

Tween Bridge Solar Farm

Environmental Statement Appendix 1.3: Statement of Competence

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

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

Document Reference: 6.3.1.3

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Revision 1

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1 Statement of Competence

- 1.1.1. In line with Regulation 14(4) of the EIA Regulations , the ES and all technical assessments have been undertaken by suitably qualified 'competent experts' within the project team.
- 1.1.2. In addition, the EIA Regulations require *that 'the environmental statement must be accompanied by a statement from the applicant outlining the relevant expertise or qualifications of such experts'*. As such, this Statement of Competence has been prepared to outline the capability of the companies and the competency of the individuals responsible for undertaking and reporting the EIA. Details of their relevant expertise are set out in **Table 1-1**.

Table 1-1: Statement of Competence

Topic	Author and Company Credentials
<div> Environmental Impact Assessment Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Water Resources Socio Economics Transport and Access</div>	<p>The team responsible for the production of the ES has been coordinated and managed by Pegasus Group. Pegasus Group is accredited under the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) 'Quality Mark' scheme which is a mark of excellence in EIA co-ordination and management. IEMA changed its name to 'Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals (ISEP)' in July 2025. The guidance produced and referenced in this ES drafted by IEMA is still valid and has been used for this assessment. Pegasus Group has extensive experience of coordinating and undertaking EIA work across a range of projects and development types including energy and renewable energy schemes. The management and coordination of the EIA and ES was undertaken by Gareth Roberts, BCs (Hons), MSc Environmental Planning, MRTPI – Senior Director at Pegasus Group. Gareth has managed and coordinated numerous</p>



	<p>Environmental Statements for major renewable energy infrastructure projects, including DCO and Development of National Significance (DNS) (introduced by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015). Consequently, he has a sound understanding of all relevant guidance and emerging best practice for the assessment of a diverse range of projects and development types and ensures Environmental Statements produced are EIA Quality Mark compliant.</p> <p>The lead author for the landscape and visual impact chapter is Kate Curtis BA Hons DipLA CMLI. Kate is a Senior Director at Pegasus Group and is a Chartered Landscape Architect with over 20 years' experience. Kate is very familiar with the Lincolnshire landscape. She has a wide environmental and landscape planning experience including solar farm and other renewable energy developments across England and Wales. Kate has been supported in the production of the ES Chapter by a team of Landscape Architects and environmental professionals based in the Pegasus Leeds Office.</p> <p>Jonathan Millward (Principal Consultant, Heritage) and Laura Garcia (Senior Director, Heritage) have authored this chapter of the ES.</p> <p>Jonathan Millward who holds a BA (Hons) in Archaeology, an MA in Practical Archaeology, and is a full accredited member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA). Jonathan has worked in archaeology for over 18 years and has over 13 years' experience working on EIA projects.</p>
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	<p>Laura Garcia BA (Hons), is a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCI(A) and has been a heritage professional for over 20 years and has extensive experience of undertaking heritage assessments at all stages of the project lifecycle and under numerous consenting regimes, including schemes of national significance for renewable energy projects across the UK. She has provided heritage advice at all stages of projects including acting as heritage expert witness at hearings, examinations and inquiries, and is familiar with the heritage requirements of the planning regimes of all the devolved administrations.</p> <p>Laura has acted as heritage expert witness, giving evidence at planning inquiries and hearings, including the Longhedge Solar Inquiry and the Cotmoor Solar Farm Inquiry. She is due to give evidence at a number of hearings and inquiries within the next year and due to appear at the examination as the Heritage Expert for a DCO currently at Examination Stage.</p> <p>The leading author on hydrology is Simon Jacques. Mr Jacques is a Chartered Civil Engineer with over 33 years' experience planning, designing and delivering civil engineering infrastructure for a variety of new developments and infrastructure related projects in the UK and overseas. Since joining Pegasus in 2020, he has been a Senior Director responsible for the delivery of Infrastructure Engineering design and related support services for various types of projects including residential, energy, commercial & regeneration, retail, education, healthcare and transport infrastructure projects. This includes</p>
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	<p>the production of flood risk assessment and drainage strategy for a number of solar farms and battery storage schemes including EIA schemes across the UK.</p> <p>The lead author for the socio-economic chapter is Laur Day (BA (Hons), MA, PIEMA, MIED) who is a Director at Pegasus Group. Laura Day (BA (Hons), MA, PIEMA, MIED) is a Director in the Economics team at Pegasus Group. Laura has over 16 years' experience working in Socioeconomics and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) coordination. Her experience spans a range of sectors including renewable energy, energy infrastructure, residential, commercial, retail. This has included experience on DCO and TCPA consenting routes. Laura's work has involved consideration of a wide range of socio-economic related assessment including, but not limited to, social infrastructure analysis, skills and employment, accommodation demand analysis, equality impact assessment and health impact assessment.</p> <p>The lead author on transport matters is Katie Stock (BA Hons, MSc, CTPP, MCIHT, MTPS), who is a Chartered Transport Planning Professional (CTPP) and Member of the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (MCIHT). Katie has over 12 years' experience and has supported a wider range of schemes including NSIPs in the energy sector.</p>
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<div></div> <div>Ecology and Nature Conservation</div>	<p>The leading author on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity are Julian Arthur and Rob Revolta. Julian Arthur is a founding Director of Tyler Grange, a practice specialising in arboriculture, ecology, landscape, townscape and visual technical planning services. He has overall responsibility for technical aspects of the business. Julian is a highly experienced ecologist, is a Chartered Ecologist (CEcol) of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) and has advised on a wide variety of projects requiring land-use change, from residential and commercial developments, to renewables and parkland plan, funded by stewardship agreements. He is expert in the planning system as it relates to ecology and nature conservation, along with the various international and UK legal instruments that are designed to protect wildlife during land use change. He works as part of the project team, contributing to site promotion, scheme design, external consultations, EIAs, the planning application, and negotiation of planning controls. As a specialist ecological planner, Julian tends to lead on, and project manages, the most complex and challenging projects. He has extensive experience of working on Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs), biodiversity net gain and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), having advised on numerous housing, renewable energy, commercial and industrial projects, including the design of mitigation and avoidance measures to the satisfaction of the competent authority and statutory nature conservation bodies (SNCBs). He is very experienced in the integration of ecology into green infrastructure design and is a Building with Nature Assessor.</p>
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	<p>Julian is an experienced field surveyor and holds surveyor licences for all species of bat (including Natural England’s new pilot Earned Recognition licence and low-impact class licence), great crested newt, dormouse, barn owl and white-clawed crayfish. He is a member of the author team for the update bat mitigation guidelines to be published by CIEEM in 2021, which Tyler Grange also sponsored.</p> <p>Rob Revolta is a Technical Director at Tyler Grange and specialises in ecology issues associated with development projects, including renewable energy, residential, commercial and industrial projects. He is highly experienced with over 18 years’ experience working as a professional ecologist and is a full member of the CIEEM. He regularly works as part of the wider project team, contributing to masterplan design, site promotion, planning applications, NSIP applications, EIAs, Habitats Regulations Assessments / Appropriate Assessments, Biodiversity Net Gain assessments, external consultation, Hedgerow Regulation assessments, negotiating planning controls, the implementation of landscape and ecological management plans, mitigation strategies, enhancement schemes and European Protected Species licence applications. He is an experienced habitat and protected species surveyor and holds European Protected Species survey licences in England and Wales for bats, great crested newt and dormouse.</p>
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 <p>Ground Conditions</p>	<p>The lead author on geo-environmental matters is Dr Laura Aspinall. Laura is a chartered geo-environmental risk assessment specialist with over 17 years in the field of contaminated land research. Her main role within RSK Geosciences is as part of the specialist land contamination risk assessment team, where she is charged with the interpretation of complex datasets and information pertaining to soil and groundwater contamination impacts. Her role also extends to the preparation of EIA ES Chapters for ground conditions for which she has had recent experience with several projects within the renewables sector. The reviewer is Alex Smiles, with over 18 years' experience in the ground contamination sector, Alex is an Associate Director for RSK Geosciences charged with overseeing the production of reports and their technical review. Hailing from a background in ground contamination risk, Alex is a chartered full member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) and has supported with the collation of multiple EIA screening and subsequent ES Chapter reports for a variety of large scale brownfield remediation projects.</p>
	<p>The noise and vibration chapter has been prepared by Marc Harris working for Ion Acoustics Ltd. Janec is a Member of the Institute of Acoustics (MIOA) and holds a Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control along with a Master's Degree in Environmental and Architectural Acoustics from London South Bank University. He has been working as an acoustician since 2014 on a wide variety of projects. He has extensive experience in</p>

Noise and Vibration	undertaking EIAs and assessing environmental noise impacts.
 <p>Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions</p> <p>Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation</p>	<p>The authority on air quality matters are Laurence Caird, MEarthSci CSci MEnvSc MIAQM; Dr Frances Marshall, MSci PhD MEnvSc MIAQM; and, Dr Kate Wilkins, BSc (Hons) MSc PhD CSci MEnvSc MIAQM at Air Quality Consultants.</p> <p>Laurence Caird is a Technical Director with AQC, with 17 years' experience in the field of environmental consultancy with extensive experience in air quality and climate change assessments for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) schemes. He has helped shape a methodology for the assessment of greenhouse gas emissions within EIA to satisfy the requirements of the 2017 EIA Regulations and has produced carbon footprints and greenhouse gas assessments for a number of projects including major aviation projects as well as EIA residential, commercial and mixed-use developments and industrial facilities. Beyond EIA, Mr Caird has produced lifecycle carbon assessments for a range of projects, has undertaken assessments of project's resilience and adaptation to climate change, has developed net zero carbon plans and strategies, and undertaken assessments of carbon sequestration and carbon offsets and carbon assessment for land use, land use change and forestry. He also has extensive experience in the field of air quality, and has a detailed understanding of a range of emissions sources including transport, energy and industry. He is a Member of the Institute of Air Quality Management (and a former IAQM</p>

	<p>Committee Member) and is a Chartered Scientist.</p> <p>Dr Frances Marshall is a Principal Consultant with AQC with ten years' relevant experience. Dr Marshall has experience preparing air quality assessments for a range of projects, including residential and commercial developments, road traffic schemes, energy centres, energy from waste schemes and numerous power generation schemes. She has experience in producing air quality assessments for EIA schemes. She is a member of both the Institute of Air Quality Management and the Institution of Environmental Sciences. Dr Wilkins is a Senior Consultant with AQC with over five years' experience in the field of air quality. Since joining AQC in January 2018, she has undertaken numerous air quality impact assessments for road traffic, combustion plant and construction dust throughout the UK for both standalone assessments and for EIAs, and has also prepared local authority reports and literature reviews. She is a Chartered Scientist and a Member of both the Institute of Air Quality Management and the Institution of Environmental Sciences.</p>
 <p>The logo for Kernon Countryside Consultants Limited features a stylized green landscape with a hill, a tree, and a building. Below the graphic, the text 'KERNON' is written in large, bold, green capital letters, and 'COUNTRYSIDE CONSULTANTS LIMITED' is written in smaller, green capital letters below it.</p>	<p>The lead authority on agricultural matters is Tony Kernon (BSc (Hons), RICS, FBIAC) who is a Chartered Surveyor and a Fellow of the British Institute of Agricultural Consultants. Tony has specialised in assessing the effects of development proposals on agricultural land (land quality and soils) and agricultural and rural businesses, for over 35 years. Tony's experience includes many Environmental Assessments and NSIP applications, including</p>

Agricultural Circumstances	road, rail, residential, industrial, infrastructure and energy proposals, mostly in England and Wales. He regularly acts as expert witness for local planning authorities, Government agencies and developers. He is currently involved in multiple NSIP and DNS renewable energy development proposals.
 <p>Glint and Glare</p> <p>Electric Magnetic Fields</p>	<p>Pager Power is a dedicated consultancy company based in Suffolk, UK. The company comprises a team of experts to provide technical expertise and guidance on a range of planning issues for large and small developments, and has undertaken projects in 62 countries internationally. Pager Power has undertaken over 1,600 Glint and Glare assessments. The studies have included assessment of civil and military aerodromes, railway infrastructure and other ground-based receptors including roads and dwellings. Pager Power has published its own glint and glare guidance document, now in its fourth edition, which is based on industry experience, independent studies, and extensive consultation with industry stakeholders, including airports and aviation regulators. Pager Power's assessments withstand legal scrutiny, and the company can provide support for a project at any stage. Pager Power has successfully attended hearings, tribunals and appeals for projects globally, including Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.</p>
	<p>Barton Hyett Associates is a specialist arboricultural consultancy that provides technical advice on trees and woodlands where they relate to proposed development. Formed in 2016 the company brought together</p>

Arboriculture	<p>a team with extensive experience of dealing with arboricultural matters within the UK planning system. This experience comes from working in both the private and public sectors and from small scale TCPA renewable development projects through to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects via the DCO process. Barton Hyett Associates is also a Registered Practice with the Institute of Chartered Foresters</p> <p>All senior team members have a detailed understanding of the requirements of the relevant planning Regulations and guidance and undertake Arboricultural Impact Assessments (AIA) as part of the planning/EIA process on a regular basis. All of the team also operate to industry standards and best practice guidance set out in BS5837:2012. All team members hold professional and academic qualifications relevant to the work undertaken on any particular project.</p> <p>The technical lead for this project is Richard Hyett. Richard has over 20 years experience of working in arboricultural planning and is a professional member of the Arboricultural Association and a professional member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters. Richard is a Chartered Arboriculturist. All work is undertaken in accordance with the code of professional ethics and standards set out by the Arboricultural Association and the Institute of Chartered Foresters.</p> <p>Name and qualifications: Richard Hyett MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor. MArborA. Chartered Arboriculturist</p>
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	<p>Job Title and Project Role: Director/Arboriculturist Relevant skills: Richard is a Chartered Arboriculturist as well as a professional member of the Arboricultural Association. Richard has over 20 years of experience in practical arboriculture, local planning authority and consulting. Richard holds an MSc in arboriculture and urban forestry. He is a part owner and director of Barton Hyett Associates and provides a wide range of arboricultural consultancy services. Richard has particular expertise in trees and development acting as an expert witness on TCPA planning appeals and as appointed arboricultural expert on large scale solar projects (both DNS and NSIP) on as well as the co-ordination of fieldwork/data collection for such projects as well as i-Tree Eco Surveys and tree management surveys/strategies.</p> <p>Name and qualifications: Ian Howell BSc (Hons), Cert Arb L4 (ABC). TechArborA.</p> <p>Job Title and Project Role: Arboriculturist Relevant skills: Ian is a Technician member of the Arboricultural Association working towards professional status via the assessed method. Ian has nearly 20 years experience in practical arboriculture and consulting. Ian often carries out large scale surveys and field work for the purposes of tree risk, BS5837:2012 and i-Tree Eco. Ian is well experienced in carrying out plot based survey having worked on some of the largest i-Tree Eco projects in the country including the Black Country and, the West Midlands as well as smaller scale projects such as Monmouthshire and Portsmouth City. Ian regularly carries out fieldwork and baseline</p>
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	<p>surveys for large scale solar developments (including DNS and NSIP) as well as advising on other energy projects across the UK.</p> <p>Name and qualifications: David Holmes FdSC, MArborA.</p> <p>Job Title and Project Role: Arboriculturist Relevant skills: David is a professional member of the Arboricultural Association. David has nearly 25 year experience in practical arboriculture, local planning authority and consulting. As well as providing professional advice and reporting, David regularly carries out large scale surveys and field work for the purposes of tree risk and BS5837:2012. David regularly carries out fieldwork and baseline surveys for large scale solar developments (including DNS and NSIP) as well as advising on other energy projects across the UK.</p>
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