



**Canal &  
River Trust**

Making life better by water

Your Ref EN010148

Our Ref IPP-182

Tuesday 5 May 2026

Proposal: EN010148 Tween Bridge Solar Project.

Canal & River Trust Response Submission for Deadline One (interested Party Number: FD78D5BC9)

### Summary of Oral Submissions Made at Open Floor Hearing (OFH1) (14/04/2026)

The Canal & River Trust's written comments below summarise those matters raised in our oral submissions made at OFH1 on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

Mrs Sophie Summers made comments on behalf of the Trust.

In summary:

#### Role of The Trust

- We highlighted that the Trust are landowner and Navigation Authority for the Stainforth & Keadby Canal, below which the proposals seek to install cables. We believe the Trust is unique as it is a Statutory Undertaker and a Charity.

#### Comment on Protective Provisions (As drafted)

- We highlighted that the draft Development Consent Order (APP-016) contained Protective Provisions that had not been agreed by the Trust and were not in the standard form used by the Trust.
- Protective Provisions are important for the Trust as they are key to protecting the Trust's undertaking
- It was highlighted that guidance government guidance was clear that in adopting protected provisions, applicants should be looking to take into account the standard protected provisions of statutory undertakers that there did not seem to be any reason on this project why another starting point should be taken.
- The Trust highlighted that departures from Standard Protective Provisions, where not justified, can result in an unnecessarily resource-heavy consenting regime, and potentially increases (unnecessarily) the burden and complexity for statutory undertakers at the implementation stage, as Trust operatives and engineers may need to adhere to different legislation for multiple NSIPs.
- The Trust confirmed that standardised protective provisions have been adopted and utilised on several solar projects, and have themselves derived from protective provisions adopted on other made Development Consent Orders.
- The Trust confirmed that, in March, solicitors for the applicant contacted the Trust to initiate negotiations of the Protective Provisions, starting with a form more closely aligned with the Trust's standard form. The Trust welcome the recent turn of events and hope negotiations will proceed smoothly, with provisions being agreed by the end of the examination.

#### Canal & River Trust

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Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

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