprint of approximately 93m (93.020m) by 17m (16.725m) and a maximum height of approximately 15.0m (14.495m). Adjacent to the GIS building, there will be an additional building measuring approximately 105m (105.020m) by 10m with a height of approximately 4.8m to accommodate supporting functions such as offices, mess room, HVAC, battery room, and</p>

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			<p>computer room. Surrounding these two buildings is a variety of other electrical infrastructure including transformers and connecting towers, which will be at varying heights but none greater than approximately 15m (excluding any cables connecting to the 400kV OHL).</p> <p>This change will not result in alterations to the Order Limits. A more detailed evaluation of the effects can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
Historic England	<p>Our response has been based on the information available in the Document Library of the Botley West Solar Farm website, which consists of an Explanatory Note and 12 supporting maps and drawings (Appendices 1–12). Due to the limited amount of information currently available, we can only provide a high-level response at this stage. Once more detailed supporting information becomes available, we can provide more detailed comments as necessary.</p> <p>At this stage, we have focused our comments on three of the proposed changes covered by this request (Change 1, 2 and 10). We have no comments to make on the other changes proposed within this Change Request, pending any further detail that may become available.</p>		The Applicant notes this comment.
Historic England	<p>Change 1: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area south-west of Bladon and removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane</p> <p>Based on the Explanatory Note (July 2025) and Appendix 1: Change 1 map, it would appear that this proposed change seeks to remove solar development from the field parcels identified in</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>The primary purpose of this proposed change is to further reduce or completely avoid any harm to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site as a result of change within its setting, in response to feedback received from Interested Parties including Historic England.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>our Written Submissions (REP1-086). We consider that should this be the case, this amendment has the potential to remove the previously identified harm to the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS and the significance of the ensemble of the RPG and palace.</p> <p>We understand the field parcels to the southwest of Bladon would be removed from the Order Limits and continue in agricultural use. The fields to the southeast of Bladon would be retained within the scheme but used for meadow grazing, a community food growing area and education space.</p> <p>Whilst these changes could help address the previously identified impact on the OUV of the WHS, only limited supporting information has been provided for us to fully understand the impacts of these amendments. We understand that further information is to be submitted to support the application and we would request that the following issues/additional information is included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further clarification on whether these changes would have knock-on effects either within the fields being removed from 		<p>The change will not result in any new land interests, as no new land is sought to be brought into the Order Limits. In terms of resultant environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will some beneficial effects (e.g. avoiding harm to the setting to the WHS, improved landscape and visual effects and wellbeing effects), with no residual adverse effects.</p> <p>The field parcels will be used for livestock grazing and for community food growing if an appropriate grower is identified.</p> <p>Through consideration of this feedback, the Applicant is now proposing to remove the education facility from the project and use the land shown for that purpose for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and other ecological mitigation measures.</p> <p>In terms of more visualisations of the northern edge of the central area, the nearest photomontages the Applicant has are 16, 17 and 18. Neither of these show the landscape treatment in great detail due to the angle of the view shown and / or the distance to the</p>

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	<p>solar production or within other areas of the development where solar panels are still proposed. For example, will the configuration, type or number of panels change in adjacent field parcels as a result of this Change Request? We understand no additional land is being proposed within the order limits to counter the loss of these fields from the development, but it is unclear whether there will be an intensification of solar panels as a consequence of removal from this location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update to the Heritage Impact Assessment which reflects these changes in addition to our previous comments on the HIA as set out in our Written Submissions (REP1-086). It will be important for the HIA to engage directly with all elements of the proposed changes in these parcels. It should demonstrate how the proposals have developed to respect the contribution this land makes to the rural character of the setting of the WHS and RPG. The HIA process will need to inform the final design and layout of these elements as a tool to identify how any adverse impacts to the OUV of the 		<p>development. No new visualisations or photomontages are planned but the effects are considered in the Applicants ES Addendum to be submitted at DL5.</p> <p>An updated version of ES Appendix 7.4: Heritage Impact Assessment (Rev 2) has been submitted at Deadline 5. This addresses issues raised by Historic England in their consultation response and other documents submitted into the Examination.</p> <p>Regarding the substation, the Applicant has confirmed that no new land interests would be engaged through this change. No additional land outside the current Order Limits is required.</p> <p>The Applicant does not consider that unacceptable adverse effects will arise.</p> <p>A more detailed evaluation of the change including its relationship to surrounding features can be found in the new Change Report and ES Addendum submitted at Deadline 5.</p> <p>A revised assessment of the impacts and effects regarding the Grade I Blenheim Palace</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	<p>WHS from the development within this part of its setting might be avoided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated visualisations/further information to illustrate the proposed landscape treatment to the revised northern edge of the central part of the solar farm. This should take account of local landscape character and seasonal and diurnal effects, such as changes to foliage and lighting (including any light spill/glare effects from the development). • As requested by the Examining Authority in ExQ1 1.14.9, a plan with overlays showing how the omissions requested by other parties including ICOMOS UK, OHA and Oxford Airport would affect the proposal. • An updated Settings Assessment in relation to the impact on Blenheim Palace Grade I Registered Park and Garden. 		<p>Registered Park and Garden is presented in ES Appendix 7.5: Settings Assessment (Rev 3) submitted at Deadline 5.</p>
Historic England	<p>The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), in its role representing the UK State Party to the UNESCO 1972 World Heritage Convention, has also received an updated Technical Review from ICOMOS International (August 2025), via the World Heritage Centre, on</p>	No	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p>

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	<p>the proposals. We understand that this report has been sent to you.</p> <p>ICOMOS has said it <i>“does not consider that removing the areas marked 2.1, 2.2, 2.5, and 2.20–2.26 from the development is sufficient to reduce the substantial harm this project will have on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.”</i></p> <p>We are in the process of reviewing this Technical Review. As we advised in relation to the 2024 Technical Review, we recommend that you also carefully consider this latest Technical Review, particularly in preparing the next iteration of the Heritage Impact Assessment.</p>		
Historic England	<p>Change 2: Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area near to Oxford Airport</p> <p>We understand that this change has principally come about following concerns raised by Oxford Airport. Based on the information submitted as part of the notification of the change request, it would appear to provide a greater spatial buffer between the development and St Michael’s</p>	Yes	<p>A revised assessment of the impacts and effects regarding the Grade II* listed Church of St Michael at Begbroke is presented in ES Appendix 7.5: Settings Assessment (Rev 3) submitted at Deadline 5.</p> <p>A revised version of the Additional Photomontages for Historic Environment Assessment was submitted at Deadline 5.</p>

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
	Church in Begbroke. We look forward to receiving an updated Settings Assessment and revised visualisations so we can better understand the implications of change for the development's impact on the significance of the Church.		
Historic England	<p>Change 10: Clarification of the role of the community educational facility</p> <p>Thank you for the clarification that the detailed design of the education building will be included within the detailed Operational Management Plan and secured under Requirement 12 of the draft DCO. As currently set out in the draft DCO (REP3-005) this currently only requires the Operational Management Plan to be approved by the relevant authority in consultation with relevant waste and highway authorities. As this building is proposed within an area of the setting of Blenheim Palace WHS and RPG that contributes positively to both significance and OUV, Historic England consider that we should also be included as a named consultee for the purpose of this requirement. We are in discussions with your project team regarding the necessary changes on this point.</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>Through consideration of this feedback, the Applicant is now proposing to remove the education facility from the project and use the land shown for that purpose for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and other ecological mitigation measures.</p> <p>The Applicant remains committed to delivering educational benefit through the delivery of the Project and is exploring erecting signage with information on paths and PRowWs.</p>
West Oxfordshire	RE: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BOTLEY WEST SOLAR FARM DCO APPLICATION	No	The Applicant notes this comment.

Respondent	Feedback	Has this Resulted in an amendment to the Change Request (Y/N)	Applicant Response
District Council (WODC)	<p>Thank you for consulting West Oxfordshire District Council on the proposed changes to the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Botley West Solar Farm. We welcome the opportunity to comment on proposed changes to the project. West Oxfordshire District Council support the submission of the Change Application to the Examining Authority. We understand that you are seeking the views of the council at this stage, prior to submission of the change request to the Examining Authority West Oxfordshire District Council support project refinements that improve the scheme design, reduce the total land take and minimise environmental impacts of the project. We comment on each of the proposed changes where relevant, in turn below. WODC have no comments to make on Changes 3, 6, 7 and 11.</p>		
West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC)	<p>Change 1 – Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area south west of Bladon, and removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane. Reduction in red line reduces total project land area by 31 Ha – This proposed change is supported. The land in question is particularly sensitive in terms of heritage and the setting of Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site.</p>	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes these comments welcoming the proposed change.</p> <p>The primary purpose of this proposed change is to further reduce or completely avoid any harm to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site as a result of change within its setting, in response to</p>

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	<p>The reduction of the Order Limits boundary in this location and removal of proposed development from these land parcels will be beneficial in terms of mitigating impacts of the proposed development on landscape and cultural heritage. Removal of solar arrays on land south-east of Bladon and north of Heath Lane – WODC have previously responded to proposals for development in this location, highlighting proximity to Blenheim Palace WHS, Bladon Conservation Area, the listed Church of St Martin and Churchill's grave as particular sensitivities in this area. WODC regard this as a particularly sensitive location for development and so welcome proposed changes to reduce the proximity of development to sensitive receptors, including residential properties on Heath Lane and at Bladon. Although the proposed reduction in solar panel installation would go some way to mitigating the impact of development on sensitive receptors to the south of Bladon and north of Heath Lane, WODC consider that there will still be residual effects arising from the proposed development where panels and associated infrastructure remain in the Central Area, particularly in proximity to Ancient Woodland and Public Rights of Way. The setting of Blenheim</p>		<p>feedback received from Interested Parties including Historic England.</p> <p>An updated version of ES Appendix 7.4: Heritage Impact Assessment – Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site (Rev 2) has been submitted at Deadline 5.</p> <p>A revised assessment of the impacts and effects regarding designated heritage assets at Bladon is presented in ES Appendix 7.5: Settings Assessment (Rev 3) submitted at Deadline 5.</p> <p>The change will not result in any new land interests, as no new land is sought to be brought into the Order Limits. In terms of resultant environmental effects, the Applicant's preliminary assessment is that whilst there will some beneficial effects (e.g. avoiding harm to the setting to the WHS, improved landscape and visual effects and wellbeing effects), with no residual adverse effects.</p>

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	Palace WHS is not clearly defined and we will need to continue assessment of impacts on the setting and the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site, through the Examination as the project design continues to evolve.		
West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC)	Change 2 – Reduction in Order Limits boundary to reduce the solar installation area near to Oxford airport West Oxfordshire District Council support the proposed change to the order limits and reduction in the solar installation area in this location. We understand the concerns of Oxford Airport with regard to the safe operation airfield and the need for safe run off areas beyond the runway extents. The proposed changes are likely to deliver multiple benefits in terms of airport safety, heritage conservation and coalescence of settlements.	No	The Applicant notes these comments welcoming the proposed change.
West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC)	Change 4 - Refinement of Project layout and design to reduce solar installation on land east of Lower Road; West Oxfordshire District Council supports the proposed refinement of the project area and reduction in solar panel installation to the east of Lower Road. The proposed change would reduce the scale of the proposed development within the Oxford Green Belt and reduce impacts on best and most versatile	No	The Applicant notes this comment.

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	agricultural land as a result of the proposed development.		
West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC)	Change 5 - Refinement of Project layout and design to remove installation areas overlapping with Flood Zones 2 and 3 Change 5 represents a very minor change to the project layout and design to remove installation areas from flood zones 2 and 3. West Oxfordshire District Council supports the proposed change. Panel installation areas should be excluded from areas at risk of fluvial flooding across the project area.	No	<p>The Applicant notes these comments welcoming the proposed change.</p> <p>As the alteration is required in response to the most recent updated Flood Zones (updated in March 2025). A revised Flood Risk Assessment and mapping has been submitted at Deadline 3, in consultation with the EA. This incorporates this change and ensures all panels are placed within Flood Zone 1.</p>
West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC)	Change 8 - Refinement of Project layout and design to reposition the Public Rights of Way currently proposed to be stopped up and diverted back to definitive alignment West Oxfordshire District Council wish to see the connectivity and extent of the Public Rights of Way network across the district protected and enhanced. We understand the reasoning for the applicant wishing to maintain the desire lines established within the PRow network as these are reflective as how the public use these routes, but ultimately, it would be beneficial to reestablish alignment with the definitive routes maintained by the County Council. West Oxfordshire District Council	No	The Applicant notes these comments welcoming the proposed change.

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	support the proposed change to realign public rights of way with the definitive alignment.		
West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC)	Change 9 - Reduction in Order Limits boundary to remove an area of land along Wharf Road West Oxfordshire District Council support the proposed change to reduce the order limits and realign the cable route outside of the gated area.	No	The Applicant notes this comment.
West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC)	Change 10 - Clarification of the role of the community educational facility WODC welcome the additional clarity provided as to the location of the proposed education facility. The proposed change confirms that the proposed education facility will be sited in the Green Belt and adject to the Bladon Conservation Area. WODC support the provision of education infrastructure in appropriate locations. There are environmental sensitivities associated with this location as previously discussed. It would be useful to understand more about the design, size and scale of the proposed education facility in order to understand the potential impacts of development in this location. WODC support the principle of developing new education facilities, but wish to highlight the sensitivities of the proposed location in terms of cultural heritage and green belt.	Yes	<p>The Applicant notes this comment.</p> <p>Through consideration of this feedback, the Applicant is now proposing to remove the education facility from the project and use the land shown for that purpose for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and other ecological mitigation measures.</p> <p>The Applicant remains committed to delivering educational benefit through the delivery of the Project, and is exploring erecting signage with information on paths and PRowS.</p>