



BEACON FEN

ENERGY PARK

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010151

Statement of Common Ground (~~Draft~~Final) with National Grid Viking Link Limited

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~~February 2026~~October 2025



Quality information

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ED	JM	JM	CT

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<u>2</u>	<u>09/02/2026</u>	<u>Deadline 7 Updates</u>	<u>09/02/2026</u>	-	-

Abbreviation	Description
AC	Alternating Current
AIS	Air Insulated Switchgear
AMS	Archaeological Mitigation Strategy
Applicant	Beacon Fen Energy Park Ltd
BBC	Boston Borough Council
BESS	Battery energy storage system
CCTV	Closed circuit television
DC	Direct Current
DCO	Development Consent Order
EA	Environment Agency
GIS	Gas Insulated Switchgear
HV	High Voltage
IDB	Internal Drainage Board
LCC	Lincolnshire County Council
Low Carbon	Low Carbon Limited
MW	Megawatts
NGVLL	National Grid Viking Link Ltd
NGR	National Grid Reference
NKDC	North Kesteven District Council
NPSs	National Policy Statements
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
OCEMP	Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan
Order	The Beacon Fen Energy Park Order
PCU	Power Conversion Unit
PINS	Planning Inspectorate
Proposed Development	The entire development to be constructed and operated within the Site, as set out in Schedule 1 of the draft DCO
PRoW	Public Right of Way
PV	Photovoltaic
Site	The entire Order Limits or red line boundary located approximately 6.5 km northeast of Sleaford and 2.5 km north of Heckington
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SoS	Secretary of State

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground ('SoCG') with National Grid Viking Link Limited (**Document Ref: 8.6**) has been prepared on behalf of Beacon Fen Energy Park Ltd (the 'Applicant'). It relates to the application (the 'Application') for a Development Consent Order (a 'DCO'), that has been submitted to the Secretary of State (the 'SoS') for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the '2008 Act').
- 1.1.2 The Applicant is seeking development consent for a ground-mounted solar photovoltaic ('PV') electricity generation and battery energy storage system ('BESS'), together with associated grid connection infrastructure (the 'Proposed Development'), at an area sited approximately 6.5 km northeast of the village of Sleaford and 2.5 km north of Heckington (the 'Site'). The Proposed Development would have a generation capacity of approximately 400 megawatts ('MW') of electricity, with a 600MW BESS.
- 1.1.3 The Site corresponds to the entire Order Limits and represents the entire land area required for construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. It is made up of the Solar Array Area (comprising the solar PV and BESS infrastructure) the Cable Route Corridor (comprising an electrical connection from the Solar Array Area to the Bicker Fen National Grid 400kV substation) and the Bespoke Access Corridor (for a bespoke access from the A17 to the Solar Array Area). This is termed the Bespoke Access Road.
- 1.1.4 The Proposed Development falls within the definition of a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' ('NSIP') under Section 14(1)(a) and Sections 15(1) and (2) of the 2008 Act, as it is an onshore generating station in England that would have a generating capacity greater than 50MW electrical output. As such, a DCO application is required to authorise the Proposed Development in accordance with Section 31 of the 2008 Act.
- 1.1.5 The DCO, if made by the SoS, would be known as 'The Beacon Fen Energy Park Order 202[]' (the 'Order').

1.2 The Applicant

- 1.2.1 The Applicant is a subsidiary of Low Carbon Ltd ('Low Carbon'). Low Carbon is a privately-owned global renewable energy company.

1.3 The Site

- 1.3.1 The Site represents the entire Order Limits and is located east of Sleaford in Lincolnshire. It extends to approximately 758ha and comprises of three functional areas: the Solar Array Area, the Cable Route Corridor and the Bespoke Access Corridor.

Solar Array Area

- 1.3.2 The Solar Array Area is approximately 529ha in size and located to the north of Heckington, centred at the National Grid Reference ('NGR') 514682 347825. The Solar Array Area is located wholly within the administrative areas of North Kesteven District Council ('NKDC') and Lincolnshire County Council ('LCC').
- 1.3.3 The Solar Array Area predominantly comprises agricultural land in arable use, divided by ditches with sparse tree cover that is limited to small woodland blocks and scattered hedgerow trees. A small reservoir is located in the south-west of the Solar Array Area.
- 1.3.4 The Solar Array Area is bound to the south, west and north by local highways, and bound to the east by the Car Dyke. Public Right of Way ('PRoW') Ewer/12/1 extends across the north-eastern corner of the Site, close to the northern Site boundary. There are no other PRoW within the Solar Array Area.
- 1.3.5 Villages in proximity to the Solar Array Area include:
- Howell immediately to the south-west, with Heckington c. 1.7km beyond;
 - Ewerby Thorpe immediately to the west, with Ewerby c. 1.1km beyond;
 - Anwick c. 2.7km to the north-west;
 - North Kyme c. 2.4km to the north; and
 - South Kyme c. 1.5km to the east.

Cable Route Corridor

- 1.3.6 The Cable Route Corridor is approximately 183 ha in size and extends c. 13km south-east from the Solar Array Area to Bicker Fen substation, at NGR TF 19684 38599. The Cable Route Corridor is located wholly within the administrative area of LCC. The majority of the Cable Route Corridor is located within the administrative area of NKDC, however the southern section is located within BBC's administrative area.
- 1.3.7 Land use within the Cable Route Corridor is predominantly agricultural. A number of local highways cross the Cable Route Corridor, and the A17 crosses east to west within the north-west section of the Corridor. The railway linking Heckington west to Sleaford and east to Swineshead intersects the mid-section of the Corridor. There are a number of PRoW within the Cable Route Corridor, including one alongside the South Forty Foot Drain which also crosses the Cable Route Corridor.

Bespoke Access Corridor

- 1.3.8 The Bespoke Access Corridor is approximately 45.4 ha in size comprising predominantly agricultural land and extends approximately 3km south-west from the Solar Array Area to the A17. The Bespoke Access Corridor is located wholly within the administrative areas of LCC and NKDC.
- 1.3.9 The Bespoke Access Corridor has been refined during the pre-application stage, informed by results from environmental surveys and consultation feedback.
- 1.3.10 Asgarby Road and Heckington Road cross the Bespoke Access Corridor and there are four PRoW located within the route.

1.4 The Proposed Development

- 1.4.1 The main components of the Proposed Development are summarised below and defined in Schedule 1 to the **Draft DCO (AS-008 Document Ref: 3.1)**.

Solar Array Area

- 1.4.2 The Solar Array Area consists of solar PV panels and modular ground-mounting structures. The height of the panels considered will be up to 3.9m above ground level in fields to the east and 3.5m above ground level in fields to the west, south and an isolated field in the north. The proposal is for a fixed (i.e., static) panel orientation, facing due south which is commonly seen on existing UK solar farms, and angled 10° to 45° from horizontal. Supporting infrastructure includes inverters, combiner boxes, transformers and switchgear converting the Direct Current ('DC') to Alternating Current ('AC') and stepping up the voltage so it can be exported to the National Grid. An inverter, transformer and switchgear comprised together is termed a Power Conversion Unit ('PCU').
- 1.4.3 A 600MW BESS adjacent to the On-Site Substation is included in the Proposed Development within the Solar Array Area. This will allow the electricity generated by the panels to be stored on site at times when grid demand is low, then exported at times of higher demand. The BESS containers and switch rooms are anticipated to be up to 8m x 3m in size, with a height of up to 4.5m.
- 1.4.4 Low voltage onsite electrical cabling is required to connect the PV modules and BESS to the inverters, and the inverters to the onsite transformers. Higher voltage cables are required between the transformers and the switchgear and from switchgear to the substation.
- 1.4.5 A new onsite substation is proposed and would have up to four High Voltage (HV) transformers with a maximum footprint of no more than 40,000m² (e.g. 250m x 160m (or 200m x 200m)) and a height of up to 13m). The substation will include a 33kV switchroom, control and storage buildings that would house office space and welfare facilities, as well as operational monitoring and maintenance equipment and equipment for reactive compensation and/or harmonic filtering. The design control building and office/welfare will be defined as part of detailed design.
- 1.4.6 The perimeter fence would likely comprise a standard post and wire, deer fencing up to 3m tall around the Solar Array Area. Security fencing, up to 3.4m will be installed around the Onsite Substation compound and, possibly, other infrastructure / compounds. Acoustic fencing, up to 4m tall, may be required around the BESS, subject to the detailed design and layout.
- 1.4.7 Mounted internal-facing closed circuit television (CCTV) systems will likely be deployed around the perimeter of the operational areas of the Site; anticipated to be 5m high. The CCTV cameras would have fixed view sheds and will be aligned to face along the fence. Motion detection security lighting will be used around the electrical infrastructure and potentially at other pieces of critical infrastructure.
- 1.4.8 During construction, temporary construction compounds will be required, as well as temporary roadways, to enable access to all the land within the Site.

Localised earthworks to form suitable development platform for the substation and BESS will also be required.

- 1.4.9 There will be primary access on the western edge of the Solar Array Area and a secondary access to the north, which will allow large vehicles (including first responder access to the BESS and onsite substation). Tertiary operational access primarily for smaller vehicles is provided to the north west and south.
- 1.4.10 PRow Ewer/12/1 is being extended in a south and westerly direction as a permissive path terminating in the vicinity of Ewerby Thorpe, and will be in place for the operational duration of the Proposed Development. The exact route of the permissive path will be determined via the discharge of a requirement in the **Draft DCO (AS-008 Document Ref: 3.1)**, but it is anticipated to run in a south easterly direction along Car Dyke and then heading south west on the north side of Hodge Dike. An undetermined number of footbridges (unlikely to be more than 8 in number) to cross existing watercourses will be required and will require the usual water course crossing agreements to be sought with the relevant Internal Drainage Board in parallel with the discharge of the requirement.

Cable Route

- 1.4.11 The Cable Route running between the Solar Array Area and the Bicker Fen 400kV Substation will be constructed through trenched methods and, where required, trenchless methods.
- 1.4.12 During construction, temporary construction compounds will be required approximately every 1-3 km, as well as temporary roadways, to enable access to all land. It is anticipated that there will be 6 main compounds that are distributed at approximately equal distances along the cable route to facilitate proper construction management. Smaller temporary compounds may also be located anywhere within the final working area.
- 1.4.13 The Cable Route Corridor perimeter will include replacement planting of vegetation and hedgerows lost during the construction of the Cable Route will be re-instated where possible subject to easement restrictions.

Bespoke Access Road

- 1.4.14 A dedicated access from the A17 to the Solar Array Area is required. It will be constructed in advance of material construction commencing on the Solar Array Area and will facilitate construction in that area. During construction, temporary construction compounds will be required which may be anywhere along the route.
- 1.4.15 The Bespoke Access Road will likely be the last component of the Proposed Development to be removed as it will be used to facilitate decommissioning of the Solar Array Area. Whilst it is assumed in the **Environmental Statement ('ES') (APP-050 to APP-274)** that the road will be removed (unless otherwise states in the relevant chapter), it is possible that engagement with the landowners at that time will establish a preference for it to be retained. Optionality has been deliberately retained in the Application to facilitate such a scenario.
- 1.4.16 There will be no permanent lighting installed and access will be controlled through gates at all stages.

- 1.4.17 Vegetation and hedgerows lost during the construction of the Bespoke Access Road will be re-instated following decommissioning subject to the road being removed.

In any or all of the above areas

- 1.4.18 Along with the above, in any or all of the three areas, the Proposed Development will include the following (subject to certain requirements):
- Access tracks of between 3.5m to 9m width for construction access and routine maintenance when operational. Access tracks located adjacent to drainage ditches will incorporate the necessary ecological; Environment Agency (EA) and/or Internal Drainage Board (IDB) buffers where required;
 - Boundary treatments, means of enclosure, security measures, and paths;
 - Landscaping and reinstatement planting and Biodiversity Net Gain related habitats;
 - Flood resilience measures including swales and storm water attenuation, and works to existing irrigation systems;
 - Utility diversions;
 - Bunds, embankments, protective works to buildings, maintenance and improvement of streets; and
 - Construction related (and decommissioning related) work sites.

Bicker Fen Substation Works

- 1.4.19 The extension of Bicker Fen substation will include a new generation bay, a new generation bay control room and a perimeter access road. A new generation bay will also include electrical equipment required for connection to the transmission system.

- 1.4.20 National Grid Electricity Transmission plc ('NGET') have requested that there be optionality within the design of the extension to Bicker Fen substation. The two design options that have been assessed in the **ES (APP-050 to APP-274)** and included in the Application are: Air Insulated Switchgear ('AIS') and Gas Insulated Switchgear ('GIS').

- ~~1.4.20~~1.4.21 A Change Request was accepted by the Examining Authority into examination in a procedural decision dated 19 December 2025 (PD-015). This relates to a change to the proposed extension to the Bicker Fen Substation following from continued engagement between the applicant and NGET. The new design of the proposed extension includes the construction of a new overhead line (OHL) tower of up to 56.2 metres (m) in height with 4 legs, each supported on a square excavation of up to 7m by 7m wide and up to 5m deep. In addition, it also includes new 400kV cabling and associated works. This henceforth forms part of the Application.

Draft Development Consent Order

- ~~1.4.21~~1.4.22 The Proposed Development is described in detail in Schedule 1 to the **Draft DCO (AS-008 Document Ref: 3.1)**, and the areas in which each component (the 'Work Numbers') may be constructed are shown on the **Works Plans (AS-006CR-004)**.

- ~~1.4.22~~1.4.23 The Proposed Development is split into 10 Work Numbers as follows:

- Work No. 1 – a ground mounted solar photovoltaic generating station with a gross electrical output capacity of over 50 megawatts;
- Work No. 2 – a battery energy storage system compound and associated works (including fire safety infrastructure);
- Work No. 3 – development of an onsite substation and associated works;
- Work No. 4 – works in connection with electrical cabling and associated compounds;
- Work No. 5 – works to the existing Bicker Fen National Grid substation to create a new generation bay and substation extension;
- Work No. 6 – various ancillary works relating to the Solar Array Area, including cabling, fencing, security features, access tracks, watercourse crossings and landscaping and biodiversity mitigation measures;
- Work No. 7 – construction and decommissioning compounds in connection with Work Nos. 1, 2 and 3;
- Work No. 8 – works to create the Bespoke Access Road;
- Work No. 9 – areas of habitat management; and
- Work No. 10 – works to facilitate access to Work Nos. 1 to 9.

~~1.4.23~~1.4.24 In addition, Schedule 1 to the **Draft DCO (AS-008 Document Ref: 3.1)** lists other associated works (referred to as "further associated development") which may be carried out in connection with the construction of Work Nos. 1 to 10.

1.5 The Development Consent Order Process

- 1.5.1 As a NSIP, the Applicant is required to seek a DCO to obtain planning and other powers to construct, operate and maintain the generating station, in accordance with Section 31 of the 2008 Act. Sections 42 to 48 of the 2008 Act govern the consultation that an applicant must carry out before submitting an application for a DCO and Section 37 of the 2008 Act governs the form, content and accompanying documents that are required as part of a DCO application.
- 1.5.2 An application for development consent for the Proposed Development has been submitted to and accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate ('PINS') acting on behalf of the SoS. PINS is now examining the Application and will make a recommendation to the SoS, who will then decide whether or not to make (grant) the DCO.

1.6 Purpose of this Document

- 1.6.1 This document is intended to summarise clearly the agreements reached between the Applicant and parties on matters relevant to the examination of the Application and assist the Examining Authority. It has been prepared with regard to the guidance in *Planning Act 2008: Pre-examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects* and *Planning Act 2008: Examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects* (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, April 2024).
- 1.6.2 Once finalised, the SoCG will be submitted to the Examining Authority who will decide whether to accept it into the examination of the Application.

1.6.3 It is intended that the SoCG will provide information for the examination process, facilitating a smooth and efficient examination and managing the amount of material that needs to be submitted. Updates to this document will be made periodically (and on request) during the examination, with a view to submitting a final signed version of the SoCG at the end of the examination.

1.7 Role of key stakeholders

1.7.1 This SoCG refers to communications and correspondence between a number of key stakeholders. The role of each stakeholder is summarised in Table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 – Role of key stakeholders

STAKEHOLDER	ROLE
Beacon Fen Energy Park Limited ('Applicant')	The Applicant
DWD Property and Planning Limited ('DWD')	Planning consultants for Applicant
National Grid Viking Link Limited ('NGVLL')	Section 42(1)(d) consultee and an electricity interconnector licence holder
Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer LLP ('HSF Kramer')	Solicitors for the Applicant
Ardent Management Limited ('Ardent')	Land referencing consultants for the Applicant

1.7.2 It can be taken that any matters not specifically referred to in the 'Matters Agreed during Pre-Examination Stage' or 'Matters not yet agreed during Pre-Examination Stage' sections of this SoCG are not of material interest or relevance to the EA representations and have, therefore, not been considered in this SoCG.

1.7.3 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority where agreement has been reached between the parties, where agreement has not been reached (and that is the parties' final position) and where discussions are still ongoing.

1.8 Status of this Version

1.8.1 This SoCG is intended to be prepared in consultation with NGVLL, and as such the Applicant is providing this ~~draft~~ final version of the SoCG to the relevant parties for comment on the matters outlined in Section 3 and Section 4.

~~1.8.2 One or more further versions (revised drafts) are anticipated to be agreed between the parties during the examination period and submitted to the Examining Authority to assist the examination of the Application.~~

~~1.8.3~~ 1.8.2 The document is structured as follows:

- Section 2 – summarises the consultation undertaken with the parties and correspondence sent by both parties prior to examination;
- Section 3 – sets out the matters currently agreed between the parties during pre-examination; and

- Section 4 – sets out the matters ~~agreed currently still subject to discussion~~ between the parties during examination.

2. Summary of Consultation

2.1.1 The below **Table 2.1** contains a record of pertinent correspondence between the Applicant and NGVLL.

Table 2.1 – Summary of Correspondence

DATE	FORM OF CORRESPONDENCE	NOTES
30/03/2023	Letter from Ardent (on behalf of the Applicant) to NGVLL	Letter to NGVLL to introduce the Proposed Development and in relation to survey access. Follow up survey access correspondence took place between March and October 2023.
05/05/2023	Letter from Ardent to NGVLL	Invitation to first non-statutory consultation event on 18/05/2023.
28/07/2023	Letter from Ardent to NGVLL	Update provided on the Proposed Development including the proposed route for the grid connection.
04/12/2023	Letter from Ardent to NGVLL	Request for NGVLL to complete a Land Interest Questionnaire as part of Ardent's land referencing process. NGVLL returned a completed Questionnaire in February 2024.
17/01/2024	Letter from Ardent to NGVLL	Advising commencement of the statutory consultation period on 22/01/2024 and providing project information, including the PEIR and non-technical summary. No response was received from NGVLL.
29/02/2024	Letter/email to consultees identified for targeted consultation.	Targeted extension of consultation for certain consultees. No response was received from NGVLL.
13/12/2024	Letter/email to consultees identified for second targeted consultation.	Letter to consultees identified for second targeted consultation regarding small extensions to draft order limits. No response was received from NGVLL.
26/02/2025	Letter and email sent from HSF Kramer to NGVLL	Standard protective provisions provided to NGVLL. Response received from NGVLL's solicitors on 20/05/2025.
02/04/2025	Meeting with NGVLL	Meeting to discuss NGVLL bespoke protective provisions.
25/06/2025 <u>- Present</u>	Ongoing engagement between HSF Kramer and NGVLL's solicitors	Email shared by HSF Kramer providing undertaking and requesting comments on the form of protective provisions included in the Draft DCO (AS-008 Document Ref: 3.1) shared on 25/06/2025. Subsequent email engagement between the parties on the form of protective provisions has taken place with the latest being an email from NGVLL's solicitors enclosing a proposed draft side agreement on 19/09/25. This is being considered by the Applicant <u>to reach agreement on the provisions.</u>

3. Matters agreed during Pre-Examination Stage

3.1.1 The below **Table 3.1** contains a list of ‘matters agreed’ between the parties ~~correct at the date of the submission of this SoCG into the Examination during the Pre-Examination stage~~, along with a concise commentary of what the item refers to and how it came to be agreed between the two parties.

Table 3.1 – List of Matters Agreed during Pre-Examination Stage

MATTER	COMMENTARY
Adequacy of consultation	The Applicant has consulted with National Grid, including NGVLL, through the pre-application stage and undertaken statutory (and targeted statutory) consultation in accordance with Section 42 of the 2008 Act and notified National Grid of the acceptance of the Application in accordance with Section 56 of the 2008 Act.
Need for a solar and battery project in general and of this scale	UK national policy recognises that solar plays a key role in achieving the Government’s carbon reduction targets. The Energy System Operator’s <i>Beyond 2030</i> Report notes that the industry predicts a significant rise in solar generation from 15 GW today to 41 GW by 2030, and the strategic vision for the UK’s growing electricity transmission network supports the large-scale delivery of electricity generated from low carbon electricity.
Principle of protective provisions	NGVLL’s Protective Provisions are to be included within the DCO. The Applicant’s solicitors, HSF Kramer, have commenced engagement with NGVLL’s solicitors in relation to agreeing bespoke sets of protective provisions. In accordance with <i>Guidance on the Planning Act 2008: Content of a Development Consent Order required for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects</i> (Paragraph 012 Reference ID 04-012-20240430, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, 2024), the Applicant has included set of generic protective provisions in Schedule 11 to the Draft DCO (AS-008) Document Ref: 3.1 which has included proposed bespoke protective provisions for the protection of NGVLL whilst engagement is ongoing. NGVLL’s solicitors are in the process of reviewing and commenting upon the Protective Provisions provided by the Applicant.
Works within National Grid Easement corridors	<p>The Applicant recognises that NGVLL infrastructure within the Site is protected by deeds of easement, deeds of grant, wayleave agreements or the provisions of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (where relevant) which provide National Grid full rights of access to retain, maintain, repair and inspect their assets.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that the Principal Contractor will maintain up-to-date records from all relevant utility providers and ensure awareness of the precise locations of existing utilities across the Site. Where construction works may potentially affect utility</p>

MATTER	COMMENTARY
	<p>providers, the Principal Contractor is responsible for contacting those providers prior to the commencement of works and preparing detailed method statements for progressing the works, as well as ensuring compliance with the protective provisions for the protection of statutory undertakers set out in Schedule 11 to the Draft DCO (Document Ref: 3.1AS-008).</p> <p>Before undertaking any excavation activities, the Principal Contractor must ensure that appropriate utility and service clearance procedures are followed in accordance with PAS 128:20222 (or any applicable guidance in force at the time the construction works take place).</p> <p>The Applicant’s proposed mitigation measures are set out in Section 3.10 of the OCEMP (APP-077).</p> <p>The OCEMP sets out that all utilities infrastructure at the Site will be confirmed by the Principal Contractor prior to any affecting works occurring. Consultation will be undertaken with the respective utility operators, as appropriate, and any works near to any utility assets / infrastructure will accord with the relevant best working practices, guidance and regulations.</p> <p>Any works undertaken within NGVLL’s corridors will need to comply with the requirements as set out in the Protective Provisions to be agreed between the parties to ensure that its existing and future assets and interests are adequately protected, as well as to ensure compliance with relevant safety standards.</p>
<p>Maintaining adequate clearances around cables</p>	<p>Plant, machinery, equipment or landscaping forming part of the Proposed Development will not encroach within the relevant safety clearances for overhead lines. As stipulated within Section 3 of the OCEMP (APP-077), all construction works will be undertaken and any work undertaken near the relevant assets will be in accordance with National Grid’s Technical Guidance Note 287, ‘Third-party guidance for working near National Grid electricity Transmission equipment. The Applicant confirms that drilling or excavation works will not be undertaken if they have the potential to disturb or adversely affect the foundations of any existing tower.</p>

4. Matters ~~not yet a~~Agreed during ~~Pre-~~Examination Stage

4.1.1 The below **Table 4.1** contains a list of ‘matters agreed’ ~~which are still under discussion~~ between the parties, correct as at the date of the submission of this SoCG into the Examination, along with a concise commentary of what the item refers to.

Table 4.1 – List of Matters ~~not yet agreed~~Agreed during ~~E~~Pre-Examination Stage

MATTER	COMMENTARY
Bespoke protective provisions	<p>NGVLL require relevant and adequate protections to be in place in the Order so not to compromise NGVLL’s ability to deliver its statutory undertaking. Whilst the parties agree in principle with the inclusion of bespoke protective provisions in the Draft DCO (AS-008) for the protection of NGVLL, the specific drafting of the bespoke protective provisions in Schedule 11 to the Draft DCO (AS-008) is not yet agreed. NGVLL, the Applicant and HSF Kramer <u>will have continued</u> to engage constructively and regularly and seek to now reached agreement on the form <u>and specific drafting</u> of <u>bespoke</u> protective provisions to be included in <u>Part 4 of Schedule 11 to the Draft DCO (Document Ref: 3.1AS-008)</u> for NGVLL.</p> <p>It is imperative that relevant and adequate protections are put in place in the Order so not to compromise NGVLL’s ability to deliver its statutory undertaking. NGVLL is currently in the process of reviewing the Protective Provisions provided by the Applicant and will keep the Examining Authority updated in relation to these discussions.</p>
Side Agreement	<p>Where the Applicant intends to acquire rights, or interfere with any of NGVLL’s interests in land or NGVLL’s apparatus, NGVLL will require appropriate protection in the form of a Side Agreement in addition to the Protective Provisions.</p> <p>NGVLL, the Applicant and HSF Kramer <u>have now agreed to appropriate protections for NGVLL’s interests in land or NGVLL’s apparatus in the form of a Side Agreement.</u> are in early discussions regarding such proposed agreement.</p>

~~INSERT SIGNATURE~~

Signed: ~~NAME~~

On behalf of: National Grid Viking Link Limited

Date:

~~INSERT SIGNATURE~~

Signed: ~~NAME [Project Team Company Name]~~

On behalf of: Beacon Fen Energy Park Ltd

Date: