

## Tween Bridge Solar Farm

### 5.7 Other Consents and Licences

**Planning Act 2008  
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms  
and Procedure) Regulations 2009**

**APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)**

**Document Reference: 5.7**

**August 2025**

**Revision 1**

OTHER CONSENTS AND LICENCES

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1. Introduction

- 1.1.1. This document has been prepared by RWE Renewables UK Solar and Storage Ltd ('the Applicant'). It forms part of the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) (the 'DCO Application') under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) [Ref. 1] for Tween Bridge Solar Farm (hereafter referred to as the 'Scheme').
- 1.1.2. The Scheme comprises the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating and storage facility with an export capacity of over 50 megawatts (MW) and associated infrastructure, as described within **Environmental Statement (ES) Chapter 2: Scheme Description [Document Reference 6.1.2]** and Schedule 1 of the **Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]**.
- 1.1.3. The Scheme encompasses an area of approximately 1,831 hectares (ha) straddling the administrative boundaries of Doncaster Council and North Lincolnshire Council. The boundary of the Scheme is hereafter referred to as the 'Order Limits' and is shown on the **ES Figure 1.1 Order Limits [Document Reference 6.4.1.1]**.

## 1.2. Purpose of this document

- 1.2.1. The purpose of this document is to summarise the other consents, licences and agreements that are expected to be needed for the construction and operation (including maintenance) of the Proposed Development outside of the powers sought within the **Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]**. It is not expected that there would be any additional consents and licences required for the decommissioning stage beyond those identified for the construction stage, notwithstanding that the requirements may evolve prior to decommissioning commencing.
- 1.2.2. Section 37 of the PA 2008 governs the content of an application for a DCO, including the requirements for the necessary accompanying documents specified in the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations) **[Ref. 2]**.
- 1.2.3. Regulations 5 and 6 of the APFP Regulations provide the statutory requirement for what must accompany a DCO application. Guidance issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government (now the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) in June 2013 **[Ref. 3]** requires that:

*"Where the proposed development will also require other consents, licences, permits, etc, to enable it to be constructed and/or operational, and for which the Secretary of State is not the authorising body under the Planning Act, then the applicant must list and briefly describe these in....the application. Reference should be made to any that have already been applied for, and a copy enclosed of any that the applicant may already be in the possession of.*

*The Applicant should also, either in Box 24 or elsewhere in one of their application documents, set out whether there are, in principle, any reasons why such consents etc. might not be granted. In providing this information the applicant should reference responses received from the relevant authorising bodies regarding the likelihood of such consents etc. being granted”.*

- 1.2.4. This document lists those consents and agreements which the Applicant currently anticipates may be required to supplement powers within the **Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]** and the status of any agreement with the regulatory authority (where required). The document will be updated by the Applicant as the project progresses to reflect the most current position.

## 2 Consents and agreements

### 2.1. Overview

- 2.1.1. The principal consent for the Proposed Development will be through a DCO. The DCO would provide development consent for the works and enables land acquisition and temporary possession, along with many consents and powers to be dealt with at the same time.
- 2.1.2. As set out through Section 33 of the PA 2008, there is no requirement for certain principal conventional consents to be obtained where a DCO is authorising a project. Part 7 of the PA 2008 outlines that the following can be included within a DCO:
- Matters ancillary to, the development for which consent is granted, in particular for or relating to any of the matters listed in Part 1 of Schedule 5.
  - The ability to apply, modify or exclude a statutory provisions where provision may be made in the DCO.
  - Make amendments, repeals or revocations of statutory provisions of local application where they appear to the Secretary of State to be necessary or expedient in consequence of or in connection with the DCO.
  - Include incidental, consequential, supplementary, transitional or transitory provisions and savings.
- 2.1.3. It is therefore clear that the intent of the PA 2008 and a DCO is to include as many consents as possible, reducing the need for separate, associated consents and agreements to be sought outside of the DCO process.
- 2.1.4. The Applicant considers that the approach to including consents within a DCO should apply for both those that do, and those that do not, require the agreement of the relevant body under section 150 of the PA 2008 in order for them to be included in the DCO. The Applicant envisages the approach being as follows:

- The DCO contains an express provision disapplying the requirement for the consent in question.
- In exchange, the DCO includes 'protective provisions' for the benefit of the body concerned.
- These protective provisions are specifically stated to have effect unless otherwise agreed between the Applicant and the body concerned.
- Compliance with the provisions is a matter as between the parties and can be enforced accordingly.
- Either way, the protective provisions provide a means for the body concerned to monitor, enforce compliance and to review the effectiveness of the approval regime enshrined in the protective provisions.
- The mechanism of approval being given under the protective provisions allows the body concerned to approach a project in two stages (i) the DCO Application stage, where the principle of the Scheme is accepted by the body concerned and the detail of the protective provision is negotiated and (ii) the subsequent approval stages under the protective provisions which cannot be unreasonably refused but when detailed matters going to construction can be properly considered.

2.1.5. However, the DCO Application may need to be supplemented by other applications because:

- a specific consent cannot be contained in the DCO;
- a consenting authority declines to allow a consent to be contained within the DCO (where they have the power to do so); or
- it is not desirable, or it is inappropriate, to include a consent within a DCO due to the stage of design development meaning the detail required is unavailable.

2.1.6. The **Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]** includes many of the consents and powers required, as permitted by various provisions of the PA 2008. These fall into the following categories:

- Authorisation for all permanent and temporary works for the Proposed Development which are described as the 'authorised development' in Schedule 1 of the **Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]**;
- Compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights over land, and temporary possession of land;
- Consent to carry out street works;
- Traffic regulation measures required during the construction, maintenance and decommissioning of the Proposed Development, equivalent to Traffic Regulation Orders made under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984;

- Consent to alter the layout of streets and to form new, or alter or improve existing accesses to the highway;
- Consent to temporarily stop up, divert and replace public rights of way;
- Land drainage consent(s) under section 23, 30, 32 and 66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 for works affecting the flow in ordinary watercourses. Proposed protective provisions have been shared with the relevant drainage authorities in an effort to disapply this requirement. They are still under discussion with the authorities at the point of submitting the DCO Application;
- Flood risk activity permit(s) from the Environment Agency under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (England and Wales) 2016. Proposed protective provisions have been shared with the Environment Agency (EA) in an effort to disapply this requirement and are still under discussion with the EA at the point of submitting the DCO Application;
- Consents from the Canal and River Trust (CRT) (as landowner and Navigation Authority) in relation to the installation of cabling below the Stainforth and Keadby Canal. Proposed protective provisions have been shared with the Canal and River Trust in an effort to disapply these consent requirements and are still under discussion with the CRT at the point of submitting the DCO Application; and
- Requirement of licence for felling works under section 9 of the Forestry Act 1967.

2.1.7. The **Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]** also proposes the disapplication and modification of local legislation. This is explained in further detail in the **Explanatory Memorandum [Document Reference 3.2]**.

2.1.8. A number of the above consents are prescribed in the Infrastructure Planning (Interested Parties and Miscellaneous Prescribed Provisions) Regulations 2015 (a 'Prescribed Consent'). As a result, under Section 150 of the PA 2008, the relevant consenting body must agree to the inclusion of these consents within the DCO.

2.1.9. Discussions between the Applicant and consenting bodies are ongoing. The Applicant is confident that agreement from the relevant consenting bodies will be obtained before or during the Examination of its DCO Application. Table 1 of this document sets out the status of such agreements where they have been sought.

## 2.2. Consents

2.2.1. The extent of other consents that may be sought separately from the DCO and those which the Applicant is seeking to disapply are identified in Table 1, along with a position on the necessary agreements.

2.2.2. The requirement for additional consents and licences is largely dependent on the finalisation of the detailed design of the Scheme, the detailed construction or working methodologies, and discussions with consenting authorities in light of detailed design. There is not therefore sufficient

## OTHER CONSENTS AND LICENCES

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detail at this stage to confirm the requirements in full and it is therefore not practicable to include them within the DCO.

2.2.3. Table 1 lists the type of consent or licence required outside the DCO to deliver the Scheme, the relevant consenting body, any agreement that has been reached with that body, and any further actions required during construction. This document will be updated as the application progresses through Examination and if / where progress has been made with the consenting bodies.

2.2.4. Consents detailed in Table 1 for construction are expected to be broadly in line with those expected for decommissioning.

## OTHER CONSENTS AND LICENCES

**Table 1: Consents and agreements table**

Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
Electricity Generation	Electricity Generation Licence – under the Electricity Act 1989	Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (OFGEM)	Required at the operational stage of the Scheme in relation to the generation of electricity.	The Applicant holds an Electricity Generation Licence.	Secured outside of the DCO process.
Electricity Generation	Connection Agreement – required for the connection of the Scheme to the National Grid.	National Grid	The <b>Grid Connection Statement [Document Reference 5.8]</b> sets out the grid connection arrangements made by the Applicant for securing a connection to a new 400kV substation to be delivered separately by National Grid.	The Applicant has obtained this agreement with the relevant authority.	Secured outside of the DCO process.
400kV connection cable	Planning Permission under the Town and County Planning Act	Doncaster Council and/or North Lincolnshire Council	Consent may be required to authorise the construction,	Process would likely be commenced after the making of the	Secured outside of the DCO process.



## OTHER CONSENTS AND LICENCES

Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
	1990 (TCPA) or development consent under the Planning Act 2008	(TCPA), or the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (Planning Act 2008)	operation and maintenance of a 400kV export connection cable between the RWE on-site 400kV substation and the new NGET 400kV substation, which is required to connect the Scheme to the national electricity transmission network. The DCO includes powers for the provision of cables from the RWE on-site 400kV substation to the Order Limits, in order to facilitate a connection at the appropriate point with the remainder of the 400kV export connection cable to the NGET substation	DCO, once NGET have confirmed the location of the NGET 400kV substation and the Applicant can in turn define the route of the 400kV connection cable thereto.	The Applicant has an existing grid connection agreement with the National Electricity System Operator and will follow the necessary procedure and guidance from the relevant planning authority or the Secretary of State to gain consent. The Applicant therefore does not consider that there would be any obvious impediment to obtaining consent for the 400kV export connection cable and NGET substation.

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Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
			(once the location is confirmed by NGET).		
Heritage – Military Aircraft Crash Sites	Authorised Works Licence under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986	Ministry of Defence	Ground works within military aircraft crash sites during the construction of the Scheme.	Process would be commenced after the making of the DCO.	The Applicant cannot and is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> . The Applicant will submit an application to the Secretary of State outside of the DCO process.
Nature Conservation	Protected Species Licence – under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) or	Natural England	Works that could disturb European Protected Species.	Not currently anticipated although may be required in relation to bats should tree removal affect trees with roosting potential.  May be required in relation to otter holt/	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> and would make appropriate licence applications outside of the DCO process. The Applicant will

## OTHER CONSENTS AND LICENCES

Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
	Protection of Badgers Act 1992.			resting place disturbance and destruction.	follow the necessary procedure and guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe this licence would not be granted.
Nature Conservation	Protected Species Licence – Great Crested Newts – under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations and Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).	Natural England	Required in relation to the disturbance or removal / translocation of GCN within the Order Limits.	District Level Licence (DLL) is being considered. The requirement for licences will be determined after pre-construction surveys, although all surveys in 2023 and 2025 returned negative results for GCN	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> with a DLL being considered. The Applicant will follow the necessary procedure and guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe this licence would not be granted.
Nature Conservation	Licence to interfere with badger setts –	Natural England	Required in relation to the disturbance and	The requirement for licences will be	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply

## OTHER CONSENTS AND LICENCES

Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
	under Section 10 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992		destruction of known badger setts within the Order Limits prior to and during construction.	determined after pre-construction surveys and monitoring works.	this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> and would make appropriate licence applications outside of the DCO process. The Applicant will follow the necessary procedure and guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe this licence would not be granted.
Nature Conservation	Licence to disturb or damage water vole burrows – Section 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	Natural England	Required in relation to the disturbance of water voles and damage or destruction of water vole burrows.	Low impact licence/ project specific licence is being considered. The requirement for licences will be determined after pre-construction surveys.	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> and would make appropriate licence applications outside of the DCO process. The Applicant will

## OTHER CONSENTS AND LICENCES

Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
					follow the necessary procedure and guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe this licence would not be granted.
Nature Conservation	Mink trapping compliance with regulations – The Spring Traps Approval (England) Order 2012, Animal Welfare Act 2006	Natural England	Required to use only approved humane traps (approved spring traps or live traps). Killing or removing captured mink must comply with welfare rules. Non-target species must be released unharmed.	Authorisation will be required prior to mink trapping.	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> and would make appropriate licence applications outside of the DCO process. There is no indication that mink are present within the Order Limits, however the Applicant will follow the necessary procedure and

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Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
					guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe this licence would not be granted if they are identified during pre-construction surveys.
Materials and Waste	Exemption for using, treating, storing and disposing of waste – under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016	Environment Agency	Required for activities involving the use, treatment, disposal or storage of waste.	The re-use of any excavated material during construction that is not disposed of off-site would be managed in line with the final Construction Environmental Management Plan. Any transport and disposal of waste off-site would be handled by licenced carriers and facilities.	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> . The Applicant will follow the necessary procedure and guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe this permit would not be granted if it is required.

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Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
Materials and Waste	Bentonite usage – under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016	Environment Agency	Permit may be required for the use and disposal of bentonite on-site in relation to trenchless cable installation (e.g. horizontal directional drilling).	Process would be commenced after the making of the DCO.	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> . The Applicant will follow the necessary procedure and guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe this permit would not be granted if it is required.
Water	Water abstraction or impoundment licence – under section 24 of the Water Resources Act 1991 (as amended by the Water Act 2003), Environment Act 1995, Water Resources (Abstraction and	Environment Agency	Required where pumping or dewatering is proposed.	This is considered to be unlikely but should pumping or dewatering activities be required, applications would be made by the contractor before abstraction or	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> .

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Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
	Impounding) Regulations 2016			impoundment commences.	
Traffic / Transport	Permit for transport of abnormal loads – for delivery by road of loads that fall outside standard practice (if required)	Road Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) (General) Order 2003 or with authorisation from the Secretary of State under the Road Traffic Act 1988	Police and Highway Authority Bridge owners (if any) as appropriate.	Applications will be made as appropriate in advance of the abnormal load delivery and in line with the principles within the <b>Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan</b> [Document Reference 7.7].	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO</b> [Document Reference 3.1]. The Applicant will follow the necessary procedure and guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe this permit would not be granted.
Noise	Section 61, Control of Pollution Act 1974	Doncaster Council and North Lincolnshire Council	May be required during construction and decommissioning to comply with noise regulations	Applications to be made by the principal contractor before construction commences as appropriate.	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO</b> [Document Reference 3.1]. The Applicant will follow the necessary procedure and



## OTHER CONSENTS AND LICENCES

Issue	Consent / Licence and Legislation	Relevant Authority	Description	Status	Relationship to the Draft DCO
					guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe this consent would not be granted if it is required.
Health & Safety	Health and Safety related consents – under the Health and Safety at Works Act 1974 and subsidiary legislation.	Health and Safety Executive (HSE).	May be required during construction and decommissioning to ensure compliance with health and safety regulations.	Applications to be made by the principal contractor before construction commences as appropriate.	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply this in the <b>Draft DCO [Document Reference 3.1]</b> . The Applicant will follow the necessary procedures and guidance from the relevant authority and has no reason to believe these consents would not be granted.

### 2.3. References

- **Ref. 1:** Planning Act 2008. Available online: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/section/14>
- **Ref. 2.** The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009. Available online: [The Infrastructure Planning \(Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure\) Regulations 2009](#)
- **Ref. 3.** Department for Communities and Local Government. Planning Act 2008 Application form guidance 2013. Available online: [Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent](#)