



## **Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park**

Potential Main Issues for the Examination

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Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)  
Regulations 2009, APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Purpose of this Document.....	2
1.2	Potential Main Issues for Examination .....	2
<b>2</b>	<b>Environment Agency Potential Main Issues.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Natural England Potential Main Issues .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Historic England Potential Main Issues .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>National Highways Potential Main Issues.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Nottinghamshire County Council Potential Main Issues .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Newark and Sherwood District Council Potential Main Issues .....</b>	<b>12</b>

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

- 1 This Potential Main Issues for the Examination ('PMIE') document has been prepared by Elements Green Trent Ltd (the 'Applicant') to accompany its application for a Development Consent Order ('DCO Application') for Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park (the 'Development'), submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under the Planning Act 2008.
- 2 This document has been prepared and submitted in accordance with the *Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus* (September 2024) and Regulation 5(2)(q) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 ('the APFP Regulations'), which requires that: "*The application must be accompanied by... any other documents considered necessary to support the application.*"
- 3 The purpose of this document is to provide the Examining Authority ('ExA') with a summary of the potential issues with key stakeholders as they stand at the time of the DCO Application submission. It has been prepared having regard to consultation from the relevant statutory environmental bodies and host authorities. The issues outlined in the tables below have emerged through statutory consultation and subsequent discussions with the relevant consultees, and they do not represent an exhaustive list of matters that may arise during the DCO Examination and do not preclude stakeholders from raising additional concerns during the planning process.
- 4 It is anticipated that several of the issues outlined in this document may be resolved between the submission of the DCO Application and the Examination phase, including as stakeholders are given the opportunity to review the Application in full and as matters evolve, such as through the negotiation of protective provisions (where required). The Applicant is committed to continuing engagement with stakeholders throughout the DCO Examination process, with the aim of resolving outstanding issues wherever possible.

## 1.2 POTENTIAL MAIN ISSUES FOR EXAMINATION

- 5 The tables below set out the potential main issues with each of the relevant statutory bodies and local authorities that remain unresolved at the time of submitting the DCO Application.
- 6 The tables provide an overview of the issues raised by statutory bodies and local authorities, indicating where each issue is addressed within the DCO Application and outlining the Applicant's view on the likelihood of resolution

prior to or during the Examination. A Red/Amber/Green (RAG) rating is used to illustrate this likelihood:

- Red – disagreements that are unlikely to be resolved during the Examination.
- Amber – issues currently under discussion that may be resolved during the Examination.
- Green – issues that are likely to be resolved prior to or during Examination.

## 2 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY POTENTIAL MAIN ISSUES

Ref	Environmental Aspect	Description of Issue	Affected stakeholder(s)	Signposting (to application evidence)	RAG	Likelihood of the issue being resolved during the Examination
2.1	Ecology	Adequacy of embedded mitigation and the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to safeguard features.	Newark and Sherwood District Council (NSDC) Environment Agency Natural England	Mitigation is set out in the Outline CEMP (TA A5.3 [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.3], Chapter 8 Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010162/APP/6.2.8], and Chapter 9 Water Resources [EN010162/APP/6.2.9].	Green	High
2.2	Ecology	Need for and scope of protected species licensing.	Natural England Environment Agency	The approach to licensing is set out in the Outline CEMP (TA A5.3 [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.3])	Green	High
2.3	Contamination	Potential sources of contamination to include Radium associated with former RAF Ossington.	Environment Agency	Radium has now been included within the updated assessment within TA A10.7 [EN010162/APP/6.4.10.7].	Green	High

2.4	Flood risk	Impact to engineered flood defences.	Environment Agency	<p>Work no. 2: Cables have been removed from the Order Limits in proximity to asset ID 55462 (Engineered High Ground) and asset ID 46099 (Natural High Ground) on the left bank of the River Trent. As such, the Development will not directly interact with flood defences and access to the assets will remain unaffected.</p> <p>Any tree planting within Work no. 3 Mitigation/Enhancement will be located at least 8 m from flood defences, as shown in TA A5.1, Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP) [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.1].</p>	Green	High
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### 3 NATURAL ENGLAND POTENTIAL MAIN ISSUES

Ref	Environmental Aspect	Description of Issue	Affected stakeholder(s)	Signposting (to application evidence)	RAG	Likelihood of the issue being resolved during the Examination
3.1	Ecology	Adequacy of embedded mitigation and the CEMP to safeguard features.	NSDC Environment Agency Natural England	Mitigation is set out in the Outline CEMP (TA A5.3 [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.3], Chapter 8 Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010162/APP/6.2.8], and Chapter 9 Water Resources [EN010162/APP/6.2.9].	Green	High
3.2	Ecology	Need for and scope of protected species licensing.	Natural England Environment Agency	The approach to licensing is set out in the Outline CEMP (TA A5.3 [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.3])	Green	High

## 4 HISTORIC ENGLAND POTENTIAL MAIN ISSUES

Ref	Environmental Aspect	Description of Issue	Affected stakeholder(s)	Signposting (to application evidence)	RAG	Likelihood of the issue being resolved during the Examination
4.1	Archaeology	Extent/adequacy of field evaluation (trial trenching).	NCC Historic England	Extent of field evaluation is set out in Trenching Report Appendices TA11.6 Phase 1 Trial Trenching Results [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.6] and TA11.7 Phase 2 Trial Trenching Results [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.7]. The approach to post-consent evaluation is set out in the Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS) TA11.8 [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.8]	Amber	High



## 5 NATIONAL HIGHWAYS POTENTIAL MAIN ISSUES

Ref	Environmental Aspect	Description of Issue	Affected stakeholder(s)	Signposting (to application evidence)	RAG	Likelihood of the issue being resolved during the Examination
5.1	Traffic	A46 Bypass - overlap of works and construction traffic routes - co-ordination will need to be confirmed and agreed.	NCC and National Highways	Mitigation for traffic impact is set out in the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (oCTMP) [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.2]	Green	High
5.2	Traffic	Workforce shuttle bus - concern about certainty and staff trips if not secured (traffic impact and parking).	NCC and National Highways	This measure is set out in the Outline Travel Plan [EN010162/APP/6.4.14.2] and the Outline CTMP [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.2]	Green	High

## 6 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL POTENTIAL MAIN ISSUES

Ref	Environmental Aspect	Description of Issue	Affected stakeholder(s)	Signposting (to application evidence)	RAG	Likelihood of the issue being resolved during the Examination
6.1	Heritage/Archaeology	Extent/adequacy of field evaluation (trial trenching). This has been raised at scoping and statutory consultation with an expectation that the full order limits should be subject to trial trench evaluation with a minimum 3% coverage where geophysics has been undertaken and 5% coverage where it has not in order to inform the EIA Assessment. This will	NCC Historic England	Extent of field evaluation is set out in Trenching Report Appendices TA11.6 Phase 1 Trial Trenching Results [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.6] and TA11.7 Phase 2 Trial Trenching Results [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.7]. The approach to post-consent evaluation is set out in the Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS) TA11.8 [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.8]	Amber	Medium

		potentially be linked to acceptability of Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and robustness of commitments in CEMP/OEMP.				
6.2	Traffic	A46 Bypass - overlap of works and construction traffic routes - co-ordination will need to be confirmed and agreed.	NCC and National Highways	Mitigation for traffic impact is set out in the Outline CTMP [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.2]	Green	High
6.3	Traffic	Passing places - justification for their location and number.	NCC	The location of passing places is shown on Figure 14.5 Passing Place Locations of ES Chapter 14, Traffic & Transport [EN010162/APP/6.2.14]	Green	High
6.4	Traffic	Workforce shuttle bus - concern about certainty and staff trips if not secured (traffic	NCC and National Highways	This measure is set out in the Outline Travel Plan [EN010162/APP/6.4.14.2] and the Outline CTMP [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.2]	Green	High

		impact and parking).				
6.6	Agricultural Land	Impact on Farm Businesses.	NCC	ES Chapter 17 Agricultural Land [EN010162/APP/6.2.17] confirms that there are no significant adverse effects on agricultural land, the agricultural economy or food production, and effects on soils have been minimised through application of an outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) [EN010162/APP/6.4.17.2].	Green	High

## 7 NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL POTENTIAL MAIN ISSUES

Ref	Environmental Aspect	Description of Issue	Affected stakeholder(s)	Signposting (to application evidence)	RAG	Likelihood of the issue being resolved during the Examination
7.1	Ecology	Adequacy and scope of baseline studies.	NSDC Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Baseline studies are summarised in Chapter 8 Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010162/APP/6.2.8] and TAs A8.2-8.12 [EN010162/APP/6.4.8.2-12]	Green	High
7.2	Ecology	Adequacy of embedded mitigation and the CEMP to safeguard features.	NSDC Environment Agency. Natural England.	Mitigation is set out in the Outline CEMP (TA A5.3 [EN010162/APP/6.4.5.3], Chapter 8 Ecology and Biodiversity [EN010162/APP/6.2.8], and Chapter 9 Water Resources [EN010162/APP/6.2.9].	Green	High
7.3	Ecology	Approach to calculating Biodiversity Net Gain in absence of	NSDC	TA A8.13 Biodiversity Net Gain [BNG] Assessment [EN010162/APP/6.4.8.13]	Green	High

		NSIP guidance.				
7.4	Heritage/Archaeology	Assessment of setting effects on grouped assets where the group includes LBI and LBII* assets. The issue was raised at statutory consultation and may persist.	NSDC	TA A11.2 Setting Assessment Baseline [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.2] and in ES Chapter 11 [EN010162/APP/6.2.11]	Green	High
7.5	Agricultural Land	Temporary use of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land.	NSDC	ES Chapter 17 Agricultural Land [EN010162/APP/6.2.17] confirms that there are no significant adverse effects on agricultural land, the agricultural economy or food production, and effects on soils have been minimised through application of an outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP) [EN010162/APP/6.4.17.2].	Green	High

