

I would like to support the NKDC comments regarding the subjects of Site Selection and Grid Connectivity. However, I do not believe that they are comprehensive enough. The Applicant has substantially failed to evidence and justify their the site selection process and outcome as being compliant with appropriate National Policy. It is stated by the Applicant that they were approached, and invited, by local landowners to the area - rather than identifying the area through a rigorous selection and evaluation process. I believe that NKDC should be strongly challenging this aspect of the application. The same is relevant to the topic of "grid connectivity" - the Applicant made no mention of an available grid connection in their original site selection report. There now is only - theoretical - consideration of a local sub station due to the Applicant approaching NESO to request such. In the current planning requirements, this is putting the "horse and the cart" in the wrong order. I do not think that the NKDC LIR is strong and thorough enough in challenging these aspects.