

ONE EARTH SOLAR FARM
EN010159

WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
DEADLINE 1 SUBMISSIONS
WLDC Comments

Document Reference	WLDC comments
3.1 Draft Development Consent Order (Clean) (Rev 2) [REP1-007]	<p>WLDC note that the time period for discharge of DCO Requirements set out in paragraph 2 of Schedule 15 of the draft DCO (dDCO) remains at 10 weeks. As set out in paragraph 6.10 of WLDC Written Representations the Secretary of State has previously concurred with WLDC and concluded in the Cottam decision that 13 weeks would be most appropriate to account for the number of applications coming forward in Lincolnshire.</p> <p>In his decision letter on Cottam the Secretary of State discusses this issue at paragraphs 4.107 to 4.110. At paragraph 4.110 the Secretary of State states:</p> <p><i>The Secretary of State has carefully considered the suggested discharge periods and concluded that a compromise of 13 weeks would be most appropriate to account for the number of applications coming forward in Lincolnshire, whilst seeking to avoid delays to the progress of the Proposed Development.</i></p> <p>WLDC would again request that the approval timescales for the discharge of requirements is accordingly amended in the dDCO to 13 weeks.</p>
7.4.1 Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [REP1-047]	<p>WLDC note the additional text with regards to retained vegetation in table 3.4, indicating a minimum offset from retained hedgerows of 5m. However, it is not clear to WLDC how this will work in the case of the vehicle access that is taken along the northern boundary of Hall Reservoir.</p>

	<p>This access appears to be only access to the main construction site on the east side of the River Trent. The access is approximately 6.5m wide between the northern boundary fence of the reservoir and the existing hedgerow. The Vegetation Removal Plans in Appendix C of 7.7.1 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan [REP1-053] indicate that this hedgerow will be retained.</p> <p>It is not clear to WLDC therefore how this main construction access will be accommodated within the existing access track route (and indeed the Order limits), and how the minimum offset of 5m will apply in this instance.</p>
7.5.1 Operational Environmental Management Plan Rev 2 [REP1-049]	<p>We note the commitment in additional section 2.13 of the Operational Environmental Management Plan to submit a decommissioning management plan after a cumulative total of 36 months of the site generating no electricity. However, WLDC consider that this commitment should be included in the draft Development Consent Order as part of Requirement 20.</p>
9.7 Draft agenda for Accompanied Site Inspection [REP1-080]	<p>WLDC note that there is only one stop within West Lindsey in stop 8. Whilst stop 9 is also within West Lindsey it is a scheduled "Lunch stop and comfort break". WLDC considers that an additional stop should be made at the layby on A1133 (53°14'36.0"N 0°45'37.5"W) (What3Words Monkeys.stunner.newlywed).</p> <p>This is especially important given that sheets 12 and 13 of the height parameter plans (submitted in 2.5 Site Layout Plans [APP-016]) indicate that development on the BESS site will be up to 13.5m in height above ground level. A stop at this location will allow consideration of this proposed height against the existing Anglian Water treatment plant building, which is 10m to its ridge height and is currently the tallest structure adjacent to the BESS site.</p>
9.2 Joint Interrelationship Report (Rev 1) [REP1-074]	<p>WLDC welcomes the Joint Interrelationship Report (JIR). Where a report with a similar title has been prepared and submitted for other NSIP projects in West Lindsay these have been prepared jointly by applicants for separate projects, with input from the relevant project teams. Has the JIR submitted for OESF been prepared jointly with other projects and with input from other project teams?</p>
9.2 Joint Interrelationship Report (Rev 1) [REP1-074]	<p>Table 2 of the JIR sets out for other projects details of consenting, construction and operation timetables. However, it is noted that for West Burton, Cottam and Gate Burton, the "predicted start of construction" has passed, in the case of Cottam by nearly 12 months at the time of writing (predicted start Q4 2024), and for West Burton and Gate Burton nearly 9 months at the time of writing (predicted start Q1 2025). Additionally, at the time of writing, WLDC has not yet received any applications to discharge DCO Requirements on those projects.</p>

Therefore, the reality is that these projects will indeed have construction periods overlapping with OESF (along with the projects already identified as overlapping). In relation to the point made above about working with the other developers on the JIR, WLDC requests that the Applicant seeks updated information about the other cumulative projects which have been granted a DCO, but which have yet to start in accordance with their predicted programme, and takes this updated information into account in cumulative assessments, including transport.
