



Dean Moor Solar Farm

Application Acceptance Checklist

on behalf of **FVS Dean Moor Limited**

March 2025

Prepared by: Stantec UK Ltd

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Section 55

Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Appendix 2 of [Advice on the preparation and submission of application documents](#)

Version: January 2025

Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Relevant sections of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at legislation.gov.uk, here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/>

All other secondary legislation referred to in this checklist is searchable, here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/>

DISCLAIMER: This Checklist is a non-statutory checklist for the Planning Inspectorate to complete. Completion or self-assessment by the Applicant does not hold weight at the Acceptance stage. Unless specified, all references to the Planning Inspectorate are made in relation to functions being carried out on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Section 55(2) Acceptance of Applications				
1	Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) the Planning Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for Examination.	Date received	28-day due date	Date of decision
Section 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only accept an application if it concludes that:		Planning Inspectorate comments		
Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for an order granting development consent				
2	In accordance with sections(s) 14 to 30 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), is the development a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that, in accordance with s31 of the PA2008, it is an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the PA2008, or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to which it relates (i.e. which	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Dean Moor Solar Farm (the 'Proposed Development') is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) pursuant to sections 14(1)(a) and 15(1) and (2) of the Planning Act 2008 (the 'PA 2008'), as it is an onshore generating station wholly within England, that does not generate energy from wind and has a generating capacity exceeding 50 Megawatts (MW).</p> <p>The Proposed Development, as set out in Schedule 1 of the Draft Development Consent Order [REF: 3.1], includes works classified under Section 14 of the PA 2008, specifically Section 14(1)(a).</p>		

	<p>category or categories in s14 to 30 does the Proposed Development fall)?</p> <p>If the development does not fall within the categories in s14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required?</p>	<p>The Application Cover Letter [REF: 1.2] clearly states that this application (the 'Application') is for development consent under the PA 2008. The description of the Proposed Development is summarised in the Planning Statement [REF: 5.5]. A detailed description is provided in Environmental Statement ('ES') Chapter 3 – Site and Proposed Development Description [REF: 6.1].</p>
3	Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)	
Section 55(3)(e): The Applicant in relation to the application made has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure)		
4	<p>In accordance with Regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations), did the Applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request the Planning Inspectorate adopt a Screening Opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of that development?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>As set out in ES Chapter 1 - Introduction [REF: 6.1], the Applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate on 7th August 2023 in writing, by way of submission of ES Appendix 2.1 Scoping Report [REF: 6.3], under Regulation 8(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 that an ES will be provided with the DCO Application for the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate's Scoping Opinion dated 14 September 2023 (ES Appendix 2.2 [REF: 6.3]) acknowledges the Applicant's request. Therefore, by virtue of Regulation 6(2)(a), the Proposed Development is 'EIA development'.</p> <p>Notice of the Applicant's proposal to provide an ES was given prior to carrying out consultation under s42 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) as can be seen in ES Chapter 1 - Introduction [REF: 6.1] of the ES and last stated in Box 6 below.</p>

5	<p>Have any Adequacy of Consultation Representations been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?</p> <p>Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the Consultation Report, and any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received.</p>	<p>Cumberland Council ('B' authority) are the relevant host local authority for the Proposed Development under section 43(1) of the PA 2008. The Applicant provided an Adequacy of Consultation Statement to Cumberland Council in November 2024 to demonstrate compliance with the SoCC. Cumberland Council wrote back on the 20 January 2025 stating that they accepted it (see Appendix 4.9 to the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2]). The Adequacy of Consultation Statement reflects the position as at November 2024, save for the update that has been added in March 2025 to reflect the position in relation to failing to consult Scottish Borders Council during statutory consultation.</p>
Section 42: Duty to consult		
Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?		
6	<p>Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed?</p> <p>The persons prescribed are the statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations).</p>	<p>Yes. The statutory consultation period for the Proposed Development was held between 11 March – 26 April 2024 and the Applicant consulted with all applicable parties, including all the relevant parties prescribed under Section 42(1)(a) of the PA 2008. The Applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under Section 42(1)(a) at Appendix 5.1 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(a) consultees is provided at Appendix 5.4 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].</p>
7	<p>Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation(MMO)?</p> <p>The MMO must be consulted in any case where the Proposed Development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008.</p>	<p>No. The Proposed Development does not affect any of the areas specified in s42(2) and therefore it was not necessary to consult the MMO.</p>

8	<p>Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43?</p> <p>Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority.</p>	<p>Yes. The Applicant has provided a list of the relevant local authorities that were consulted under Section 43 and Section 42(1)(b) of the PA 2008 at Appendix 5.1 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].</p> <p>D Dumfries and Galloway</p> <p>B Cumberland Council</p> <p>D Lake District National Park Authority</p> <p>A Westmorland and Furness Council</p> <p>D Northumberland County Council</p> <p>D Northumberland National Park Authority</p> <p>Samples of the letters sent to the s42(1)(b) relevant authorities are provided within Appendix 5.4 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].</p>
9	<p>Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?</p>	<p>N/A. The Greater London Authority (GLA) was not consulted as the Proposed Development is not in the GLA area.</p>
10	<p>Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories?</p> <p>Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land; Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land; Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim.</p>	<p>Yes. For the purposes of the statutory consultation, the Applicant consulted with all relevant parties as defined under section 44 of the PA 2008.</p> <p>The Applicant wrote to statutory consultees on 9 March 2024 by letter, to inform them of the consultation and to invite responses under section 42(1)(d) of the PA 2008. An extension to the statutory consultation period was provided due to a mailing issue, this extension ran until 3 May 2024. Within the Consultation Report, paragraphs 5.3.22-5.3.35 outline the methods by which the Applicant made diligent inquiry to identify and consult persons with interest in land affected by the Proposed Development for the purposes of statutory consultation. The full methodology of diligent inquiry is provided in Section 8 of the Statement of Reasons [REF: 4.1].</p> <p>The process of identifying Section 42(1)(d) consultees is set out within section 5.3.22 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1]. A full list of consultees identified in</p>

		accordance with Section 42(1)(d) of the PA 2008 is set out in the Book of Reference [REF: 4.3] and a sample of the letter sent can be found in Appendix 5.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices [REF: 5.2].
Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation		
11	Did the Applicant notify s42 consultees of the deadline for receipt of consultation responses; and if so was the deadline notified by the Applicant 28 days or more starting with the day after receipt of the consultation documents?	<p>Yes. The Applicant wrote formally to all consultees identified under s42 of the PA 2008 to notify them of the consultation. The letters issued to Section 42 consultees clearly stated a deadline for the receipt of consultation responses.</p> <p>Yes. Each of the letters were issued on 9 March 2024. The letters set out clearly that the consultation would run from 11 March to 26 April 2024, a period of in excess of the statutory required 28 days. Copies of these letters can be found in Appendix 5.4 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].</p>
Section 46: Duty to notify the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application		
12	Did the Applicant supply information to notify the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application; and if so, was the information supplied to the Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42 consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Prior to commencing the s42 consultation on 11 March 2024, the Applicant notified the Secretary of State under section 46 of its intention to submit an application for development consent.</p> <p>The letter was sent electronically to the Planning Inspectorate on 8 March 2024. A copy of the letter can be found at Appendix 5.4 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].</p> <p>A copy of the acknowledgement of the section 46 letter from the Planning Inspectorate is provided on the Planning Inspectorate Dean Moor Solar project page - EN010155-000050-Dean Moor Solar s46 and EIA reg 8 response .pdf.</p>

Section 47: Duty to consult local community		
13	Did the Applicant prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The final SoCC, which featured the changes made by the Applicant following the consultation on the draft SoCC, was published on 11 March 2024. A copy of the published SoCC can be found in Appendix 4.5 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].</p>
14	Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and, where applicable, 'C' authorities received the consultation documents?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The Applicant identified Cumberland Council ('the Council') as the relevant host local authority under section 43(1) of the 2008 Act. In compliance with s47(2) of the 2008 Act, the Applicant reached out to the Council for consultation on the draft SoCC. The Applicant shared an early draft SoCC with the Council on 26 October 2023, ahead of sharing the SoCC formally for consultation and received comments back on 10 November 2023.</p> <p>The Applicant shared an updated copy of the SoCC for consultation with the Council on 20 November 2023 for consultation. A copy of this SoCC can be found at Appendix 4.2 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2], and a copy of the letter sent to the Council is provided in Appendix 4.3 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].</p>
15	Has the Applicant had regard to any responses received when preparing the SoCC?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Following the consultation on the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) with the Council, feedback from the Council, detailed in Appendix 4.4 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2], was incorporated into the process of revising the SoCC. The specific changes made are outlined in Table 4.1 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1] and demonstrates how the Applicant has had regard to the feedback.</p>

16	<p>Has the SoCC been made available for inspection on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>As stated in Section 4.6 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1] the SoCC has been made publicly available for inspection in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land. Hard copies of the SoCC were placed on deposit and made available to view free of charge on the 11th of March 2024 in the following locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distington Library • Frizington Library • Workington Library • St Oswalds Church at Dean <p>In compliance with the publicity requirements of s47(6) of the Act, the SoCC was notified in the following newspapers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News and Star (28 February 2024) • Whitehaven News (28 February 2024) • Times & Star (28 February 2024) • London Gazette (28 February 2024) <p>The SoCC was also made available to view on the project website, (www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com) from 11 March 2024.</p> <p>Clippings of the published notes are provided in Consultation Report Appendix 4.6 - Published Section 47 notices [REF: 5.2].</p>
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17	In accordance with Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development; and does it set out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information?	Yes. Section 7 of the final SoCC (found at Appendix 4.5 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2] confirms that the Proposed Development is EIA development and set out how the Applicant intended to share the preliminary results of the EIA in a document called a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which would be published as part of the consultation material. Section 13 sets out how the Applicant intended to consult on the consultation material, and how those with an interest in the proposals could respond to the consultation. Sections 14 and 15 set out how the Applicant intended to publicise the consultation. Chapter 5.6 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1] discusses how the Applicant consulted on the content within the PEIR.
18	Has the Applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?	<p>The Applicant's consultation process was carried out in accordance with the SoCC, as explained in the SoCC Compliance Table - Appendix 4.7 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].</p> <p>As explained in section 4.8 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1], an error with the SoCC was identified in August 2024 (following the statutory consultation period). The Applicant informed the Council of the error and included relevant information within the Adequacy of Consultation Statement. The Council wrote back on the 20 January 2025 stating that they accepted it (see Appendix 4.9 to the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2]).</p>

Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application

19	Did the Applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4(2) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009?	<p>Yes. A s48 Notice for the Proposed Development was published in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• News & Star (Carlisle) – 28 February 2024 & 6 March 2024• Whitehaven News - 28 February 2024 & 6 March 2024• The Times – 28 February 2024• West Cumberland Times & Star 28 February 2024 & 7 March 2024• London Gazette – 29 February 2024 <p>The Section 48 consultation is discussed within chapter 5.7 of the Consultation Report which provides information on how the Applicant has demonstrated compliance in this regard. As s47 and s48 activities were done together, a copy of the s48 notice and scanned copies of the notices in the publications listed may be found together with the s47 notices in Appendix 5.11 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2]</p>											
<table><tr><th></th><th>Newspaper(s)</th><th>Date</th></tr><tr><td>a)</td><td><p>for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated;</p></td><td><p>News & Star (Carlisle)</p><p>Whitehaven News</p><p>West Cumberland Times & Star</p></td><td><p>28 February 2024 & 6 March 2024</p><p>28 February 2024 & 6 March 2024</p><p>28 February 2024 & 7 March 2024</p></td></tr><tr><td>b)</td><td><p>once in a national newspaper;</p></td><td><p>The Times</p></td><td><p>28 February 2024</p></td></tr></table>				Newspaper(s)	Date	a)	<p>for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated;</p>	<p>News & Star (Carlisle)</p> <p>Whitehaven News</p> <p>West Cumberland Times & Star</p>	<p>28 February 2024 & 6 March 2024</p> <p>28 February 2024 & 6 March 2024</p> <p>28 February 2024 & 7 March 2024</p>	b)	<p>once in a national newspaper;</p>	<p>The Times</p>	<p>28 February 2024</p>
	Newspaper(s)	Date											
a)	<p>for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated;</p>	<p>News & Star (Carlisle)</p> <p>Whitehaven News</p> <p>West Cumberland Times & Star</p>	<p>28 February 2024 & 6 March 2024</p> <p>28 February 2024 & 6 March 2024</p> <p>28 February 2024 & 7 March 2024</p>										
b)	<p>once in a national newspaper;</p>	<p>The Times</p>	<p>28 February 2024</p>										

c)	once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and	London Gazette No land in Scotland is affected by the Proposed Development, therefore there was no requirement to publish in the Edinburgh Gazette.	29 February 2024
d)	where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?	N/A – the Proposed Development does not relate to offshore development.	
20	Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in Regulation 4(3) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009?	Yes. The s48 notices included the information required by Regulation 4(3) of the APFP Regulations. A copy of the s48 notice and scanned copies of the notices in the publications listed may be found together with the s47 notices in Appendix 5.11 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2].	
Information		Paragraph	
a)	the name and address of the Applicant.	Yes, Paragraph 1 of the s48 Notice states: <i>‘notice is hereby given that FVS Dean Moor (‘the Applicant’), a joint venture between Ib Vogt UK Limited, of 127 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6BT and Firma Energy Limited of 7 Park Row, Leeds, LS1 5HD’</i>	b)
		a statement that the Applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State	Yes, Paragraph 1 of the s48 Notice states: <i>‘notice is hereby given that FVS Dean Moor (‘the Applicant’) ... proposes to make an application (‘the Application’) under section 37 of the 2008 Act to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for a Development Consent Order (‘DCO’)’</i>

c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	<p>Yes, Paragraph 7 of the s48 Notice states:</p> <p><i>‘The proposed project is Environmental Impact Assessment development (‘EIA development’), as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works constitute development for which Environmental Impact Assessment is required.’</i></p>	d)	a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the Proposed Development	<p>Yes, Paragraph 1 of the s48 Notice states:</p> <p><i>(the Application is) ‘for a Development Consent Order (‘DCO’) to construct and operate a Solar Farm with a 150 megawatts (‘MW’) export capacity, combined with a 100MW Battery Energy Storage System (‘BESS’) on approximately 270 hectares (‘ha’) of land located between the villages of Gilgarran and Branthwaite in West Cumbria (the ‘Development’), which is situated within the administrative area of Cumberland Council.’</i></p> <p>Paragraph 6 states:</p> <p><i>The principal components comprise the following: (a) Solar PV modules; (b) PV module mounting structures; (c) Solar Inverters-Transformers; (d) BESS equipment comprising Battery Units, Power Conversion System (‘PCS’) Units, and associated infrastructure; (e) Point of Connection (‘POC’) infrastructure comprising customer and Distribution Network Operator</i></p>
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					(‘DNO’) substation buildings and external electrical equipment within a weld mesh security fence; (f) Perimeter Fencing (deer fence), Gates, CCTV cameras, on-site cabling, and other associated infrastructure; (g) Access from the highway and internal access tracks; and (h) Landscape planting and ecological enhancements.
e)	a statement that the documents, plans and maps were available on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant. The statement must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The nature and location of the Proposed Development• The address of the website• The place on the website• A telephone number which can be used to contact the Applicant	Yes, Paragraph 7 of the s48 Notice states: <i>‘Preliminary environmental information can be found in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (‘PEIR’), which forms part of the consultation material. Details of the consultation documents include—</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the SoCC</i>• <i>Guide to Statutory Consultation document</i>• <i>PEIR (including non-technical summary of the PEIR)</i>• <i>Consultation Booklet</i>• <i>Feedback Form’</i>	f)	the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection.	Yes, Paragraph 8 of the s48 Notice states: <i>‘The consultation runs from Monday 11 March to Friday 26 April 2024 and during this period you can view and download the consultation documents via the Applicant’s project website’.</i>

<p>for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps.</p>	<p>Paragraph 8 states: <i>'you can view and download the consultation documents via the Applicant's project website at http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/</i></p> <p>Paragraph 9 states: <i>'You are encouraged to view the consultation documents by downloading them from the Applicant's website but should you require an alternative method for inspecting the consultation documents or require a free USB memory stick then please telephone 0800 041 8643 or email info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com</i></p> <p>Paragraph 15 states: <i>'If you have any questions about this consultation, please contact the project team by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Email:</i> info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com • <i>Post: write to us at</i> FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM 			
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g)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone: 0800 041 8643 Monday to Friday 09:00–17:30 28 February 2024 	h)		
	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge	<p>Yes, Paragraph 11 of the Section 48 Notice states:</p> <p><i>‘The full suite of printed consultation documents will be made available for purchase at the cost of up to £500 plus postage. All document requests are limited to one per household or organisation. Copies of the printed documents or of the free USB memory stick can be obtained by emailing info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com, by writing to FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM, or by telephoning 0800 041 8643 Monday to Friday between 09:00 and 17:30.’</i></p>		details of how to respond to the publicity.	<p>Yes, Paragraph 12 of the Section 48 Notice states:</p> <p><i>Comments on the proposals can be made in the following ways—</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online: complete or download the Feedback Form at the project website: http://www.deanmoorsolarfarm.com/; • By email or post: completed Feedback Forms, and any other comments, can be emailed to info@deanmoorsolarfarm.com or returned by post to FREEPOST: DEAN MOOR SOLAR FARM.
i)	a deadline for receipt of those responses by the Applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published	<p>Yes, Paragraph 12 of the Section 48 Notice states:</p> <p><i>‘COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 23:59 ON FRIDAY 26 APRIL 2024.’</i></p>			

21	Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above?
	Not for Applicant
22	<div>Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person notified to the Applicant in accordance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations?</div> <div>Yes. Paragraph 5.3.34 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1] states “<i>The prescribed bodies consulted under section 42(1)(a) of the 2008 Act and the local authorities consulted under section 42(1)(b) also received a copy of the section 48 notice and a copy of the Site Location Plan with the letter and email, in order to comply with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations and because these organisations were notified by PINS under Regulation 11 of the EIA Regulations.</i>” Samples of the s42 consultation letters shared with prescribed bodies can be found at Appendix 5.4 of the Consultation Report which confirm that a copy of the s48 notice was enclosed.</div>
s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity	
23	<div>Has the Applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?</div> <div> <p>Yes. Chapter 6 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1] provides an overview of the responses received from consultees consulted under section 42, section 47 and section 48 of the PA 2008.</p> <p>Sections 6.4 and 6.5 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1] highlight how the Applicant has had regard to the feedback received from the s42, s47 and s48 consultation, with Section 6.5 describing the principal design changes. Appendix 6.1 to the Consultation Report [REF: 5.2] sets out the matters raised by s42 and 47 consultees and the Applicant’s response in detail.</p> </div>

S50(3) Regard to guidance about pre-application procedure		
24	<p>To what extent has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects'?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the Applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50.</p>	<p>Section 1.2 of the Consultation Report [REF: 5.1] sets out how the Applicant has taken into considerations all relevant statutory and other guidance.</p> <p>As stated at paragraph 10.2 of the Application Cover Letter [REF: 1.2], the Applicant has had regard to the 'Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects' (April 2024) in preparing this application.</p>
25	Summary: Section 55(3)(e)	Not for Applicant
s55(3)(f) and s55(5A): The application (including accompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent to which it complies with section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and follows any applicable guidance under section 37(4)		
26	<p>Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations, and does it include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; and a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme? 	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Section 4 of the Application Cover Letter [REF: 1.2] sets out that the Application is made in the form required by Section 37 of the PA 2008 and Box 4 of the Application Form [REF: 1.1] explains why the project falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>Box 5 of the Application Form [REF: 1.1] provides a brief non-technical description of the Proposed Development and Box 6 describes the location of the Proposed Development. A Location Plan [REF: 2.1] which shows the Order Limits has also been provided as part of the DCO application.</p>
27	Is it accompanied by a Consultation Report?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The Application is accompanied by a Consultation Report [REF: 5.1] and accompanying appendices [REF: 5.2].</p>

28	In accordance with Regulation 5(4) of the APFP Regulations, where a plan comprises three or more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets?	Yes															
29	Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP Regulation 5(2)?	The documents and information required by APFP Regulation 5(2) are set out in the locations within the Application as listed below.															
<table> <tr> <th colspan="2">Information</th><th>Document</th></tr> <tr> <td>a)</td><td>Where applicable, the Environmental Statement required under the EIA Regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions</td><td>ES Chapters [REF: 6.1] ES Figures [REF: 6.2] ES Appendices [REF: 6.3] ES Non-Technical Summary [REF: 6.4]</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Is this of a satisfactory standard?</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>c)</td><td>An Explanatory Memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO</td><td>Explanatory Memorandum [REF: 3.2]</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Is this of a satisfactory standard?</td><td></td></tr> </table>			Information		Document	a)	Where applicable, the Environmental Statement required under the EIA Regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	ES Chapters [REF: 6.1] ES Figures [REF: 6.2] ES Appendices [REF: 6.3] ES Non-Technical Summary [REF: 6.4]		Is this of a satisfactory standard?		c)	An Explanatory Memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	Explanatory Memorandum [REF: 3.2]		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
Information		Document															
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e)	A copy of any Flood Risk Assessment	ES: Appendix 2.4 - Flood Risk Assessment (FRA and ODS) [REF: 6.3]	f)	A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the matters set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances) and if so how the Applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	Statutory Nuisance Statement [REF: 5.3]
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
h)	A Statement of Reasons and a Funding Statement (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition)	Statement of Reasons [REF: 4.1] Funding Statement [REF: 4.2]	i)	A Land Plan identifying:- (i) the land required for, or affected by, the Proposed Development; (ii) where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of Compulsory Acquisition or any rights to use land; (iii) any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements,	Land Plans [REF: 2.2]

j)			k)	servitudes and other private rights; and (iv) any special category land and replacement land	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
	A Works Plan showing, in relation to existing features:- (i) the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and (ii) the limits within which the development and works may be carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO	Works Plans [REF: 2.3]		Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation	Streets and Access Plans [REF: 2.4]
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	

l)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation eg sites of geological or landscape importance; (ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and (iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan, <p>together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Plans of Statutory and Non-Statutory Sites or Features of Nature Conservation Plan [REF: 2.6]</p>	m)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (eg scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Plans showing Statutory or Non-Statutory Historic or Scheduled Monument Sites [REF: 2.7]</p>
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Is this of a satisfactory standard?	

n)	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	N/a	o)	Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of buildings, structures, drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping	Traffic Regulation Measures Plan [REF: 2.5]
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?			Are they of a satisfactory standard?	
p)	Any of the documents prescribed by Regulation 6 of the APFP Regulations:	Grid Connection Statement [REF: 7.1]	q)	Any other documents considered necessary to support the application	Application Form [REF: 1.1] Application Covering Letter [REF: 1.2] Guide to the Application [REF: 1.3] Application Acceptance Checklist (this document) [REF: 1.4] Draft Development Consent Order [REF: 3.1] Planning Statement [REF: 5.5] Design Parameters Document [REF: 5.7]

				Design Approach Document [REF: 5.8] Potential Main Issues for Examination [REF: 5.9] ES Appendix 1.11 - Commitments Register [REF: 6.3] The Planning Inspectorate is also requested to refer to the Acceptance Application Index which comprises a complete list of the application documents.
	Are they of a satisfactory standard?			Are they of a satisfactory standard?
30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at Box 29 (a) to (q) above?			
31	In accordance with Regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP Regulations, is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which Regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the Proposed Development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site if required by Regulation 48(1)?		Yes. Appendix 8.7 Shadow Habitats Regulation Assessment [REF: 6.3] is provided as part of the Application. This document identifies any relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites. It provides sufficient information for the Secretary of State to undertake an appropriate assessment to determine whether the Proposed Development would have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site.	

32	In accordance with Regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP Regulations, if requested by the Planning Inspectorate, have two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans been provided?	The Planning Inspectorate has not requested that the Applicant provides two paper copies of the Application Form [REF: 1.1] or other Application documents and plans. The Applicant can arrange for paper copies to be made available upon request.
33	Has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance'?	Yes. The guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance' has been used to prepare the Application. The Applicant considers that the Application has been prepared to the standards that the Planning Inspectorate considers satisfactory. A list of the guidance that has been followed in forming the application documents is provided within the Application Cover Letter [REF: 1.2] at paragraph 4.1.
34	Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)	<i>Not for Applicant</i>
The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended)		
Pre-application fee		
35	<p>Were all pre-application fees paid before the application was made?</p> <p>Pre-application services for which a fee can be charged is defined in Regulation 2A(8) and includes services listed within Schedule 1 of the Fees Regulations 2010. Fees for pre-application services apply to all proposed applications, from the inception meeting. These fees must be paid within 28 days of the invoice. If the applicant fails to pay the fee within 28 days, the Planning Inspectorate will not provide the applicant with any further pre-application services or take any further steps in relation to the proposed application.</p>	N/a – As per the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus, the Applicant is exempt from pre-application fees. The Applicant submitted the Application on the 26 th March 2025, ahead of the charging regime for standard tier projects commencing on the 1 st April 2025.

Fees to accompany an application		
36	<p>Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must charge the Applicant a fee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the Applicant fails to pay the fee, the Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee must be paid at the same time that the application is made</p>	<p>The Applicant paid the application fee to the Planning Inspectorate ahead of submitting the application on the 28 February 2025.</p>

Role	Electronic signature	Date
Case Manager		
Acceptance Inspector		

